CUPE National Convention – 60 years anniversary

Day 1

* Registration, and opening remarks from CUPE National President Mark Hancock.
* CUPE Ontario Caucus
  + Focused on Local’s currently on strike and seeking financial support from other local unions
* Convention resumed with National President’s Report and National Treasurer’s report, National Trusettes report, and National Health and Safety award.
  + Financials are in order at the national level.
  + Question was posed why 289 million in salaries and operating costs, yet locals can’t keep a national rep longer than a few months.
    - They are going to look into it.
  + Question was posed why the Treasurer is taking donations from Local’s and more so CUPE Ontario for her campaign for re-election.
    - She outlined that she does it just like everyone else who runs does it, and that she didn’t need the funds, so she gave it all back to the donors minus a few hundred dollars that was actually used. Her report on her campaign outlines the expenditures.
  + Trustees provided feedback that National needs to ensure that they are closing out year ends from one year to the next so that it shows that they have been closed.

Day 2 – Anit-Racims Strategy report presented by Vice president of Black and racialized workers, as well as vice president of indigenous workers.

* Emergency reading of Resolutions 801, 802, and 803.
  + All three resolutions passed
  + The presentation outlined the work to date to begin moving this relatively new committee (2021) on towards the 7 priority focus areas.
* Strategic Directions
  + Talking about the direction of CUPE National and its focus points.
    - Reclaiming worker’s powers.
      * Reconcilitation with Indigenous peoples
      * Human rights
      * Building strong locals
      * Bargaining
      * Protecting our work from Privitations
      * Organizing non-union workers
      * Political action
      * International solidarity
      * Protecting the planet

Day 3

* Opening remarks and warm up.
* Delegates reporting – identifying how many locals and members in attendance. Approximately 2200 people representing locals from Coast to coast, to coast.
* Election of President of national
  + Mark Hancock ran unopposed
* Election of the Secretary Treasurer for National
  + Candice Renick ran unopposed.
* Election of National Vice presidents
  + Fred Hahn re-elected as vp on National office
* Strategic plans continued from Day 2
  + More discussion on the points noted above.
  + Final strategic plan to be presented to members
* Grace Hartman Award presented to Isebela
  + This is an award presented to a Woman worker representing and supporting women’s rights within the union.

Day 4

* Opening remarks
* National Disability advocacy award – Yeves Belair
* National Trustees election 4 year term
  + Ontario Winner – Dave Tremblay
  + Prairies – Bob Gunther
* Constitutional amendment c-09 (to have 7 national vp diversity positions instead of 2) – Did not pass
* Resolution 198 – to Increase CUPE Strike pay from 300.00/week to 450.00/week – Referred back to committee for review of financial suitability.
* Accessibility Committee – Report received
* National Political Committee – Report received
* Health and Safety Committee – Report received
* Resolution 218 – Young workers to get additional training and support – Passed
* Resolution 77 – CUPE national to have representative facilitate healthy psychological work places – Passed
* Safe Union Spaces working group – Received

Day 5

* Opening Remarks
* National Literacy award
* Strategic Directions continued and updated
* Speech by Jagmeet Singh.
* Conference Finished

Margaret, James and myself would like to thank the local in giving us an opportunity to attend this National Convention.

Connie McDonald President, James Cassidy VP County and Margaret Wrobel Chief Steward County