

Dear Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to education myself, so that I might serve you better as your union steward. On October 27 and 28<sup>th</sup> I attended the CUPE fall school in Toronto. I was registered for “representing members in front of Management and Racism in the work place”.

The courses allowed me to widen my understanding on how Management works when it comes to dealing with issues involving a member. They showed us the types of questions that we need to have when investigating complaints and how to hold meetings with management, to best represent our member.

The racism part of the course is a very stressful topic, because it falls on all aspects of racism. Racism is understood but everyone has a different understanding of what racism is, so the discussion was very intense at times. However, everyone agreed it is our duty as steward’s to make sure ALL members are treated fairly by Management and other members.

Once again thank you for allowing me to continue to education myself to better serve you.

David Gooch  
Union Steward Local 973