



Ontario Division Conference
May 30 through June 3, 2017
Toronto Sheraton – Toronto, Ontario



I would like to thank the membership and Central Western Ontario District Council for allowing me the opportunity to attend the 2017 Ontario Division Conference in Toronto. This year, I sat on the Credentials Committee which was quite a whirlwind of activity packing kits, ensuring members receive their credentials and assist some Locals with their outstanding arrears. The convention topped out at 1,194 attending!

This year's conference focused on various issues such as violence and lack of staffing; be it from consistent National Representative support and lack of staff in the workplace. Actually; this year's slogan, "Be Bold Be Brave" seemed to say it all.

It was surprising to hear 1/3 of workers today are contracted or part-time workers which resulted in only a 2% increase in CUPE revenue. This means new members/growth is slowing. Currently, we have \$95 million in our strike fund and over 650,000 members strong!

There were quite a few locals who had been on strike last year but two in particular were brought to the forefront; the Toronto Zoo – Local 1600 and the Canadian Hearing Society. Fundraising and appeals went out for the Zoo members and a total of \$102,745.80 was raised along with a contribution by Charles Fleury on behalf of National in the amount of \$165,000 (one dollar for each CUPE member).

Some highlights:

- Henri Giroux is retiring after 38 years with CUPE
- "In Memoriums" included CUPE Local 973's past president, Enza Commisso
- Traditional smudging ceremonies each morning of the convention
- We Bargain Forward; Not Backward
- A rally for Local 1600 (Toronto Zoo workers) as well as another rally for Injured Workers
- Treasurer's breakfast with Charles Fleury for 300 delegates where the main issues were two-tier contracts and fighting off concessions

Another great conference, seeing old friends and making new ones. It was a pleasure to help represent the Central Western Ontario District Council as we work toward better years ahead.

Yours in solidarity,

Marg Lemoine
CUPE Local 973

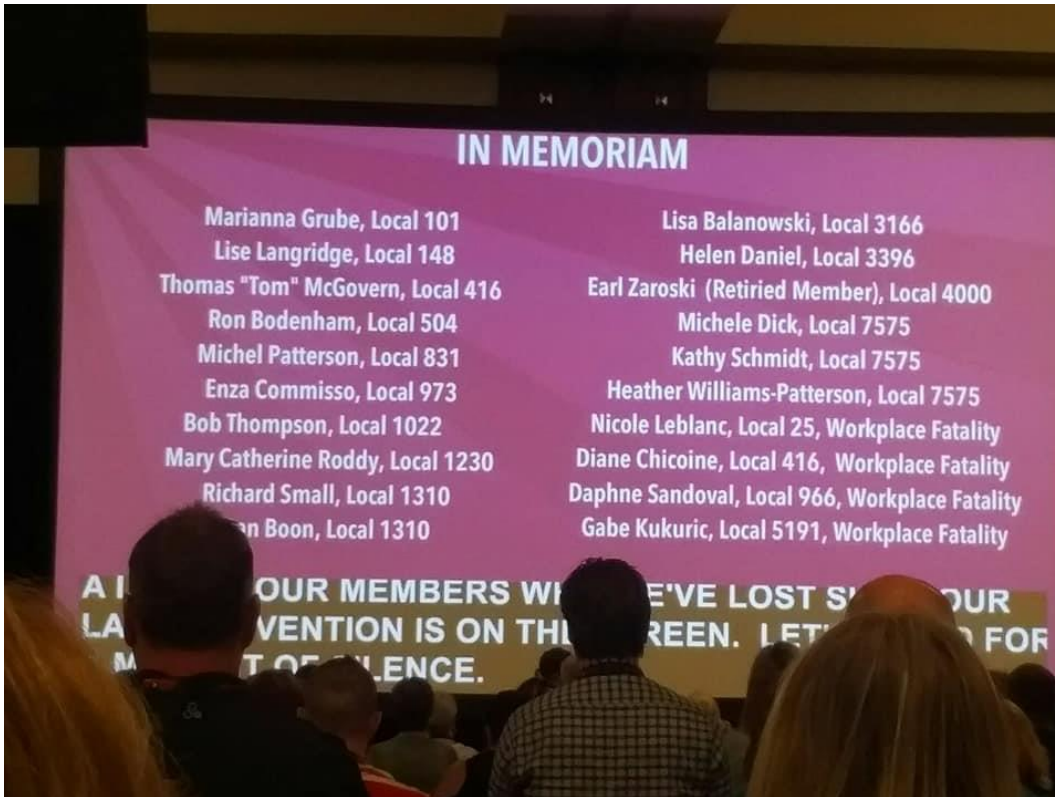
WELCOME TO YOUR 2017 ONTARIO DIVISION CONFERENCE



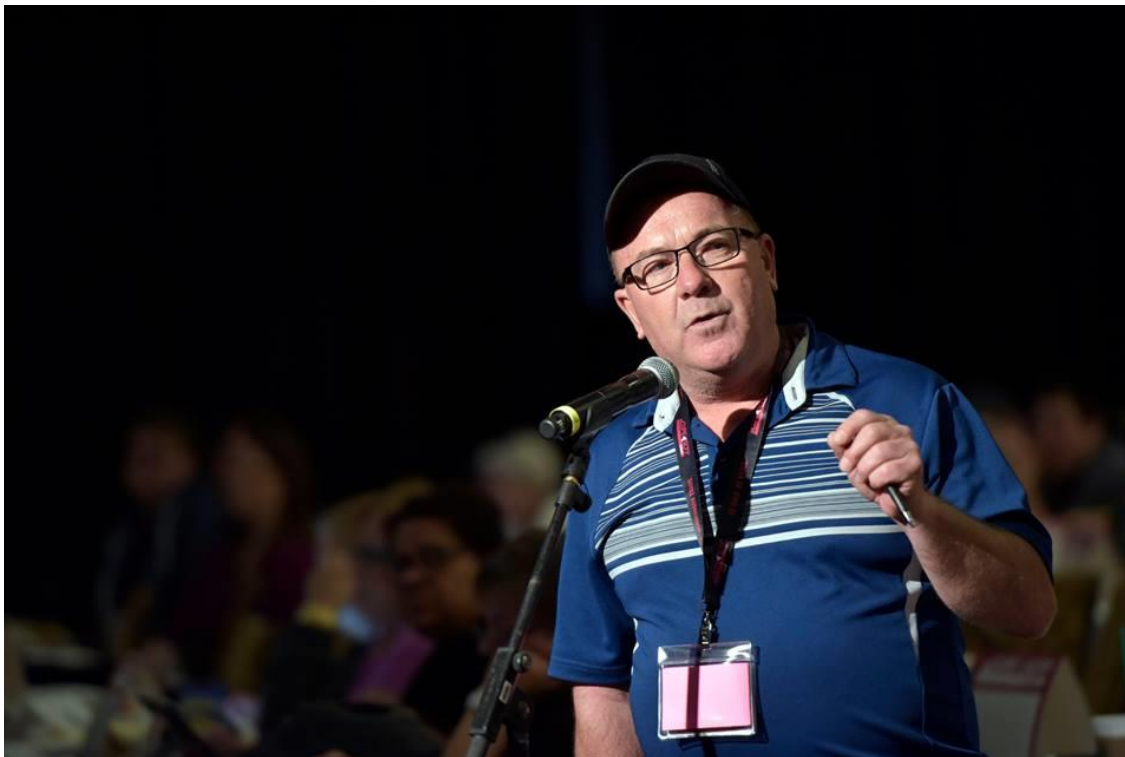
2017 ONTARIO DIVISION TAG LINE – BE BOLD – BE BRAVE



HONOURING CUPE 973'S PAST PRESIDENT, ENZA COMMISSO



PAUL CLULOW (LOCAL 241) AT THE MIC



INJURED WORKERS RALLY – TORONTO CITY HALL



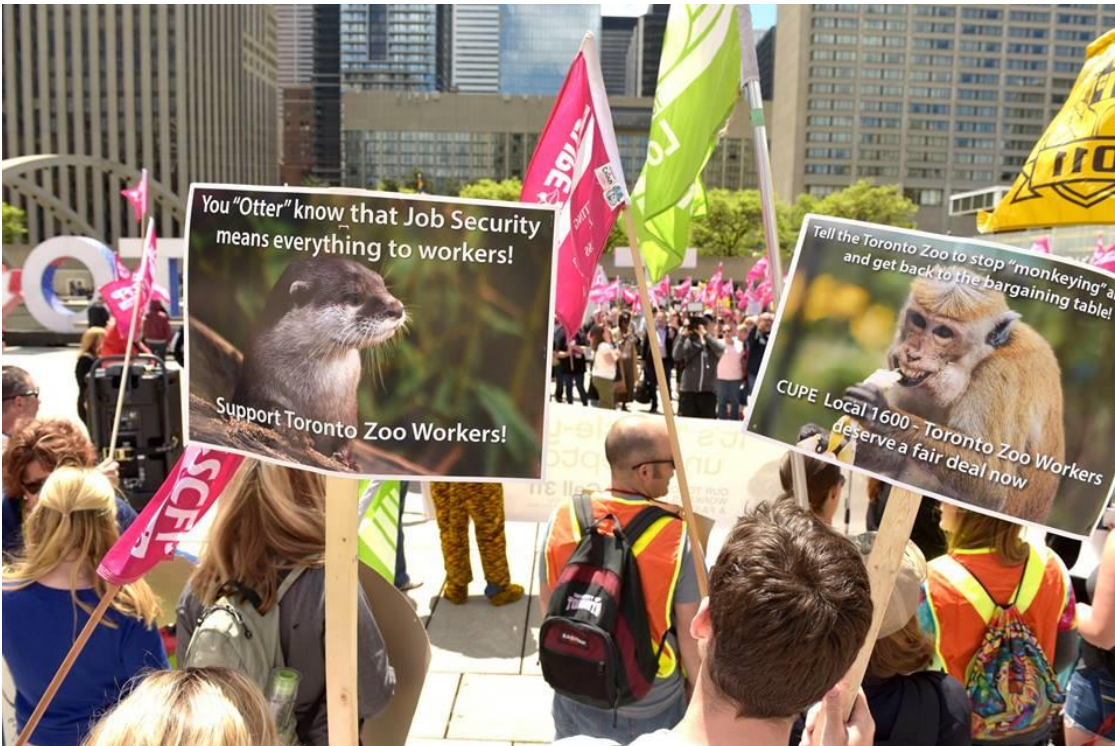
STEVE WALMSLEY (COUNTY) MAKING A PLEDGE TO A NEEDY LOCAL



TORONTO ZOO – LOCAL 1600 RALLY – TORONTO CITY HALL



TORONTO ZOO – LOCAL 1600 RALLY – TORONTO CITY HALL



NATIONAL TREASURER, CHARLES FLEURY



CHARLES FLEURY AT THE TREASURER'S BREAKFAST

