

CUPE2626 Newsletter

September 2011

The challenges of a new year:

CUPE 2626 is here to support you!



Dear CUPE members and members of university community,

It's already time for a new academic year and a new year full of challenges. Throughout it, CUPE 2626 can help you in various ways to meet your goals.

CUPE 2626 is the union of students who are academic employees at the University of Ottawa (Teaching and Research Assistant, Marker, Tutor, Lab Monitor, Demonstrator, Proctor etc.). We have more than 3000 members and have a team of over 10 executive officers and employees to help you.

In the coming months, we will have several activities you might want to attend. First, we invite you to attend our fall social event on September 22nd, during the lunch time, at the Morisset Terrace. On November 8, we will also hold our Regular General Assembly (RGA) during which some important decisions will be taken by the local members. You are of course invited to participate!

A dynamic team to support you!

The new Executive Committee started its duty on May 1st, following the winter 2011 elections. Our executive officers are available to assist you if you have problems with your academic job or if you need information about our various programs and services.

Want to get involved? CUPE 2626 has an exceptional team that works to improve working and living conditions on our campus. You can get involved in one of our teams (green, social justice, etc.) or become a representative of your academic unit.

If you would like to have more information about our activities and our team, please visit our website (www.cupe2626.ca) or e-mail us at info@scfp2626.ca.

I wish you a great academic year,

Felix Grenier: President of the Executive Committee of CUPE 2626

Your Job related Grievances



Grievances are a normal part of the employment relationship at any workplace and one of the most

important tasks of CUPE 2626 is to resolve issues between the employer and its members.

A grievance is an official complaint against the employer (the University of Ottawa) filed by an employee (a CUPE 2626 member) related to a violation of member rights protected by our collective agreement (C.A.) with the University of Ottawa. There are many situations in which member rights can be violated by the employer that is represented by professors supervising contracts, general administration staff and other people at the workplace.

If you feel that some of your rights under the collective agreement have been violated you may file a grievance with CUPE2626. First contact your departmental steward to see if your case can be resolved informally. If this does not resolve your case, contact one of us (Chief Stewards) to determine if your situation is grievable. We will setup a meeting with you to discuss your situation and may ask you to provide any pertinent documentation to your case such as contracts, copies of emails, etc. The grievance committee then reviews the case and decides whether or not to proceed with a grievance. If the case proceeds to a grievance you will have to come to the office to sign a grievance form with the details of your case. The Chief Stewards will keep you notified of the grievance process and inform you of the final result.

Matthew Ladd: Chief Steward Anglophone, csa@cupe2626.ca

Stanko Krstic: Chief Steward Francophone, csf@cupe2626.ca



CUPE 2626's Green Team – come make a difference

Your union has made a commitment to go green. We have created a Green Team, open to all members, and has partnered with the

Enviro Centre's Green Buildings and Workplaces Challenge to promote environmental issues within the union and across campus. The Team has been working on an e-waste campaign to collect unwanted electronic waste. Watch for announcements of the next drop off date this fall. This year the Team is looking forward to getting outside and finding ways to promote activities in nature. Sign-up to our facebook page to watch for more details (<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100001987421416>) or for more information on the Green Team check the website: (http://www.cupe2626.ca/english/green_en.htm).

If you are interested in participating in the Green Team come out to our next meeting **September 12, 2011 UCU-303 from 10:00am to 11:00am** or send an email to: healthandsafety@cupe2626.ca.

Nicole Aitken: Health and Safety Officer