



Shoptalk



January /February 2026

School District #43 (Coquitlam) / Coquitlam Public Library /
Transdev Fraser Valley /
Children's House Montessori Pre-School

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Saturday March 14th, 2026—9:00 am

In-Person Location: [Riverside \(in Library\) 2215 Reeve St., Port Co.](#)

Online Option: [Join us via Zoom](#)

Greetings CUPE 561 Members,

Thank you to everyone who has welcomed and supported me-and to those who have helped along the way as we find our footing together. We are getting organized, finding our rhythm, and building a stronger Local every day.

Bargaining has not been easy. The conversations at the table have been tough, but your solidarity gives us strength. We will continue to push forward, hold the line, and stand shoulder to shoulder. No one stands alone in CUPE Local 561. When one of us is treated unfairly, it affects all of us and together we will stand up and address it.

We are pushing back against the provincial government and making it clear that our members deserve more respect, fair wages, and safe working conditions.

As we head toward spring, please remember to take care of yourselves and each other. You matter to this Local beyond the workplace. The work you do every day is important, but so is your health and well-being. Take your breaks, use your benefits, reach out if you are struggling, and check in on your coworkers. If you need support, your union is here.

With Valentine's Day approaching, everyone is encouraged to enjoy time with loved ones and to show kindness to others throughout the month of February.

P.S.

We learn from those who came before us, stand with and support those beside us, and mentor those who will come after us. That is how a strong union continues to grow.

In Solidarity,

Lisa Mayoh
President
CUPE Local 561



CUPE LOCAL 561 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President
Vice-President
Recording Secretary
Treasurer
Executive Shop Steward

Lisa Mayoh
Darin Nielsen
Jill Allen
Wendy Meston
Deborah Monkman

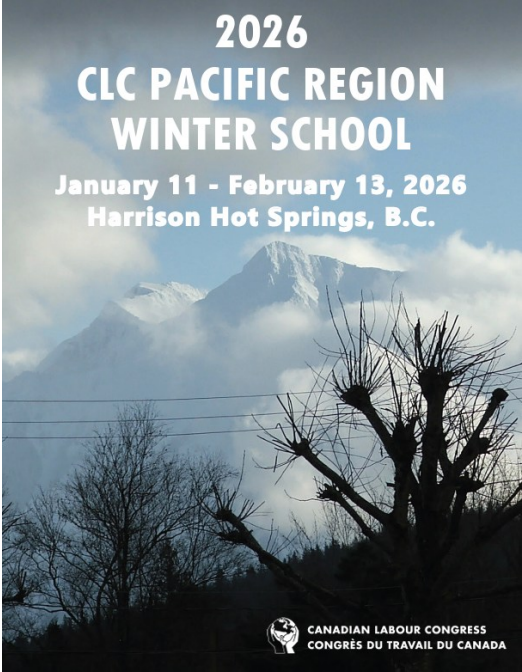
Member At Large
Member At Large
Member At Large
Member At Large
Member At Large

Shamus Halvorsen (SD #43)
Karin Leathwood (SD #43)
Donna MacMurchy (Library)
Carol Archibald (Transdev)
Shayna McCormack (Diversity)





CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS CONGRÈS DU TRAVAIL DU CANADA



Proud to support union education



CUPE Local 561 Shop Stewards

Are You Interested in Becoming a Shop Steward?

Stewards are well-organized, good listeners, problem solvers and team players. They have good communication skills and want to help others. They are *volunteer* positions, and anyone at your worksite that is a member of the union in good standing is eligible to be elected as a shop steward.

Some of the roles of a shop steward are:

- Helping co-workers interpret and understand their collective agreement.
- Supporting co-workers in meetings with management.
- Listening to co-workers about their issues.
- Acting as a liaison between the worksite, your union local and the management.
- Communicating about broader local issues and training opportunities within your union.
- Making sure all co-workers are in the loop by updating your union bulletin board at your worksite.

Referring members to committees on specific issues, such as the Bylaws and Occupational Health and Safety Committees.

The Union provides mentorship, education, and full support to members who step into the role of Shop Steward. All required training and courses will be made available to ensure stewards are confident, knowledgeable, and well-prepared to represent members.

Questions and Answers

SD43 Q.

What are the rules around support staff being asked to be a part of extreme weather team at a site if it is not part of our job description? Being on extreme weather team means it is mandatory we are there even during a school closure. Should we be getting paid extra for this? Is there any support staff classification that it is mandatory to be at work even during a school closure?

A.

If you are a Custodian, you may be assigned to the Extreme Weather Team and required to report to work earlier when called in. There is no additional compensation for this, and attendance would be expected.

If you are in a different classification, there is not expectation that you would be required to report earlier.

Q.

What type of medical information does an employee need to provide if requested?

A.

An employee only needs to provide medical information that confirms they are unable to work and how long that limitation is expected.

- Employee is medically unable to work
- Start date of the illness/injury
- Expected duration or review date
- Any functional limitations
- Anticipated return to work
- Confirmation of disability

DO NOT PROVIDE

- Diagnosis, Details of symptoms, Medical History, Test results treatment plans or medication and Prognosis beyond work ability

SICK AND VISITING & GOOD OF THE UNION

Fruit Baskets:

Lee Glass

Get well wishes:

Shalisha Marks

Sympathy

Lisa Ploss

RETIREMENTS

January 2026

Kevin Collins
Linda Corcoran
Adam Envari
Lori Petersen

February 2026

Kelly Godin
Rajendra Ram
Michelle Spring

Congratulations

Initiations

School District 43

Nicole Edmonds
Carmen Cheung
Gabrielle Chag
Jada Liu
Trina Omrani
William Reimer
Huixia Zhu

Kailand Lovatt
Allysandra Deras
Somayeh Jafarzadeh Ghahderijan
Leila Maleki-Moghaddam
Junliet Orosio
Janine Tairu

Vaidehi Chaudhari
Yalda Fallahi
Sharanjit Kaur Khattrra
Harman Nigah
Samira Pourheidar
Yu Hsin Wang

Transdev

Manpreet Dosanjh
Dharm Verma
Amrat Virk

Welcome