



April 2023

# Shoptalk

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



## GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, May 13, 2023—In person

380 Montgomery Avenue

Coquitlam

9:00 am

Initiates— 8:45

### President's Report

I want to thank all members for their support in the last 2+ years. I have enjoyed working with all the bargaining units. There have been many struggles along the way but we have gotten through them.

I wish you, First Transit and Coquitlam Public Library good luck with negotiations. Stay strong and you will do well.

Please continue to contact the office with any concerns and questions that you may have.

Jane Gibbons  
President

### REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS:

If you have not already done so, please send your **PERSONAL email** to the union office to be kept up to date on the latest news from your union.

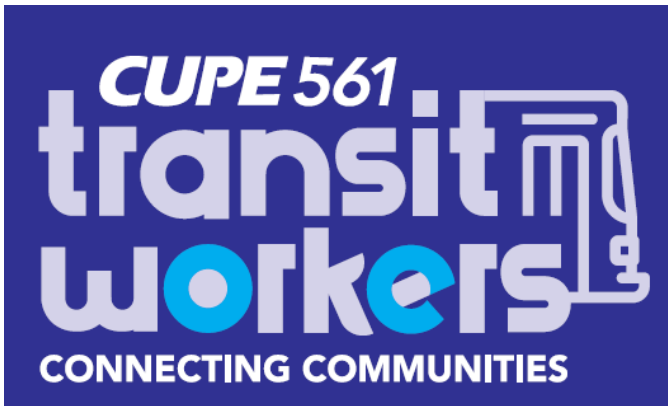
Email to: [cupe561@cupe561.ca](mailto:cupe561@cupe561.ca)

If you have provided your email and you are not receiving updates, please contact the office as there have been many returned in the last few months.

Returned email examples: [@shaw.ca](mailto:@shaw.ca) and [@telus.net](mailto:@telus.net)

### CUPE LOCAL 561 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	<b>Jane Gibbons</b>	Member At Large	<b>Debby Cowan</b> (SD #43)
Vice-President	<b>Lisa Gregory</b>	Member At Large	<b>Karin Leathwood</b> (SD #43)
Recording Secretary	<b>Jill Allen</b>	Member At Large	<b>Donna Clark-MacMurchy</b> (Library)
Treasurer	<b>Darin Nielsen</b>	Member At Large	<b>Arthur Lilley</b> (First Canada)
Senior Shop Steward	<b>Wendy Meston</b>		



Support your Brothers, Sisters and Friends of First Transit! Go to [weneedalift.ca](http://weneedalift.ca) and Pledge Your Support or use the QR code.



Fraser Valley District Council organized a Rally held on April 22nd at Jubilee Park, Abbotsford in support of the First Transit strike. It was well attended with many supporters. Thank you to the council for supplying the food and fun events for the kids including a bouncy castle. The support was truly appreciated by all who attended.

## **ELECTION RESULTS**

May 1st, 2023—April 30th, 2024

### **Executive:**

**President:** Randy Kootte

**Recording Secretary:** Jill Allen

**Member at Large (SD):** Karin Leathwood

**Senior Shop Steward:** Mike Myers

**Member at Large (Lib):** TBD—Unit Elections May 2023

**Member at Large (First Canada):** Carol Archibald

**Vice-President:** Lisa Gregory

**Treasurer:** Darin Nielsen

**Member at Large (SD):** Debby Cowan

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** TBD

### **Shop Stewards**

**Noon Hour Assistants/Cafeterias/Career Resources:** Vacant

**Strong Start Facilitators:** Wendy Meston

**Education Assistants:** Debbie Monkman

**Clericals:** Vacant

**Caretakers:** Mike Myers, Princess Jardimiano, Ari Silver

**Maintenance/Grounds:** Jeb Perry

**Information Technologists:** Vacant

**Youth Workers/SWIS/Community Support Workers:** Shannon Penner-Hunt

**LISW:** Vacant

**Trustee - 3 Year:** Vacant, 2 Year: Jennifer Corbett, 1 Year: Delilah Burry

**Library:** TBD

**First Canada:** Abbotsford: Elizabeth Roux, Ravinder Dhaliwal Chilliwack: Blake Pleadwell, Dean Clifton



On April 28th, workers, families and employees will gather at commemorative ceremonies across the province to honour BC workers who lost their lives last year due to workplace injury and disease and to renew our commitment to creating safer workplaces.

Over forty years ago, CUPE members created this day to remember workers who lost their lives on the job and to inspire others to advocate to prevent further tragedies.

## Questions and Answers

**Q:** SD43: - Will we be receiving a 6.75% raise in July?

**A:** Yes, after the Cost of living index was done in March, it was over 7% so that entitles the SD43 Employees a 6.75% raise.

**Q:** When is the SD43 collective agreement coming out?

**A:** It is already on our [cupe561.ca](http://cupe561.ca) website. There will be copies sent to sites in the next week and the CUPE 561 office has copies for any member that would like to pick one up.

**Q:** Can the employer make us do unsafe work?

**A:** NO, every employee has the right to refuse unsafe work. That includes dealing with members of the public. You keep yourself safe first.

**Q:** Do we have to give first aid to public or students?

**A:** First aid providers on the work site are for staff only. They are not meant to be providing first aid to the public or students.

**Have a question you would like to see in ShopTalk?  
Send it to [CUPE561@CUPE561.ca](mailto:CUPE561@CUPE561.ca)**

# SICK AND VISITING & GOOD OF THE UNION

## Fruit Baskets

Mina Difrakhsh  
Liana Honeysett  
Lisa Johnson  
Marty Peterson  
Nancy Rideout

## Cards of Thanks

Deb Guratovich  
Lisa Johnson  
Ronda Lindsay  
Marty Peterson  
Nancy Rideout  
Florinda Salas Barquero  
Port Moody Secondary After Grad

## Sympathy Cards

Kathy Bardossy  
John Gorman  
Rebecca Gulechyn  
Karin Rose  
Jaylene Sirman

## Death of a Member

Barry Hicks—SD43  
Michelle Johnston—SD43

## Initiations

### **School District 43**

Sonia Bahni—EA  
So Ra Kim—EA  
Anita Roessle—CL

Lindsay Holbrook—LISW  
Ron Thom—PL/HVAC  
Olivia Szpakowski—LISW

Eunhyung Hur—EA  
Kelly Robinson—EA

### **Coquitlam Public Library**

Victoria Rowbottom—Customer Experiences

### **First Transit**

John Addison  
Gurpreet Sidhu

Harprit (Raj) Nerwal

Karandeep Randhawa

*Welcome*

## REMINDER

Warmer weather is upon us and proper footwear should still be worn. Flip flops are not suitable in the work environment as they cannot protect feet against a wide variety of injuries.

