



Shoptalk



September/October 2024

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

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Saturday October 5, 2024—9:00 am
On Zoom

Greetings 561 members,

I hope everyone had a great summer and managed to get in some relaxing time with friends and family. I'm hoping for a positive and exciting new school year and fall season. This fall we will be starting to prepare for SD43 bargaining from a local level, as well as engaging in the K-12 Provincial bargaining campaign. Information will be coming shortly on how all of you can participate. Library and Transdev bargaining will follow shortly after SD43, so this will be a very busy two year period for the Local.

As you all are aware, the Provincial election is just around the corner. CUPE strongly encourages our members to get out and vote. It's always a great thing to be a part of the democratic process, and to help shape the future of BC. The local has recently sent out information on CUPE BC's position on the election, as well providing some context for members to consider. CUPE's obligation is to fight for and negotiate the best possible working conditions for their members, so having a labour friendly government elected is crucial for CUPE. For instance, our four month long labour dispute with Transdev last year may have played out differently with a less labour friendly government. Of course the Union understands that individuals will vote for the party that they feel will best address the issues that are most important to them. Please refer to the email we sent out last Friday for information on how to participate or volunteer in the election campaign, links in the email will direct you to CUPE BC's election coordinators.

For the most part, business is as usual for the local. At last Saturday's meeting we completed the elections for the remaining committees of the local, and also said goodbye to some of our retirees, we wish them all the best.

Please come and attend the Oct 5th general meeting to discuss and vote on a very important bylaw change, to change our election process from in person to electronic voting.

CUPE 561 executive is wishing everyone an amazing fall season!!

In Solidarity,

Randy Kootte
President


CUPE LOCAL 561 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Randy Kootte	Member At Large	Shamus Halvorsen (SD #43)
Vice-President	Mike Myers	Member At Large	Karin Leathwood (SD #43)
Recording Secretary	Jill Allen	Member At Large	Donna MacMurchy (Library)
Treasurer	Darin Nielsen	Member At Large	Carol Archibald (Transdev)
Executive Shop Steward	Jeb Perry	Member At Large	Shayna McCormack (Diversity)


Orange Shirt Day

September 30th


What can you do?




Read books by Indigenous authors




Review the 94 Truth and Reconciliation calls to action and commit to at least one



Watch online events hosted by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation



Identify and connect with your local Indigenous serving organizations




Read Phyllis Webstad's book "The Orange Shirt Story"

Learn from our past

Truth & Reconciliation Week 2024
September 23-27

Register at trw-svr.nctr.ca

#TruthandReconciliationWeek



National Centre for
Truth and Reconciliation
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

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.

Email to: cupe561@cupe561.ca

If you have provided your email and you are not receiving updates, please contact the office.

Questions and Answers

- Q: In SD43, can the employer post a position externally if there are no fully qualified internal applicants?
- A: Yes, the letter of understanding on page 83, re: classification article 2.3 and 7.5 Postings, lays out the process. The employer has the choice of either award the position to the internal applicant who is closest to having all qualifications, or they can post externally. If they award the position to the applicant who is closest to processing all qualifications, the employer shall provide the union with the rationale for their selection.
- Q: If I have a medical condition which requires an accommodation, and a meeting is set up to discuss options, is the Union required to be in the meeting?
- A: Our collective agreements do not require the Union to be in attendance, however, members absolutely have the right to request a union representative. The Employer is obligated to accommodate for medical reasons up to undue hardships, and out DTA union reps are trained in this process, so it would be very beneficial to have them be in the meetings to ensure fairness throughout the process. That said, if a member feel their accommodation requests were not fairly address, please contact the Union for assistance.

JEIS/PEBT Q and A

1.: What is JEIS?

JEIS (Joint Early Intervention Service) is an integrated part of the Core Long Term Disability benefit provided to SD43 CUPE employees with benefits.

2. How does JEIS work?

When a CUPE SD43 member first becomes ill or injured, a Health Care Management Specialist (HCMS) from Desjardins Insurance contacts you. Upon contact the HCMS will provide information to you about the program and they also determine from information received from your conversation whether additional follow-up is required. If a RTW (return to work) is near in the future, then the HCMS will follow up to ensure that your RTW was/is successful. If RTW is not imminent the HCMS sends you out a JEIS package to complete.

3. What is included in the JEIS package?

- letter explaining the JEIS program
- attending physician's statement to be completed by CUPE member's doctor
- authorization forms (medical, ICBC, WorksafeBC)

Must I participate in the program?

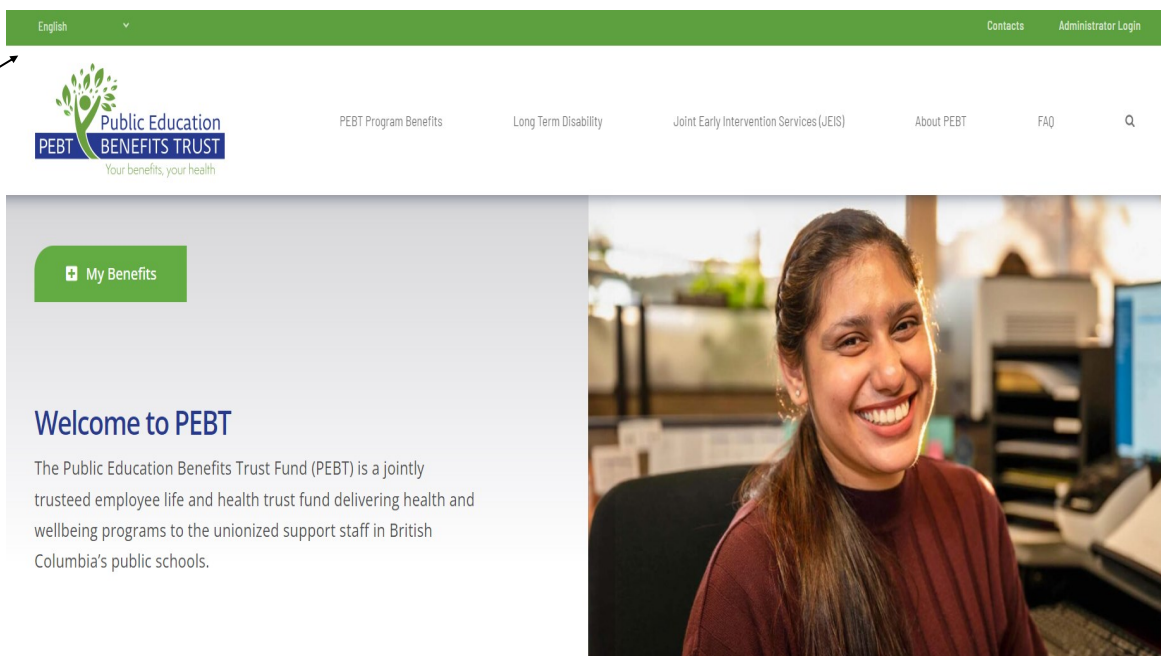
All CUPE SD43 employees with benefits who are on a medical absence must participate. Per CUPE CA (Collective Agreement) – “eligibility for sick leave or indemnity payments requires participation in the JEIS according to the JEIS policies of the PEBT. If an employee chooses not to participate their sick bank could be revoked”

Where can I find information on PEBT (Public Education Benefits Trust)?

Website: <https://www.pebt.ca/>

Can I as a member access PEBT information in different languages?

The updated PEBT website allows members to choose different languages to view information on PEBT's website.



SICK AND VISITING & GOOD OF THE UNION

Cards of Thanks:

Alida Abbinante
Cary Bradley
Eric Chan
Stan Marshall
Della O'Reilly
Lynda Wong

Fruit Baskets:

Dean Kocis
Stan Marshall

Sympathy Cards:

Zoie Sarabosing
Joanne Page

RETIREMENTS

June:

Martha Banman
Lloyd Drury
Brenda Larocque
Mary Lynn
Isabel Morena

July

Eric Chan
Danilo Macaventa
Samson Gonzales
Sandy Lackner
Byron Nelson
Deborah Walton
Darrell Warhurst
Lynda Wong

August

Patrick Banet
Debby Cowan

Congratulations

Initiations

School District 43

Jane Adams (CL)	Rebecca Ahn (LISW)	Dana Al-Zuhair (LISW)	Maedeh Asgharzadeh (LISW)
Stephanie Barton (EA)	Itzel Benitez Hernandez (EA)	Diane Brandow (EA)	Vivian Chow (EA)
Charlie Cullen (EA)	Laleh Daniali (EA)	Gisele Dionisio (EA)	Nadia Do Carmo (LISW)
Dacia First Rider (YW)	Mahtab Foadian (EA)	Amber Grant (PNT)	Christine Ham (LISW)
Kristie Harrison (EA)	Lisa Hernandez (EA)	Meghan Hillar (EA)	Simone Holung (EA)
Eden Irinco (LISW)	Sarah Jeen (EA)	Anna Kapitza (LISW)	Conall Kearney (EA)
Cherin Kim (NHA)	Anna Kummer (LISW)	Lily Lai (EA)	Catherine Lai (EA)
Kevyn Lee (EA)	Jenny Li (EA)	Roxanne Maguire (EA)	Claire McCrea (LISW)
Megan Odenwald (LISW)	Shirley Pan (EA)	Janaina Pesci (LISW)	Shelby Peters (LISW)
Meagan Polllard (EA)	Jaiyuan Qian (EA)	Angelita Quimbo (EA)	Darien Romani (EA)
Mahvash Salsali (EA)	Diana Sarker (LISW)	Cassandra Sever (CL)	Aimee Stevens (EA)
Kelsey Ting (LISW)	Jenna Watkins (YW)	Ashley Watson (LISW)	Corey Wegenast (EA)
Lois Zhang (EA)			

Coquitlam Public Library

Shinwoo Bahny	Kayleigh Chow	Lucas Ferrarese	Nikita Lakha
Giorgia Martini	Dante Mele	Owen Urquhart	

Transdev

Ashok Chawla	Tajinder Deol	Sukjinder Dhillon	Phil England
Tara Galasso	Kent Heggart	Jacqueline Hurst	Narender Khara
Phillip Jaworski	Ruth McKee	Stephen Pippen	David Ranu
Satheensh Kumar Valeyudhan		Swaran Sidhu	Verma Honey