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CUPE

U.B.C. LOCAL 116

MAINTAINING OUR PAST TO BUILD OUR FUTURE

Kevin Nesbitt



Inside this Edition

President's Report	2
Letters to the Editor/Information	3
Bulletin Board/Union Meeting	4

Please visit our Website for more information at: <http://www.116.cupe.ca/>

President's Report

Message from the President....

Contract negotiations are now complete. Every University Local's Bargaining Committee, including the Teaching Assistants at Simon Fraser University, delivered contracts to our members that reflected all our original bargaining objectives of fairness, respect and security. We could not have achieved this without the ongoing support of every member throughout this process... Thank you to all! The Local wishes to send an extra special thank you to Diane Jolly, our CUPE Regional Representative, who did an excellent job as Chief Spokesperson at our bargaining table!

The current community awareness campaign, "The Protection of UBC Assets" that the Local embarked on during bargaining will continue. The Local will be holding a think-tank with the Executive and our Stewards to discuss strategic campaign goals such as:

- Presentations to the Board of Governors, the GVRD and the University Neighbourhood Association (UNA) on issues affecting our members that impact the infrastructure and may harm UBC assets,
- Monitoring & regular reports in our newsletter on the activities of the Board of Governors, the GVRD and UNA that impact our Local,



- Ways to network with the community organizations, Vancouver CUPE Locals, as well as CUPE University Locals.

As front-line workers, our goal now is to convince the Board of Governors that pursuing the future without respecting our contributions - our history, experience and commitment - could well undermine much of what has been accomplished so far.

The University has a New President:

Stephen J. Toope

Dr. Toope is a Canadian who was the founding President and CEO of the Pierre Elliot Trudeau Foundation. He was the youngest Dean of Law at McGill University and is a world-renowned expert on International Law, International Human Rights, and Legal Reform.

Quote from Dr. Toope:

"Democracy is not a trophy to keep and admire from afar. It is us: a living, changing, evolving spirit. And it needs our care."

The Union is very hopeful the new President will bring positive change management to the University and we welcome him. He commences his duties on July 1, 2006.

President's Service Award for Excellence

The Union is pleased to announce that Anne Stanton, one of our longest-serving Shop Stewards from the Custodial division of Plant Operations, has won the President's Service Award for Excellence!

Anne began her employment with UBC on September 23, 1978.

Anne was one of the original First Aid Attendants in Plant Operations. She was one of only two people who stepped forward to accept the offer of training in the First Aid course, and the only one to pass.

Anne willingly gives of her time; she will come in after her own work hours for meetings with other workers; she often does the orientation for new Staff long after her own shift has ended. She has always been someone who can be counted upon to go the extra mile, and is a very deserving recipient of this year's award. Congratulations Anne!



By-Laws

Finally after months of trying the membership has now reviewed and passed all changes to our current By-Laws. The changes will now be sent to our CUPE National President, Paul Moist, for his approval and once complete we will be printing new booklets and distributing to all the members.

Yours in Solidarity,

Colleen

Letter to the Editor/ Information

As a former CUPE 116 executive, I have been compelled to write to you and the members of Local 116.

During these trying times; times of dictatorial governments, times of multinational privatization, deteriorating standards of living, and jobs lost due to cheaper manufacturing in third world countries, I say to our members, "There is hope."

The hope of which I speak is within your reach and is working right beside you. That hope is your fellow worker. You, as a Union member, have more power, more say, and more resources behind you than you probably even realize.

There is of course a locked door behind which lies this power. The key is not hidden, it is within everyone's grasp. It is knowledge. Knowledge to understand that the voices of the many speak louder than that of the one. Knowledge to recognize if there are enough people who want the same thing, they can achieve it. The knowledge that there has to be sacrifices before the so-called legislators of our times realize the people have spoken.

The sacrifices that I speak of are not hard to overcome and appear to be moot or inconsequential, but added together with the sacrifices of others can, figuratively speaking, reverse the spin of the earth. These sacrifices may just be: not crossing picket lines, standing with your Union and supporting the work your Union does, sacrificing time to attend Union meetings, and going to rallies.

Unions have brought the working class out of degradation, poverty and sweatshops. They have bettered your life and the lives of those who do not belong to an association. Although those who do not have a cumulative voice are sadly all too often the ones who speak out against Unions, out of ignorance of this fact.

Remember, you are the strength of your Union; together we make it powerful.

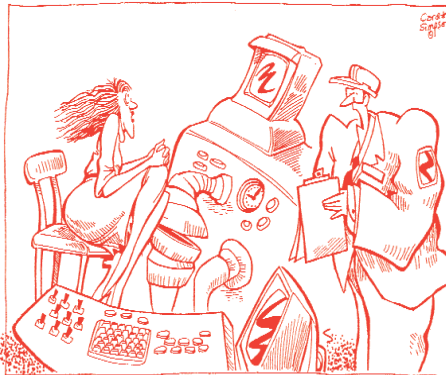
I end with the hope that you will understand how important you are, and with a quote from an unknown author:

"The needs of the many, outweigh the needs of the one."

- Brian T Funk

Did you know?

It has come to the Union's attention that the employer has unilaterally introduced a Mandatory/Blanket Authorization Form for Release of Confidential Medical information. Specifically, the employer is requiring as a general rule that any sick or disabled employee provide the following:



"You'll need a bathroom pass signed by the plant manager... unfortunately, he took the afternoon off."

- Authorization for Release of Information; and a
- Medical Certificate that has been revised and expanded.

We also understand that our members are expected to bear the cost associated with production of the new Medical Certificate.

While the Union does not dispute the right of the employer to request certain medical information where the circumstances warrant such a request, the above requirements are excessive and inappropriate and, in our view:

- constitute an unreasonable exercise of management rights;
- are inconsistent with our Collective Agreement; and
- invade the privacy rights of our members

The Union is attempting to address our specific concerns with the employer prior to pursuing the matter by way of a policy grievance.

If you are asked to sign one of these new authorization forms please contact the Union at (604) 822-6116 to advise and we will discuss the appropriate course of action you should take.

Education Workshop

The CUPE Education Department is presenting a Retirement Planning Seminar June 8 through June 10, 2006. The cost of the seminar is \$35.00. The purpose is to emphasize the importance of retirement planning, and to provide information and resources about the issues that should be considered as retirement approaches and to motivate participants to do something about formulating a realistic retirement plan now! Participants' spouses are encouraged to register and to attend.

Registration Deadline is May 29, 2006. Please call the Union office at (604) 822-6116 if you wish a registration form.



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Local 116
"On the front line"*

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Bulletin Board

Union Executive

Colleen Garbe - President
(RTW Co-ordinator, HS&E)

Dave Lance - Vice President /
Delegate
(Labourer 3, Plant Ops)

Roger De Pieri - Secretary
Treasurer
(Electrician, Plant Ops)

Penny Radmilovic - Recording
Secretary
(Scheduler, Plant Ops)

Leah Murray - V.P. at Large /
Delegate
(Carpenter, Plant Ops)

Barry Jones - V.P. at Large
(Labourer 3, Plant Ops)

Dennis Magee - V.P. at Large /
Delegate
(Painter, Plant Ops)

Trustees

Branko Radmilovic - Trustee
(Carpenter, Plant Ops)

Laura Lowry - Trustee / Delegate
(Food Services, Barn)

Bill Provenzano - Trustee
(Painter, Plant Ops)

Delegates

Gregg Garbe - Delegate
(Sub-head Labourer, Plant Ops)

Todd Delaurier - Delegate
(Electrician, Plant Ops)

The 2006 elected delegates are:

Dave Lance
Gregg Garbe
Leah Murray
Laura Lowry
Todd Delaurier
Dennis Magee

Congratulations to all of you!

Treasurer's Report

The Union will be going through a review of our bargaining expenses and will be providing a report of our defense fund account status at an upcoming general membership meeting.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER; The opinions expressed or the articles published in the Union Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or Executives. If you have any questions, comments, or letters, please contact the editor Roger De Pieri at the Union Office 604-822-6116 or Fax at 604-822-8970 or E-mail at newsletters@cupe116.com

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