

CUPE Scoop

Local 5167

Hamilton: Our City. Our Union. Our Stories.

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Communications Committee:

- Jodi Coville, Chair,
- Rosie Hagerty, City Inside Unit,
- Barry Conway, City Outside Unit,
- Monica Galarneau, DARTS Unit,
- Dianna Waldner GSWS Unit,
- Cindy Gaziano, Lodges Unit,
- Brian Forester, RBG Unit
- Deborah Stringer, Member at Large



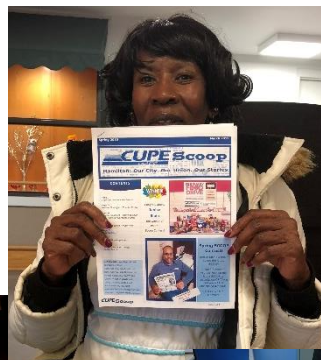
Congratulations

**Mike
Melcher**

the winner of
Spring
Scoop Contest!

Thank you to all those that participated!

See page 6 on how to get a 5167 2020 desk calendar!



Student Living Wage Campaign – Barry Conway



City Outside Vice President Barry Conway talking with students to lead the Student Living Wage Campaign

The City of Hamilton is covered in gorgeous flowers and beautiful parks! That didn't just happen by accident. It is with the help of many summer students and 5167 Members!

Young workers seek employment to help pay for tuition. The reality is they **don't earn enough to cover tuition**, let alone living expenses. The average Canadian tuition is \$9,300 and that's if you live at home! Students make about two thirds of that over a summer. The average tuition for those who don't live at home is \$19,498.75! That's crazy! Even with a living wage they still can't afford it, they end up with student loans.

No beer money here! These young workers are laboring day in and day out in the elements making our city beautiful.

Fulltime workers doing the same work start at just over \$23

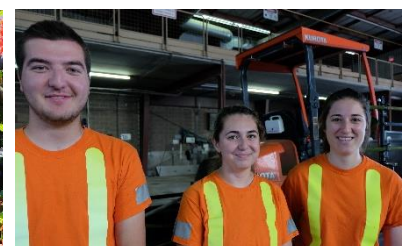
hour. **Is asking for a living wage of \$15.85 really too much?**

Sarah from cemeteries was asked what a living wage would mean to her. She said "It would be way less stressful. Even that little increase would make a huge difference because you're working 8 hours a day, Monday-Friday. I wouldn't have to stress about working other jobs ovetop of school. I have 7 courses each semester, and don't have time for an extra job. So, having the extra money would make it a lot less stressful." Post-secondary is a fulltime job. 95% of Sarah's wages go just to tuition and the remainder to paying for food.

We have the opportunity this fall to ensure students make a living wage. Council will be voting on the next year's budge. We need them to hear loud and clear from CUPE Local 5167 and the community that we demand a living wage for all workers, including students! **It's time for you to email your City Councilor and ask that this fall they vote for a living wage!**

Who is my City Councilor?

<https://www.hamilton.ca/council-committee/mayor-council/city-councillors>



Orange Shirt Day

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event in 2013, based on Phyllis (Jack) Webstad's story. When Phyllis was 6 years old, her grandmother bought her a new orange shirt for her to wear to school. Phyllis was so excited to wear her new orange shirt to her first day of school. However, when she arrived at school her orange shirt and other clothing were taken away. For many years afterwards the colour orange reminded Phyllis that the feelings of the children within residential schools didn't matter and no one cared about them.



Orange Shirt Day - Every Child Matters, will take place on September 30th. On this day please take the time to acknowledge the intergenerational impacts the residential school system (1870s - 1996), continues to have on First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities. We need to recognize, the over 150,000 Indigenous children who were removed from their homes and communities to attend residential schools. We must also remember the countless Indigenous children who never returned home from the residential schools across Canada.

Please remember to wear an orange shirt on September 30th.

Please check out www.orangeshirtday.org, to learn more about Orange Shirt Day, Phyllis's story and the history of the residential school system within Canada.

~ Dianna Waldner - GS Unit, Women Services

Steward Spotlight

Janet Stewart, Lodge Unit and John King, City Inside Unit

Janet has been a City of Hamilton Lodges employee for over 18 years and a Steward for 2 years. Janet believes it is important to be part of a union to ensure unity and shared knowledge.

John is a long time City of Hamilton Traffic Department employee. John is a Steward and past Election Committee member.



Thank you to all the workplace Union Stewards!

Union Stewards are the first line of support to our Members.



Committees

Nominations & Elections

For the November 2019 to

October 2021 term

Committees are a great way to get involved in the union.

Committees:

- Grievance Committee (As per the Collective Agreement)
- PAC Committee (One Per Unit)
- Communication Committee (One Per Unit)
- Equity Committee (One Per Unit)
- Education Committee (Two)
- Finance Committee (One)
- Health & Safety Committee (One Per Unit)

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE REFER TO THE BYLAW

Nominations will be held at the SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

DATE: Monday, September 23, 2019
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION: CUPE Local 5167 Union Hall, 818 King Street East

If you are interested in running and are unable to attend the meeting please forward a letter of intent to stand if nominated to the union office no later than **September 23, 2019 @ 4:00 p.m.** You may send your letter of interest via email, fax, or mail.

An election will be held at the October GMM if needed

Please note that any member interested in being on a committee **must be a member in good standing.**

What's happening in Hamilton?



TOURISM
HAMILTON

It's in our character

<https://tourismhamilton.com/>

PRESENTED BY  **THE READY COMMITMENT**

SUPERCRAWL

HAMILTON'S MUSIC + ARTS FESTIVAL
SEPTEMBER 13+14+15, 2019 | FREE ADMISSION

JAMES ST. N.  HAMILTON, ON

77 King Street West Join us for fall-time harvest fun in Battlefield Park.

Enjoy a pancake breakfast, games, pumpkin decorating, demonstrations, entertainment, and don't forget to enter the Battlefield Bake-Off.

For all ages.

This is a free event. Regular admission rates apply to the museum.

For more information:

www.hamilton.ca/battlefieldhouse

APPLE Festival

September 28, 2019 - 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Battlefield House Museum & Park

Local Updates



Please visit the following website and get active!! Tell the FORD Government to **STOP THE CUTS!**

<https://cupe.on.ca/communitiesnotcuts/>

The Ford Conservatives and their wealthy backers have launched an all-out attack on our public services and the workers who provide them.

Municipalities, universities, social services, school boards, and health care are all on the chopping block.

Public services are what make our communities strong.

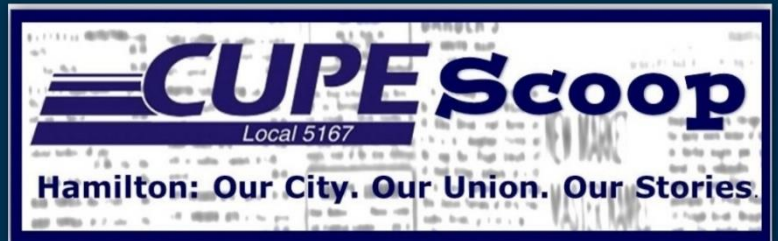


On July 31st, the Time to Care Act was reintroduced as Bill 13.

We need to stay focused on getting the bill passed so the minimum standard of care is 4 hours!

Please visit the following website and email the MPPs and stay informed!

<https://cupe.on.ca/campaigns/time-to-care-long-term-care/>



The first 40 members that sign in at November GMM Monday, November 25, 2019 will receive a free 2020 desk calendar!



FIGHT FORD and Bill 124!

Bill 124—the 'Protecting a Sustainable Public Sector for Future Generation Act'— **is a direct attack on the frontline public workers** who deliver the services our communities depend on across Ontario every day; **Bill 124 will strip workers of their Charter-protected right to collective bargaining**; It will force frontline public sector workers to accept contracts that do not keep pace with inflation; It will set the stage for more cuts to public services and more attacks on working people and our most vulnerable citizens.

What can I do?

Send a message to your MPP via
www.communitiesnotcuts.ca



Support local union actions regarding Bill 124
Visit: www.cupe.on.ca/bill124

Attend rallies and information pickets

Take online action by signing petitions, tweeting at stakeholders and sharing posts about the Fight Ford and Communities Over Cuts campaigns

Meet with your local government representatives

Encourage friends and family to get informed about the cuts the Ford Government are making across all the sectors

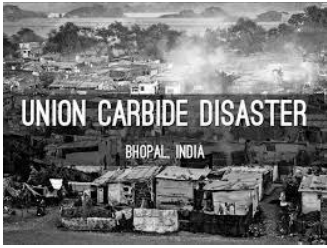
Talk to friends and family about the upcoming election and the importance of voting



Ontario has a Revenue Problem, Not a Spending Problem

Capping wage increases to balance budget is not the answer; On a per-person basis, **Ontario spends less on public services than any other jurisdiction in Canada**; The Ministry of Labour's data shows workers' wages in the public sector have not kept up with inflation for the past 10 years; If politicians were serious about managing Ontario's financial issues, they would bring Ontario's revenues in line with other jurisdictions by taxing those who can pay—wealthy corporations .

Bill 124 will only make a terrible situation worse, especially for low-waged, front line workers who provide these vital public services in your ridings and for people in your constituencies who are dependent on these workers and their services.



Bhopal Chemical Disaster - 35 years later

by Ed Thomas, 5167 Retiree



For 10 years I worked with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), a global organization that represents 168 million workers in 155 countries around the world. My involvement with them was at the United Nations at The Commission on Sustainable Development.

On April 29, 2004 I attended a side event on the Bhopal, India chemical disaster that occurred on December 3, 1984. Union Carbide, a United States based pesticide company spewed over 40 tons of poisonous gas into the air. Within the first 48 hours over 4000 people died from exposure. On the 20th anniversary of the disaster, the death toll had reached over 20,000 and another 500,000 people were permanently disabled.

Three key speakers talked about the disaster.

1. Rashida Bee, a trade unionist and Bhopal activist. She lost six family members to the tragedy as a result of cancer from the gases.
2. Champa Devi Shukla, another trade unionist and Bhopal activist. She, her spouse and five children were severely exposed to the gases and she is so badly affected that she can no longer work
3. Sathinath Sarangi a journalist turned Bhopal activist. He arrived the day after the disaster and stayed on to fund the Sambhavana Clinic, a non-profit clinic dedicated to the holistic treatment of gas-affected victims in Bhopal.

Now that it is 2019, the victims of this disaster have been fighting for the past 35 years for justice. The company tried laying the blame on disgruntled workers, however a number of safety violations have been identified. The India government initially sued Union Carbide for billions, but ended up settling for a measly 4.4 million, an average of \$500.00 per survivor. In this long bitter battle, Union Carbide sold out to Dow Chemical, another U.S. based company; this action is an attempt by company officials to duck the system. However, the activists are not letting this shady action alter their course, they are demanding Dow Chemical provide medical care for the victims, make substantial financial retribution to the survivors that are unable to get decent paying jobs, and clean up the area of the disaster environmentally.