

CUPE Scoop

Local 5167

Hamilton: Our City. Our Union. Our Stories.

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RBC Contest
100th Anniversary is coming!



www.cupe5167.org

Newsletter Committee:

Jodi Coville, Chair,
Rick DiGiantomasso, Airport Unit,
Loretta Marshall, City Inside Unit,
Barry Conway, City Outside Unit,
Marlene Craig, DARTS Unit,
Dianna Waldner GSWS Unit,
Joyce King, Lodges Unit,
Brian Forester, RBG Unit

CUPE Local 5167 Scoop

is encouraging all 5167 Members to donate non-perishable food items, cash donations and unwrapped gifts to OPERATION CHRiSTMAS CHEER.

For every approximated amount of \$10.00 donated you will be entered in a draw to win:

1. **\$150 Canadian Tire Gift Card**
2. **\$75 Shoppers Drug Mart Gift Card**
3. **\$25 Tim Horton's Gift Card**
4. **\$25 Tim Horton's Gift Card**
5. **\$25 Tim Horton's Gift Card**

So if you donated \$10.00 worth of groceries and a \$20.00 toy you will have 3 chances to win!!

**OPERATION
CHRiSTMAS
CHEER**



<http://www.operationcheer.com>

Please drop off all donations to:
CUPE Local 5167 Union Hall 818 King St E
by Thursday, December 08, 2016.

Please be mindful of expiry dates and that donations for ages 12 -17 are often missed!

541 Eatery and Exchange

541 is a social enterprise and charity that has volunteers running the daily operations. 541 is committed to providing food that is affordable, nutritious and family-friendly to the community. They use the proceeds from their food sales and space to do many community initiatives like a homework club, a youth employment program and other skill based training opportunities.

What they do?

- Have fresh and homemade meals and baked goods daily
- Always have vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options available
- They have a button system, people can come in and pay with buttons other customers have purchased to help pay for their meal

How you can help?

- Stop by and enjoy some yummy food
- Buy a button or two when you stop by, a button is \$1

541 Barton Street East

Monday – Friday 7am to 7pm
Saturday all-day brunch 7am to 4pm
Sundays closed
fivefortyone.ca

Contributor: Dianna Waldner



WINTER DRIVING TIPS

- Always drive according to the weather conditions
- Check weather and road conditions before you head out
By phone: 511
Online: Ontario.ca/511
On Twitter: @511Ontario
- Keep your tires inflated properly
- Keep your fuel at ¼ to ½ full at all times (avoids crystals in the gas line)
- Know defensive driving techniques, for example if you begin to skid, take your foot off the accelerator, gradually turn into the direction of the skid and apply steady pressure to your brakes, **do not pump your brakes!**
- Get a maintenance check-up
- Keep a winter driving survival kit in your vehicle (blanket, gloves, water, flashlight, change of clothes, non-perishable food, first aid kit, etc.)

For more information:

<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/ontario-511/winter-driving.shtml>

City of Hamilton Traffic Operations Centre Spotlight



(Back Row L-R: Oscar Lopez-Aragon, Jordan Brierly, Corey Clark, Craig Lennox, Roy Cooper, Carmen Tullo)
(Front Row L-R: Chad Brydges, Jacques Garneau, Robert Woodfine, Sandy Sbrissa)
Not pictured: Russ Bartolini, John King, John Waterson

The Traffic Operations Centre for the City of Hamilton is one of the most remarkable and intriguing work locations there is. There you will find a diverse group of people whose ultimate goal is to keep you safe.

Thirteen of those employees hold the title of “Traffic Signal Specialist” and are responsible for the assembling and maintenance of the city’s more than 600 traffic signals. Robert “Woody” Woodfine has been on that job for a good thirty-seven years and has seen advancements in technology and safety soar, especially in recent years. “Now we have things like A.O.D.A. compliant crosswalks to assist folks with impairments, allowing them to confidently go for a walk”.

What does it take to be a Traffic Signal Specialist? You are required to be a certified electrician, as well hold a DZ licence. Ongoing recertification in various disciplines is required to ensure that all aspects of the job are done safely and professionally. Oh and it’s not a good idea if you’re afraid of heights, because you’ll likely have to work from a bucket from time to time.

The role of Traffic Signal Specialist is essential, offering a full twenty-four hour service, seven days a week.

Always busy with a stream of steady work orders, each day they face challenges such as inclement weather, being vulnerable to traffic, finding snakes or wildlife in electrical boxes and continually working with electricity (which can be shocking at times); to them though the benefits far outweigh the obstacles.



I had the opportunity to talk to a few of the guys about what keeps their job exciting and interesting, overwhelmingly I was told that it is the new technology; the development of the Traffic Management Centre, which allows live monitoring of traffic trends and the resolution of timing issues or

congestion to be handled remotely. "I always enjoy putting up a new intersection", says Jacques Garneau. "It's nice to be able to help make a positive difference in the community."

Aside from being a traffic signal specialist, John King is also involved with our local, currently sitting on the Election Committee.

It didn't take me long to realize that what makes each employee so successful with their job, is the fact that they work well together as a team. This dynamic group of 5167 workers all agree that making our streets safer for pedestrians and motorists alike is fundamentally the greatest part of what they do. #CUPEproud #solidarity #cityworkersrock

Contributor:

Loretta Marshall
Traffic Operations Clerk/Dispatcher &
5167 Communications Committee Member

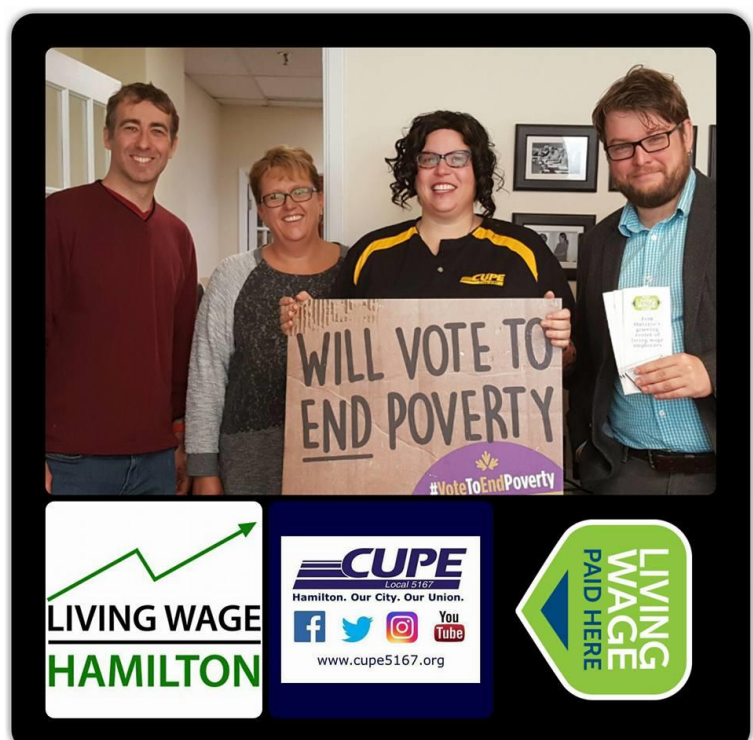


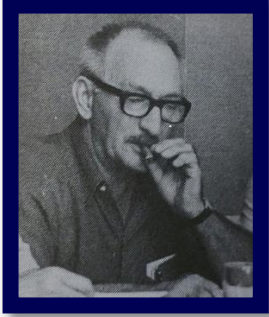
CUPE

Local Updates

Don't forget to visit the website for updates, postings and all sorts of supports and information!!

www.cupe5167.org





CUPE Beginnings:
Francis Orvell Rogers (1918-1989)
Local 5 Recording Secretary
(1945 – 1978)

by Ed Thomas, 5167 Retiree and Activist



In the last edition of the 5167 Scoop I wrote an article about the late Francis Orville Rogers. (F.O. as he proudly preferred to be called). He was a key individual in the labour movement not only in Hamilton, but also the rest of Canada. In 1953 there were two national public unions, the National Union of Public Service Employees (NUPSE) and the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE). In 1956 these two unions started the process to merge together to form one public sector union.

F.O. reported to the members of Local 5 that one combined national union would have a very important job; it would be the national voice of its thousands of members. This voice would express ideas and aspirations of all frontline workers. It would question the general welfare of worker legislation, and legislation having to do with the workers problems at work and home life. The work of the **organised labour movement brought benefits to all workers**. The pressure of public opinion combined with the labour movement resulted in the passing of worker's compensation and unemployment insurance laws; programs today that benefit union and non-union workers. And when you build up a standard for your own membership you build up a standard for your community. Most social programs are rooted in union history.

F.O. stated because the wages you get affect the economic situation of the local grocer, the local banker and the community, the unions purpose is a simple purpose, to advance the welfare and working conditions of all workers. F.O. was dedicated to assisting the labour movement in any way he could. **He lived by union philosophy**, to maintain and improve working conditions. This includes the negotiation of wages and benefits, grievance procedures, rules governing hiring, firing and promotion of workers, and workplace health and safety policies.

Although the merger talks between NUPSE and NUPE started in 1956 they wouldn't be finished until 1963! The new organization would be called the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE). Its founding convention in Winnipeg had a total membership of 90,000 public employees. In 2016 **CUPE is now 639,000 members strong!** CUPE Local 5167 can take pride in knowing that their very own F.O. Rogers was one of the historical people that helped develop CUPE.

CUPE National and Ontario continue today to fight for our own membership but also the general welfare of the country. Right now they have several campaigns in regards to CPP expansion, child care, senior care, hospital care, keep hydro public and others! Go check out their websites!

CUPE National Updates

Plasma for Profit: Why is Health Canada allowing paid plasma collection?

Health Canada is allowing a private clinic to pay donors for their blood plasma. This opens the door to increased commercialization and privatization of Canada's blood supply. It's just wrong.

<https://cupe.ca/plasma-life-not-profit>

Save Our Health Care

The federal Liberal government is in discussions with the provinces and territories for a new Health Accord. This is the time to pressure the government to negotiate a Health Accord that protects, strengthens and expands our public health care system.

<http://saveourhealthcare.ca/>

Trudeau Government Attacking Pensions

New legislation from the Trudeau Liberal government is threatening the pensions of Canadian workers. Bill C-27 is an attack on good defined benefit pensions that could allow employers to break their pension promises to thousands of workers and retirees across the country.

<https://cupe.ca/trudeau-government-attacking-pensions>

Benefits of belonging to a Union!!

1. Higher wages
2. Greater equality
3. Pensions/benefits
4. Job security and tenure
5. Health and safety
6. Predictable hours
7. Training and education
8. Transparency and equitable due process
9. Workplace democracy
10. Advocacy and political action



RBC Royal Bank

Chance to **WIN** a Gift Card!

RBC Insurance® is proud to offer you advice on car and home insurance as well as group plan rates.

As thanks to you and your organization, we want to give you the **chance to WIN a \$50 gift card for Petro Canada.**¹ Simply complete the online ballot below. Good luck!

www.rbcinsurance.com/draw/cupe5167

1) No purchase necessary. Contest runs from December 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.



www.cupe5167.org

5167 100th Anniversary is coming in 2018!!

**We are looking for photos
and information about our
last 100 years!**



Do you have a story from the 1973 strike?

Do you have a grandparent or relative that was a City Worker or Unit Worker back in the day?

Do you have some old polaroids or negatives?

Do you know how or when your unit joined CUPE? A story to tell...

**If you have some photos we can
copy or upload, or a story to
share please contact:**

Jodi Coville

Executive Administrator

Phone: 905-522-0917 x 229

Email: coville@cupes167.org