



# Message from the President

Good Day,

Well now that January the 87th has come and gone (man that month has to have more than 31 days) let's hope that Spring is around the corner. I hope you all survived the storm of 2020 and had some fun on the snow day - as with last year - I was away at Winter School so was hard at work while you were frolicking in the snow (or possibly bundling up children to send them outside for 3.4 minutes - and then unbundling them, repeat several times). I appreciate the opportunity to attend these workshops and this year I was at Labour Arbitration This was a great course and provided valuable tips and tools along with practice sessions with an actual arbitrator.

We continue to work hard to accomplish grievances and other pursuits such as an LOU (Letter of Understanding) that will allow retired members to return to work on a part-time basis. Nothing moves quickly, and as you may know they are again short an HR Manager as Carrie Broadhead has made a career move.

On a provincial level - all the Committees that were formed as part of 2019 Bargaining are up and running: Job Evaluation, Provincial Labour Management, SSEC (Support Staff Education Committee) of which I am the Chair, and the Health and Safety - shortly we should begin to receive regular communication regarding their work and I will keep you informed. I am eager to see where the H&S goes as Violence in the Workplace is possibly the biggest issue most of our members face - provincially!!!

Our next General Membership meeting is on **Tuesday, February 4 at 4:30 in the Boardroom.** I do hope to have quorum and proceed with elections for Chief Shop Steward and Recording Secretary so please send at least one person from your site and that will ensure we have the necessary num-



## Next Membership Meeting

- Tuesday, February 4 at 4:30 pm in Tolmie Boardroom 556 Boleskine Rd

### JEIS PROGRAM

#### Joint Early Intervention Program

The JEIS Program is offered as part of our Benefit Program through the PEBT (Public Education Benefits Trust). If you are away for more than 5 days you will be contacted by our HR Department and by Graham Gilbert, Health Care Management Specialist, from Desjardins (or one of his representatives)—his sole responsibility is to assist you in returning to work healthy. Studies show that the longer an employee is absent from work the less likely they are to return. They can assist you in finding appropriate treatment plans, possibly expediting appointments, identifying gaps in healthcare that may negatively impact you. The Procedural Manual is available on our website if you have any questions—or you can also contact us.



Check out our website and Social Media Sites

[www.cupe947.ca](http://www.cupe947.ca)

Join Us On Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

### KNOW YOUR CONTRACT (EI TOP UP)

#### 22.05 SICK LEAVE PLAN (paraphrased)

...In the event an employee is on approved medical leave, has exhausted their sick leave bank and has not met the 85 day qualifying period for LTD, the employee can apply for EI benefits. Upon providing the Board with the EI approval statement the Board will top-up the EI benefits to a maximum of 75% of the employee's gross wages. **Please note you need to advise Payroll that you are on EI.**



## Hearts & Flowers

Have you moved recently? Got a new phone number? Address? Name Change? Please keep your information up to date with HR.

For flower requests for a life event please...

Email [nataniss@gmail.com](mailto:nataniss@gmail.com)

or text 250-886-7765

# CUPE 947 Executive 2019

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