
THE CUPE CONNECTION

Official Publication of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 38
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SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE APPLY NOW



In 2005 the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 38 announced the creation of two (2) one thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) scholarships to be awarded in October each year. The scholarships will be awarded to a card carrying member or an eligible dependant of a card carrying member.

To be eligible the applicant must be enrolled in full time post secondary studies and must submit a one thousand (1,000) word essay on the "Benefits of Belonging to a Union". Essays must be submitted by August 4, 2006.

Proof of enrollment in a post secondary institution must also be provided. Entrants will be judged by the members of the CUPE Local 38, Public Relations and Education Committee. Successful applicants will be advised by letter and their names will be published in future editions of the CUPE Connection. For further information please contact the Local 38 office at 233-2700 or by email at cupe38@shaw.ca.

State of Schools Something for Us all to be Concerned About!

You have been hearing a lot of press lately about the state of the schools here in Calgary. Well, it is something you should be concerned about, even if you don't have children in either school system. We entrust the provincial government with allocating our resources where they need to be. For the most part they do a pretty good job,

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One member's open letter to the membership.....

What does The Union ever do for me?

I am so tired of hearing that line.....

The Union has done a lot for me in the last year and I want to share my story with the members and to send out my thanks to The Union – CUPE Local 38. Last year, I applied for a job within The City of Calgary. I was called for an interview and came out of the Targeted Selection interview (which was only fifteen minutes in length) feeling like I'd "aced" it. It was several weeks before I got the voice mail message left during the work day at my home telephone number telling me that I didn't make it and that I should try again.

After my long service with The City, I was devastated when I discovered that many had been hired from outside The City and only one from inside. I had always been apprehensive about filing a grievance – I felt like it was a negative and that if I had to grieve the position, I didn't want it. This time, I had been active in The Union and understood what a grievance was for and knew that I had to file a grievance. This was not fair. We could not allow this to happen.

I called and spoke with our president and got the grievance ball rolling. We went through the steps. It was a huge learning experience for me. I had been a shop steward for a few years but had never had to file a grievance for myself or for anyone else. I was learning from experience - both as the grievor and the shop steward. It was not a comfortable position to be in. I felt like I was interrogated in these meetings. I had done nothing wrong.

The Union took me through the steps of the "non-selection" grievance and were going to go all the way to an arbitration hearing. The Employer offered me

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an opportunity to interview again or re-apply. After a second interview, this time for much longer than fifteen minutes, they offered me the position. It was eleven months since I didn't get the position last year because I "wasn't qualified".

The Union requested that I be paid back pay for the eleven months that I was not in the position. This sum of money was included on my last pay cheque. THAT IS WHAT THE UNION CAN DO FOR YOU.

Thank you, Peter Marsden for your faith in me and for your continued support. Thank you to the officers of this Union who work for each and everyone of us – I am so happy that I became active in this Union and came to realize what a class act you all are.

Sincerely, A very grateful member.

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however, when it comes to the safety of our children they have fallen down. Funding must be brought back to the school boards so they can repair or do some preventative maintenance on the existing buildings or build new schools so that kids can stay in their neighbourhoods instead of being bussed. The public system is way behind and the Catholic system has just brought in a budget where they have suggested deferring 1.4 million. I believe this is the slope the public board started on and it will be hard to climb back up!

How can you help! Please take the time to visit the Calgary Association of Parent and School Councils (CAPSC) website for their letter writing campaign (www.capscc.ca), then take the time to write to all the Provincial leaders know your concerns about the state of Schools here in Alberta.

REGULAR MEETING**Tuesday, JUNE 27, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.****Union Office (Downstairs Meeting Room)****224—12th Avenue South East****BUSINESS: Regular & Committee Elections**

- 1) Trustee (2 year term)**
- 2) Members for the following Standing Committees:**
 - A) Public Relations & Education**
 - B) Equal Opportunities**
- 3) Delegates to CUPE District Council**

REMINDER: No regular meeting in July and August. Regular meetings resume in September with Steward meeting at 5:00 p.m. September 26th followed by the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The Executive wish our members a safe and fun filled summer.