

CUPE PEI Organizing Report 2011

In the fall of 2009 CUPE began a successful organizing drive with the Education Sector Substitute Support Staff; applications were filed at the Labour Board for Substitute Educational Assistants and Youth Service Workers, Administrative Assistants, Bus Drivers and the Maintenance Group. We are in the process of negotiating a Voluntary Recognition Agreement with the Employers for these groups so that the new members are included in the existing contracts with Locals 3260, 1770, 1145 and 1775. The outcome of this project could mean the addition of approximately 400 new members. The Collective Agreements for Local 3260, 1770, 1145, and 1775 are all open this year and our goal is to negotiate for the Substitute Support Workers this round of negotiations. We thank Brother Glen Gallant, CUPE Legal Representative for the support with the Voluntary Recognition Agreement.

In March 2010 we began a project organizing the substitute Teachers across Prince Edward Island, applications were filed to the Labour Board in June 2010. A Labour Board hearing will be held in the very near future to determine the issues rose by the Labour Board regarding the status of these employees as instructional personnel and therefore excluding them from the Labour Act. The outcome of this project could mean the addition of approximately 500 new members. Again we thank Brother Glen Gallant, CUPE Legal Representative who has spent many hours on this file and will be presenting on behalf of CUPE at the Labour Board hearing.

We continue to promote organizing within CUPE on Prince Edward Island; a mapping of potential projects on PEI has been done. If there are any groups that you may have contacts with that would have an interest in organizing within CUPE please contact CUPE PEI Division.

Organizing on PEI has been successful because of the many CUPE members that are involved, in November at the CUPE PEI Office opening we recognized twenty two member organizers with a token of appreciation for their dedication and hard work in organizing over the past year.

Organizing and PR go hand it hand, we continue to take every opportunity to promote CUPE across PEI. CUPE PEI Division has dedicated funding towards a project to do a CUPE float for community parades for the summer of 2011. This project is in the beginning stages and we are hoping that all Locals will take part. We will keep you up to date on this project!

Respectively Submitted,

Stacy Delaney