



C.U.P.E. P.E.I. PENSION COMMITTEE MEETING NOV. 30,2011

The C.U.P.E. P.E.I. Pension committee held their first meeting on November 30, 2011.

Members in attendance:

- **Leonard Gallant** Local 1779 Division Liaison
- **Hughenna Duggan** Local 3260 Education Sector
- **Susan MacAskill** Local 3224 Island E.M.S./Atlantic Baptist Nursing Home and Group Home Sector
- **Lane MacLaren** Local 805 Health Sector / National Committee Rep

Members selected Brother Lane MacLaren to serve as chair for the committee.

Brother Leonard Gallant shared with members his role as Division Liaison to the committee.

Brother Leonard Gallant agreed to discuss with the Municipal and University reps at the next division meeting the vacancies on the committee from their sectors. Brother Leonard to pass along an invitation to any member from these sectors who may be interested in participating on the committee.

The committee discussed and shared ideas regarding the goals, mandate, duties etc...of the committee. It was agreed that Brother Lane MacLaren would prepare a document outlining the committee's role, goals, etc...Brother Lane agreed to circulate the draft prior to the next meeting for members to review and to provide input. The proposed mandate etc...will then be forwarded to Division Executive for approval.

C.U.P.E. P.E.I. President Sister Lori MacKay addressed the committee on a meeting she had attended earlier in the day with Hassan Yoseff, National Secretary Treasurer of the Canadian Labour Congress and P.E.I. Finance Minister Wes Sheridan.

Sister Lori reported the meeting was very positive and Mr. Sheridan continues to support labours plan for an enhanced Canada Pension Plan.

The Finance Ministers are set to meet December and Mr. Sheridan has been active lobbying the other premiers to support the CPP enhancement.

Sister Lori also reported the C.L.C. has received a commitment from Prme Minister Harper if two thirds of the provinces agree to CPP improvements the Federal government will accept and not interfere. The C.L.C. is also working hard to have the Finance Ministers define what they mean by a "modest" increase to the CPP.

In closing, Sister Lori stated the fight continues and we must remain positive.

The committee members expressed thanks to Lori for her support and for taking time to share with the committee.

Brother Lane shared with members the idea of establishing a list serve for CUPE PEI members interested in pension issues or news. Brother Lane spoke about the National pension list serve and how he felt something similar could be useful for our members. The list serve could be a great tool for members to share information regarding pensions. This information could be items received by our National Committee rep or any online articles a member has read and wanted to share. Information or reports could be circulated from meetings members have attended. The list serve could also be used as a chat room where someone may have a question on a certain issue and the question could be put out to members to respond. The list serve could also be a great way to mobilize the troops on short notice is needed.

Brother lane conceded he was not sure how to set up this type of e-mail account and it was agreed he should contact Brother Jason Woodbury the "CUPE PEI tech guru". Brother Lane agreed to make contact with Jason. The goal would be to have this established in time to roll out at Convention in May.

Members also discussed the idea of organizing a pension forum for CUPE PEI members. Brother Leonard Gallant to explore the possibility of organizing such an event with the Division Executive.

Although only late November and the comm. first meeting, our report to convention was discussed. The format for the report rather than the content. Brother Lane expressed his desire to present a video report with an accompanying theme song, similar to the Literacy report presented at last year's convention. It was felt this would be worth exploring and again Brother Lane to contact Jason Woodbury to discuss presenting such a report.

The committee concluded with Sister Susan MacAskill sharing with members her membership in the CUPE Multi Sector pension plan and how it has enabled her small worksite to be part of a pension plan.

Members also briefly discussed the challenges people face trying to save for retirement. Sister Hughenna highlighted the importance of educating younger workers regarding retirement planning.

Next meeting Jan. 24, 2012 4:30 pm CUPE office.

Respectfully Submitted

Lane MacLaren

Local 805