

CUPE PEI AD - HOC PENSION COMMITTEE REPORT
MAY 2011

In the absence of a permanent CUPE PEI Pension committee, CUPE PEI Division established an ad-hoc pension committee in June of 2010. Four members volunteered to serve on this committee:

- Brother Lane MacLaren – Committee Chair – Local 805
- Brother Leonard Crawford – Division Liaison - Local 1779
- Sister Lori MacKay – Federation of Labor Liaison – Local 3260
- Sister Hughena Duggan – Local 3260

The goals of the committee included:

- Serving as a strong voice for CUPE PEI members on pension issues.
- Advocate for improved pension benefits for all workers.
- Support and participate in labors campaign for an enhanced CPP / retirement security for all.
- To promote pension education.
- Establish a strong base with the intent to create a permanent CUPE PEI pension committee.

The committee held four meetings and was involved in numerous pension activities. Members were very active advocating for an improved CPP.

The following is a review of events attended and actions taken by committee members.

June 2010 – Involved in events surrounding Finance Ministers meeting at Crowbush Cove, PEI.

September 20, 2010 – Attended meeting with PEI Finance Minister Wes Sheridan to discuss CPP enhancements.

September 2010 – Attended CPP Investment Board public meeting.

December 2010 – Wrote letter to PEI Finance Minister Wes Sheridan prior to Finance Ministers meeting in Kananaskis, Alberta.

December 7, 2010 – Joined other labor reps in the gallery of PEI Legislature to hear statement from Wes Sheridan re CPP enhancements.

January 2011 – Wrote letter to Editor, Charlottetown Guardian expressing disappointment with Federal government plan for a Pooled Retirement Pension Plan.

February 12, 2011 – Attended Town Hall pension meeting in Summerside hosted by Federal MP Judy Sgro, Opposition Critic for Seniors and Pensions.

March 2011 – Federal Budget – Shame.

The members of the CUPE Pension Committee look forward to working hard in the future representing CUPE PEI members. We recognize there is still much work to be done and many issues facing today's workers regarding pensions. We know with continued support from all our members we feel positive change can be effected.

In closing, we would like to thank CUPE PEI President Brother Milo Murray and the entire CUPE PEI Executive for their continued support.

In Solidarity
Lane MacLaren
Local 805