

Persons With Disabilities National Working Group

The members of Persons With Disabilities National Working Group (PWDNWG) are grateful;

- That CUPE National arranged for two of its members to audit the site of the 2009 Convention, in order to anticipate and present accessibility and prevent accessibility problems;
- That CUPE National has formally adopted a policy to pay for accommodations needed by its members with disabilities to participate fully in convention and other national events;
- That CUPE National has requested the Prime Minister to sign the international convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

We are encouraged by;

- The incorporation of disability rights into the "mainstream" work of the Union;
- The group's successful work with the Union Development Department to develop the "Inclusive Learning Environment" documents;
- The Group's successful work with the Union Development Department to develop a nation wide duty to accommodate course, incorporating a disability sensitivity module;
- The Group's successful work with the Communications Branch to provide disability rights awareness material for convention and to have the disability rights banner provided to all regions;

We were excited by;

- The second award for the National Disability Rights Activism Award at the 2009 convention;
- The accessibility Legislation introduced in Ontario and its implementation;

We are challenged by;

- The group's desire to have more information about persons with disabilities on the National Website;
- The need to bring duty to accommodate courses to all members across Canada;

With thanks to our Staff Advisory, Connie Kilfoil, Equality Branch Acting Director, Maureen Morrison and last but not least, our supportive National Officers, Paul Moist and Claude Généreau.

Respectfully submitted by,

Elaine Fagan