

# Literacy resources on the Web

## *Why care about literacy & essential skills*

You're a busy union executive member. You barely have time to keep up with your members' existing issues and concerns.

If you think about literacy and essential skills as just one more issue, you'll probably file it under "pending" and move on. But we think there are some very good reasons to put literacy and essential skills on your 'to do' list. This fact sheet offers you ways to do this that can help you meet your goals.

## *Literacy is a Right – Fact Sheets*

1. Introduction: literacy as a right
2. Proven advantages: for workers, employers, governments
3. Labour's vision for government support
4. Best practices
5. Measuring success

## *It's our right*

This booklet tells the story of eight CUPE programs from across the country and illustrates the impact on our members through interviews with program participants. We hope that this collection of stories will "spread the word" about workplace education and inspire other locals and members to get involved.

## *Do your members know their contract?*

This guide can help you make your collective agreement more accessible to members. Here are some ideas that CUPE locals have tried:

- use a more inclusive process and language at meetings
- explain selected clauses of your contract in your newsletter
- involve members in rewriting clauses
- create a companion document to your contract
- negotiate a clear contract

## *Up to the certification challenge – Study Highlights*

A popular version summary of our research report on education initiatives to support water workers facing mandatory certification. The booklet highlights lessons learned in the water sector. It also looks beyond the water sector and suggests a path for CUPE to help members who need to meet certification or licensing requirements.

Web address: [cupe.ca/literacy](http://cupe.ca/literacy)

To order a paper copy, e-mail: [literacy@cupe.ca](mailto:literacy@cupe.ca)

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