

# AREA 6 NEWS

Official publication of OSBCC Area 6

## Area 6 Meeting

Laura has been called to Toronto, along with the rest of the OSBCC Executive, to start looking at the goals for the OSBCC for the next year.

We would like to have an Area 6 Executive meeting on March 29 @ 5:30pm to discuss the goals and find ways to integrate them into our are. Please let us know if you can make it.

## Ontario Division Conference

May 24-29, 2016 is the CUPE Ontario conference. The conference is taking place at the Sheraton in downtown Toronto. Contact WE Travel to make arrangements.



Exercising our right to vote @OSBCC 2016

## OSBCC Conference 2016

It was so great to see everyone at the 2016 OSBCC Conference. There was so much great information for everyone to take in!

The benefits information was quite in-depth and the slide shows were sent to locals for reference. There should be more information coming from the OSBCC soon. The



CUPE Local 1479

# Refugee Information for Locals

Anyone interested in find out information in how to support refugees that come to your area should check out <http://canadianlabour.ca/welcome-home-resource-kit>. The Canadian Labour Congress has a really informative a really good information package on unions welcoming refugees to their communities.

deadline for deciding whether to go with the Benefits Trust is May 2016. All of the documents have now been posted on the <http://cupe.on.ca/sectors/school-boards/> and can be downloaded to your computer. Local Updates



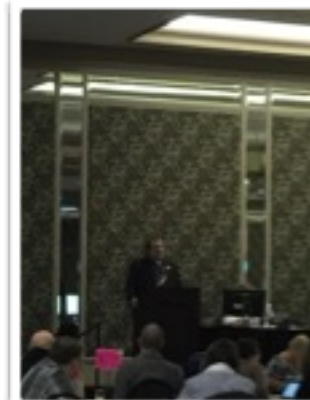
Laura, Sue and Liz leading the Area 6&7 meeting



Swearing in Laura



Swearing in Liz



Mark Hancock, CUPE National President



Terri Preston re-elected as OSBCC Chair

### AREA 6 CONTACT INFORMATION

Laura Walton, VP CUPE 1022, Area 6 Representative & Vice Chair OSBCC

Email                      Phone number

Liz James,            Chief Steward CUPE Local 1479, Area 6 Alternate Representative

lizjamescupe1479@gmail.com    613-885-5580

Donna Jackson            President 1480    djackson8@live.ca

Leanne Evans            President 1022    levans@cupe1022.ca

Kevin French            President 1479    frenchkevin32@gmail.com

## Local Update

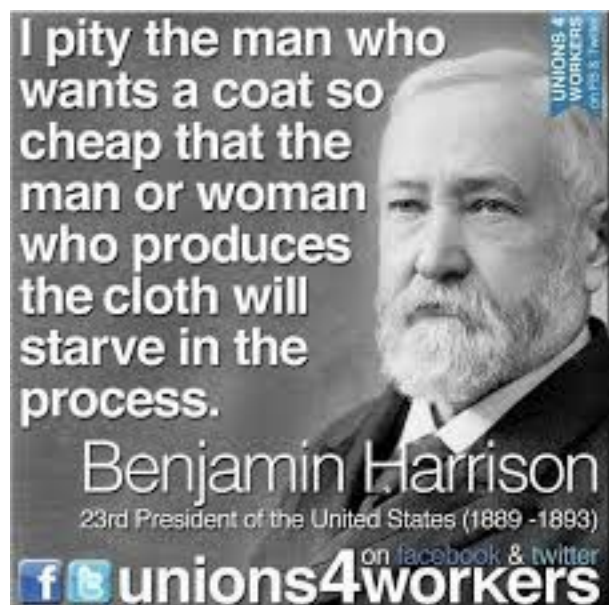


I am hoping to get a brief (a couple of sentences) submission from each local every month to share in the newsletter. It could be a summary of how things are going, a gain you experienced, a set back you had to deal with or anything else your local would like to share. Knowing what is going on among our closest education workers will

help us work together and stand strong. Anyone from the executive can send their update to [lizjamescupe1479@gmail.com](mailto:lizjamescupe1479@gmail.com) as close to the 15th of the month as possible. If you have any ways that the other locals in your area could support you through anything at all please let us know.

Communication will be the key to Area 6's success!

If you have any questions or concerns please email Laura or Liz.



## Ontario budget throws public services under the infrastructure bus

### Modest program improvements clawed back by cuts and privatization

**(TORONTO, ON)** — The Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) President Chris Buckley welcomed the thawing of the freeze on hospital funding and improvements to access for college and university students, but warned that these modest program improvements in certain sectors were being paid for by across-the-board cuts to others. Moreover, against public outcry, the Wynne government has held the line on austerity cuts and hydro privatization in order to fund its infrastructure plans.

“The 2016 Ontario Budget throws public services under the infrastructure bus when it should be presenting Ontarians with a roadmap for growing the economy and reversing the backslide to inequality,” said Buckley. “Piecemeal improvements to student financial assistance, disability support and other positive measures won’t help reduce inequality in Ontario if families are squeezed by precarious work, shrinking public services and increasing user fees.”

In its pre-budget submission, the OFL called on the Wynne Government to abandon its balanced budget fixation in favour of new investments in job creation, restoring public services and making sure that banks and corporations pay their fair share. The OFL cited a [report](#) released by the Ontario Common Front in November 2015, demonstrating that, by nearly every measure, Ontario is trailing every other province in income equality and poverty reduction. Among the most alarming findings are:

- Ontario has experienced a 50% increase in the duration of unemployment, making its long-term unemployment the second worst in Canada;
- 1.7 million people are now earning within \$4 of the minimum wage;
- There has been a 38% increase in poverty in Ontario over the past 20 years and nearly one in five Ontario children live in poverty;
- Young Ontario families pay up to \$19,000 a year for child care, the highest costs in Canada;
- University tuition fees have outpaced inflation by 601% while per student funding is dead last; and
- Ontario funds all of its social programs at the lowest rate in Canada.



**A LOOK**  
*at the*  
**BUDGET**

Some of the OFL's asks are reflected in today's budget and mark modest improvements that will be a benefit to working people. Among the budget announcements being welcomed by the OFL are:

- A commitment to tackling climate change through the introduction of a "cap and trade" program;
- Concrete measures to make higher education more affordable, in particular through the introduction of grants that will render tuition fees free for students whose household income is below \$50,000;
- A lifting of the freeze on hospital funding through a new injection of \$345 million; and
- A "basic income pilot project," the details of which will be determined in 2016.

"Wynne has given us one step forward, two steps back. Without increasing social program funding above inflation, this budget will further cement Ontario's last place status for social program funding, income equality and poverty reduction," said Buckley. "The shortcomings of today's budget make it all the more essential for this government to move forward with bold plans to close Ontario's gender wage gap and reform Ontario's outdated labour laws so that every worker is lifted out of poverty and fairness becomes the law of the land."

The Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) represents 54 unions and one million workers in Ontario. For information, visit [www.OFL.ca](http://www.OFL.ca) and follow @OFLabour on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).  
-30-

**For further information:**

**Joel Duff**, OFL Communications Director: **416-707-0349** (cell) or [jduff@ofl.ca](mailto:jduff@ofl.ca) \*ENG/  
**FRENCH\***

cope343

---

**Ontario Federation of Labour**

15 Gervais Dr, Suite 202, Toronto, ON M3C 1Y8, Canada

Visit [www.OFL.ca](http://www.OFL.ca) and follow @OFLabour on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)



## CUPE recommendations for the 2016-17 federal budget

Feb 24, 2016

CUPE members take pride in delivering quality public services. With incomes close to the Canadian average, our members depend on quality public services to maintain their standard of living, as do all Canadians.



As Canadians, we help each other in our communities and as a country. We help each other because it's in our nature—and because we know if someone lives in poverty, in sickness or without a decent education, it holds us all back as a nation.

Our progress has been held back by inequality and an increasingly unbalanced economy.

We need increased stimulus and infrastructure investment, but we also need fundamental changes. To achieve sustained economic growth we must work together to diversify and grow our economy, improve public services, generate good quality jobs, reduce inequality and transition to a more sustainable economy.

Recommendations for the federal budget:

An increase in federal infrastructure spending, mainly for public transit, green and social infrastructure, and particularly for those most in need, including affordable housing, transition homes, child care centres, senior's facilities, and community and cultural facilities.

Infrastructure funding that supports a long-term plan to reduce our emissions and generate good quality jobs. The federal government, and other levels, should demonstrate leadership by ensuring all public buildings and facilities are constructed or retrofitted to high environmental standards.

All federal infrastructure funding should be tied to environmental, climate change and social requirements. In the short term, we support the government providing more than a one-third share tied to achieving environmental and broader social objectives, including decent wages, labour rights, pay equity, and opportunities for apprentices and equity-seeking groups.

A dedicated fund, established by the federal government, to support the public wastewater infrastructure investments required to meet the new national wastewater regulations. It should also increase funding for First Nations water and wastewater.

The elimination of PPP Canada, redirecting the P3 Fund to public infrastructure projects. It should also introduce comprehensive P3 accountability and transparency legislation. The Canada Infrastructure Bank should not be another vehicle to subsidize high cost private finance.

Acceleration of planned changes to the Employment Insurance program.

Restored funding in training and labour force development, with emphasis on literacy and essential skills development.

The federal government should work with provinces and territories to establish and fund a national affordable and public, non-profit early childhood education and care system, with a distinct system for Indigenous communities.

The reduction and ultimately elimination of undergraduate university and college tuition fees.

Demonstrated leadership by the federal government in achieving a universal expansion of the Canada Pension Plan, instead of deferring to piecemeal and provincial measures.

A new health accord with significant annual funding increases strictly tied to enforcement of the Canada Health Act, as well as improvements and

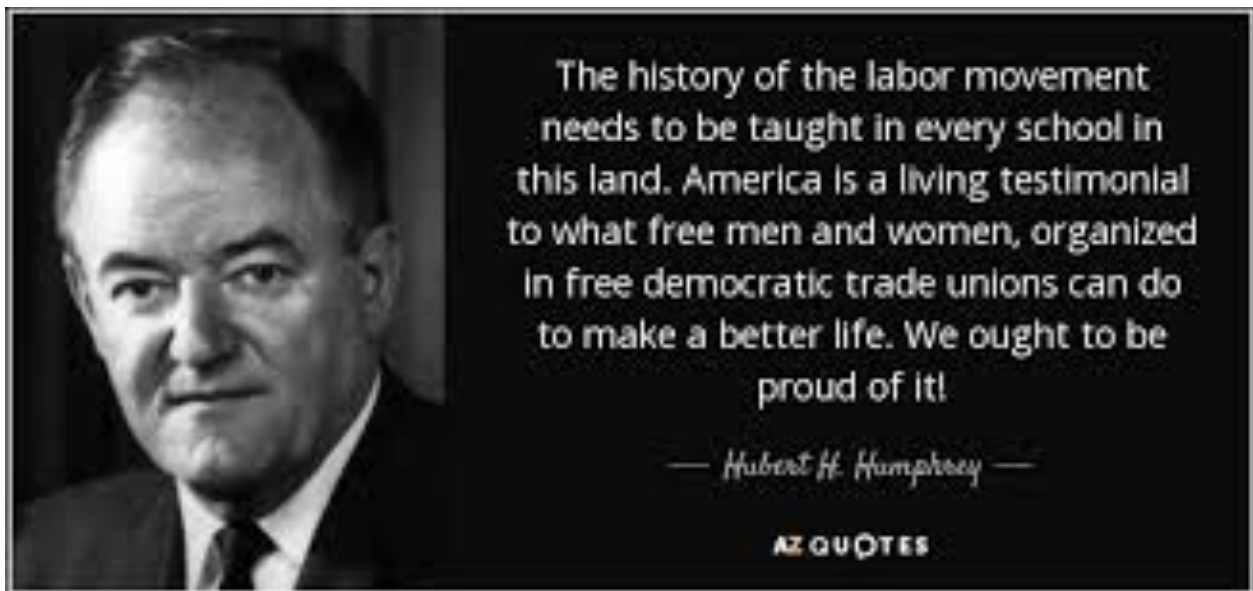
expansion of the public health care system, including a national Pharmacare program.

A commitment by the federal government to a ten-year timetable to increase our international development assistance budget and to dedicate at least half to least developed countries.

An end to trade deals that expand corporate power at the expense of jobs, wages, the environment and our democratic sovereignty. We oppose ratification of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, CETA and other deals.

Increased tax fairness with the priority on broadening the base, by eliminating regressive tax loopholes such as the stock option deduction, tackling tax evasion, and moving towards higher taxation of both corporate and capital income.

[http://cupe.ca/cupe-recommendations-2016-17-federal-budget?utm\\_source=CUPE+Mailin+Lists&utm\\_campaign=3539061f06-CUPE\\_Today\\_for\\_Thursday\\_February\\_25\\_20162\\_25\\_2016&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_46df083029-3539061f06-25010425](http://cupe.ca/cupe-recommendations-2016-17-federal-budget?utm_source=CUPE+Mailin+Lists&utm_campaign=3539061f06-CUPE_Today_for_Thursday_February_25_20162_25_2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_46df083029-3539061f06-25010425)







# Check out the OSBCC Area 6 Facebook page!



## Education Opportunities

### *Health & Safety Series*

Working in a Health & Safety Committee, Investigations, Inspection (Hazard Identification and Prioritizing)

Mar 5, 2016 to Mar 6, 2016

Local 1022, 135 Cannifton Road, Suite 2, Belleville

### *Steward Learning Series*

Mental Health Awareness & Psychological Hazards in the Workplace  
May 6, 2016  
Local 1022, 135 Cannifton Road, Suite 2, Belleville

### *Eastern Great Lakes District CUPE Council SchoolWORKSHOP DATE*

May 14, 2016 to May 15, 2016  
McIntosh-Corry Hall, Queens University, Kingston  
Saturday 9 am - 4 pm & Sunday 9 am - 12 pm

### *Steward Learning Series*

Calling all stewards! CUPE has an exciting new education program just for you! The new series recognizes that the steward has an important role to play in a number of areas in the workplace and the union. It provides an opportunity for stewards to explore a number of topics – all from a steward’s point of view.

Literacy Awareness for Stewards  
Note Taking  
Resolving Grievances Without Going to Arbitration

Prerequisite: Introduction to Stewarding. Please remember to bring your Steward's Handbook and SLS Passport to the workshop.

#### Health & Safety - An Introduction

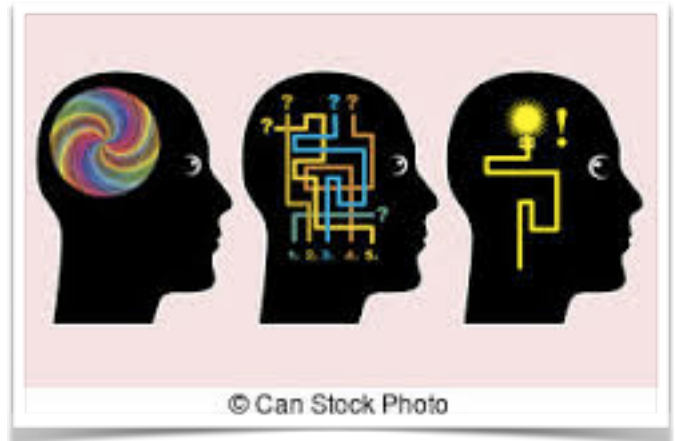
This weekend workshop makes health & safety a priority in the union. Learn how to identify occupational hazards, enforce our health & safety rights, carry out investigations, organize members to achieve healthier workplaces

#### Financial Officers (runs 9 am - 4 pm both days)

This workshop is for secretary-treasurers and trustees. You will practice keeping a monthly ledger, filling out the per capita tax form, preparing a budget and auditing the books.

#### Parliamentary Procedure/Recording Secretary

A combined workshop highlighting how union members can better participate in union meetings and conventions along with how Recording Secretaries take minutes at meetings, organize paper and electronic files and write clear and effective information bulletins and reports.



## Labour Links

Canadian Labour Congress <http://canadianlabour.ca/>

Ministry of Labour <http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/>

The Ontario Federation of Labour [ofl.ca/](http://ofl.ca/)

Occupational Disability Response Team <http://www.odrt.ca/>



# The Living Wage:

## WHAT IS A LIVING WAGE?

A living wage is not the same as the minimum wage, which is the legal minimum all employers must pay. The living wage sets a higher test - a living wage reflects what earners in a family need to bring home based on the actual costs of living in a specific community. The living wage is a call to private and public sector employers to pay wages to both direct and contract employees that are sufficient to provide the basics to families with children.

The Living Wage for Kingston is \$16.29. This is the minimum wage some one should earn to live in Kingston. For more information or to get involved in the Kingston Living Wage movement please go to their website at

<http://www.livingwagekingston.ca/how-you-can-get-involved.php>

<http://www.livingwagecanada.ca/index.php/about-living-wage/>

[www.cbc.ca/player/play/2192805924](http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2192805924)