

Our LOCAL 1479 News

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WWW.CUPE1479.CA

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

September 13, 2014

9:30 at JJ O'Neil.

Educational Assistant Information

Bumping calls will take place June 19th starting at 8:30.

Placement Meeting at the board office on June 27th for those wanting to attend.

No mileage will be paid because it is not mandatory.

Rally at Todd Smith's Office – June 2nd, 2



Thank you to Pete Allen, Kevin French, Jen Connor, Liz James, Celine Allen, Colleen Webster, Elaine Deveny and Brenda Semark for coming out and showing your support. Thank so much Shannon Guay for attending the rally in Trenton on June 4th.

Wynne campaigned to win over NDP voters: now it's time to keep her promises

TORONTO, ONTARIO--(Marketwired - June 12, 2014) - Kathleen Wynne can credit her victory to a strategy of wooing NDP voters with a progressive agenda. It's now up to her to deliver, say CUPE Ontario President Fred Hahn.

Mr. Hahn congratulates Premier Wynne on her victory and looks forward to working with her government to ensure that the people of Ontario have a government that will build strong communities and provide the level of services and supports people need to thrive.

"Ontario voters rejected Tim Hudak and his plan to gut and privatize public services and cut public-sector jobs," said Hahn. "They put their faith in Wynne because she campaigned on a progressive agenda that would invest in our communities and provide the services we need. Now she must demonstrate she will govern that way."

Her first opportunity to make good on her promises will be through improvements to her May budget. Misinterpreted by many as a "very progressive" blueprint for Ontario, the fine print proved to the contrary.

The budget included less per capita spending on public services than any province in Canada. It included deep cuts in funding for public services, maintained the lowest corporate tax rates since the 1930s, tied infrastructure to privatization and proposed a pension plan that would not be universal.

"A good start would be picking up on a positive concept from the NDP platform, and restoring corporate tax rates," said Hahn. "We have a deficit because the Liberals stripped billions in revenue out of the budget, and with lowest rate since the thirties, there is plenty of room to correct that mistake."

Implementing a fair taxation plan would allow the government to make good on campaign promises without the hospital bed closures and other service cuts previous budgets are causing.

"I am hopeful the Liberals have learned from scandals like Ornge, eHealth and the gas plants that privatizing, contracting-out and public-private partnerships don't work," says Hahn. "Those contracts only funnel money away from service delivery and into corporate profits. Public services work best when they are truly public."

CUPE is Ontario's community union, with members providing quality public services we all rely on in every part of the province every day. CUPE Ontario members are proud to work in social services, health care, municipalities, school boards, universities and airlines.

Leaders ignore real reasons for high Hydro rates

TORONTO, ON – Hydro rates are sky high. Industry and business are being gouged. People have trouble paying their hydro bills and the economy is very weak.

One person, a Conservative MPP from London, has a solution: "Power at cost, for the people."

That's right, a Conservative pushing for public power. Not only did he push for it, he got it.

This was 1905, and that person was Sir Adam Beck. Business and industry leaders, tired of being gouged by private power producers, backed Beck's plan to make power publicly owned and produced "at cost."

In 1906, electricity in Ontario became publicly owned and produced. **Rates dropped by more than half.**

Sadly, after generations enjoyed affordable electricity in Ontario, governments have been privatizing power. The result?

Today, \$1.5 Billion is taken out of Ontario's economy by private power every year, and rates have skyrocketed.

Before deregulation, the money now funneled into profits went out to businesses and citizens in the form of low and stable rates provided by Ontario Hydro and municipal electric commissions. Business and industry prospered with the competitive advantage of "power at cost," providing millions of good jobs for nearly a century.

What happened, and how did Ontarians end up paying twice what businesses and citizens do in Manitoba and Quebec?

It began with Mike Harris. In 1998, without a hint of irony, his Conservative government undid what Sir Adam Beck worked so hard to create. They passed legislation to deregulate Ontario's public power.

Promising "lower rates," the Harris government changed Hydro One, Ontario Power Generation and municipal utilities from "at cost" commissions into "for-profit" corporations.

The question he was repeatedly asked was, "how do you get lower rates when you add in profits to generators, profits to distributors, profits to retailers, dividends to investors and commissions to commodities brokers?"

There was never a good answer. And today it is clear why: You don't.

Only one thing stopped the costly privatization of public power from happening faster. At Christmas time in 2001, Mike Harris announced the sale of Hydro One, the province's distribution system. The Ontario Electricity Coalition partners, the Canadian Union of Public

Employees (CUPE) and the Communications Energy and Paperworkers (now Unifor), took the Harris government to court and won, proving that the Harris government did not have the right to sell Hydro One. It was a good day for the people of Ontario – privatization had been stopped.

But it hadn't been stopped. It was just done more subversively.

In the 2003 election, the NDP were successfully making public power a key election issue. Suffering in the polls, Liberal Leader Dalton McGuinty came out echoing the NDP's "public power" promise. That became one of his litany of broken promises. Instead, he brought in "smart meters" and "time of use pricing," which created enormous room for profits to be funneled into a new electricity market. His government's energy privatization scheme used terms like "community power" to mask privatization of green energy, and ultimately led to the gas plants scandal, which forced McGuinty from office. It's a scandal that simply could not have happened under Sir Adam Beck's old public power system.

Before deregulation, electricity was 4.3 cent a kilowatt hour, now it is 12.9 cents That's a 300 percent increase. In other words, Hydro prices have risen at 10 times the rate of inflation.

Kathleen Wynne is continuing this costly scheme of deregulation and privatization. The Liberal promise that "smart meters" would save you money was false. PC Leader Tim Hudak, who supported and voted for Harris' legislation to deregulate electricity, has amnesia about the Conservative record on Hydro. The plan he voted for, promising lower rates, has been soundly proven to be a failure.

How about the NDP, who so recently led a strong campaign for public power? Andrea Horwath is promising a hydro rebate, but will not utter the words "Public Power." She claims to be on the side of small business, which is getting badly hurt by high hydro rates. The NDP was right about electricity deregulation in the 2003 campaign and could today capitalize on that position. Why is Horwath refusing to do so? HST rebates certainly aren't going to solve the problem.

All three parties are promising jobs. **Good jobs, in the private sector in Ontario have always been directly linked to at-cost, non-profit, public power rates.**

This can all be paid for with lower rates, as was done over 100 years ago, by eliminating the profiteers.

Here's what needs to happen to create jobs and fix Ontario's economy.

1. Close the electricity Market

2. Regulate rates
3. Legislate real conservation measures that will protect the environment
4. Change municipal and provincial utilities back into "power at cost" commissions

What are the costs to Ontario's economy if we don't have a debate for Public Power during this election? Election after election the real reasons for skyrocketing hydro rates are ignored.

Businesses and citizens in Ontario need to know that there is not one example of electricity deregulation working anywhere in the world. Why do we have it here?

For more information or to arrange interviews, please contact:

Paul Kahnert, Retired Toronto Hydro worker and spokesperson for the Ontario Electricity Coalition from 2001 to 2010, 905-887-5546
Employees

What were the Liberals offering in March for Education Funding?

Student Health and Nutrition

- The Liberals will expand the Student Nutrition Program by \$32 million over three years.
- They will also develop new programs to support partnerships between school boards and community organizations so that students will get 60 minutes of physical activity through intramural sports, before- and after-school programs, and other activities.

Childcare and Full Day Kindergarten

- Child care workers outside of school boards will receive a \$2 per hour increase, to bring their wages closer to the ages of early childhood educators who work in Full Day Kindergarten (FDK)

- The Liberals will complete the implementation of FDK, so that it is available in all schools with kindergarten programs, taught by a teacher/early childhood educator team. Boards must maintain average class sizes of 26 students.

Staff and Salaries

- In the March education funding announcements, the Liberals promised a 2% increase for Elementary Teachers of Ontario (ETFO) members so that they are paid at the same rate as non-ETFO teachers.

Class size

- The Liberals would keep class sizes in grades 1 to 3 are currently capped at 20 students

School Closings and Capital Expenditures

Employees

- In funding announced in March, the Liberals provided “incentives” for boards to close more schools, committing to a new \$750 million four-year fund to help boards consolidate schools (close or merge schools to deal with declining enrolment). The fund is to be used for renovations, additions and retrofits to schools. • At the same time, cuts were announced to “top-up” funding for underutilized schools, making it harder for boards to keep under-enrolled schools open.

- To deal with a significant backlog in school repairs, the Liberals committed to \$1.25 Billion in funding over three years for school condition improvement.

Math Curriculum

- Liberals vow to a new “Math Action Plan” will include a review of current math curriculum, increased support for struggling students, encouragement for more teachers to get additional training to specialize in teaching math, and an assurance that all students will be taught basic math skills, including the times tables.

Test Scores and Testing

- Liberals No announcements

Curriculum & Programs

- The Liberals plan to broaden the goals for education to include creativity, collaboration, problem-solving and

Technology in the Classroom

- Over the next 3 years, the Liberals would provide \$150 million to school boards to cover the costs of professional development for teachers, and to purchase tablets, software, cameras and other learning resources. People for Education's report, Digital Learning in Ontario Schools, points to the need for increased funding in these areas.

Employees



Let's hope that the Liberals get Bill 122 written now that they have a majority government and keep all their promises made for the education sector. We will keep you posted on any negotiation issues that come up over the summer in your private and personal email.



We are sorry to inform you of the death of Mrs. Elsie Margaret (Peggy) Huras, mother of Kenndy Peck, Youth Worker for JJ O'Neill, Holy Name of Mary, St. Patrick and St. Mary.

Deepest sympathies to you and your family.

Vote to Merge Unit 1&2

There was an information session followed by a vote at the general meeting held June 7th at JJ O'Neal in Napanee. The vote results were 100% in favour of the merge from Unit 1 and 75% in favour from Unit 2. Now that the members have voted on this issue it will be brought to the table at negotiations when the current collective agreement expires August 31, 2014.

Non-Teaching Current Job Posting:

Job Postings (Internal)

Job Title	Name	Posting Scope	Location	Closing Date
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Posting Type : 2 Non-Teaching (2)

2-14-15- HS - 1.0 FTE Head Secretary - Secondary Employees	2-14- 15-HS	Internal	Trenton	6/16/2014 4:00 PM
77-13-14- CT - 1.0 FTE Caretaker 1	77-13- 14-CT	Internal	Belleville	6/18/2014 4:00 PM



We are hoping that all members of CUPE Local 1479 and their families have a safe and happy summer! We will keep you updated on any information via the website and email list to private emails. If you would like to be added please email lizjamescupe1479@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Kevin French, President

Jennifer Connor, VP West

Brian Latour, VP East

Liz James, Chief Steward

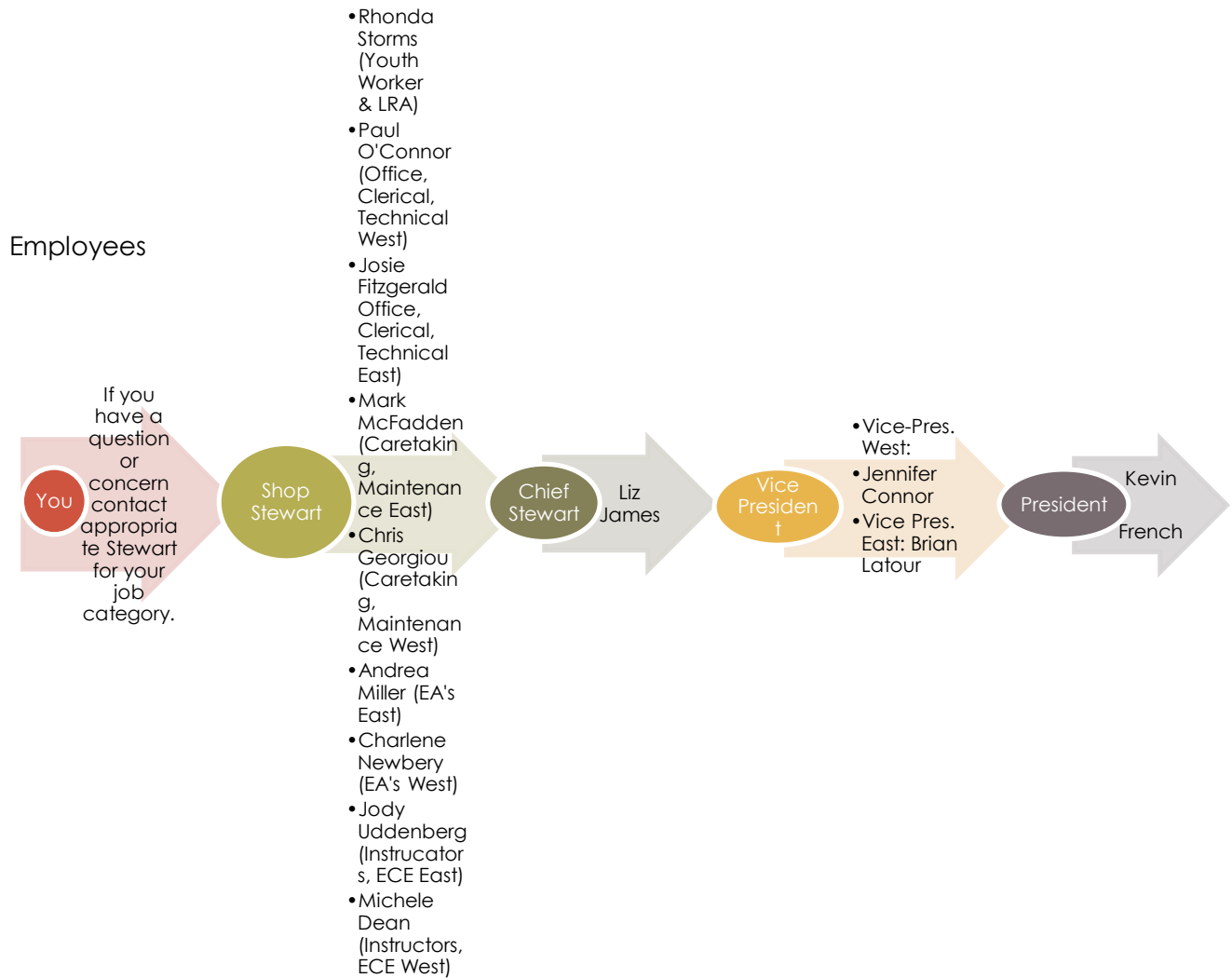
Joanne George, Secretary



Do you have a question or concern? Not sure who you should contact? You are not alone, your union is here to support you!

If you need to access your Stewart for support they will get back to you with appropriate information or have the appropriate person contact you back.

Following this process will ensure a timely and most accurate response.



Parents speak out over transferring EAs from Etobicoke school

05/19/2014 07:59 PM Tracy Tong

They provide essential help and care for students with special needs but four educational assistants will soon be re-assigned from one Etobicoke school.

The thought of losing his educational assistant has devastated 13-year-old Harry Barberian who has cerebral palsy.

Barberian is in the intensive support program at Parklawn Junior Middle School where four of the school's five educational assistants are being relocated next month.

"They're the child's second parent because they're performing tasks that are reformed normally by a parent – toileting, dressing and undressing," explained Barberian's mother Linda Rodeck.

The Toronto District School Board says their special education funding from the province was reduced by \$7 million this year and that these shifts of positions have been happening across the board for the last two years.

"It was determined that this level position only needed a certain category of employee and that's why they made the change," TDSB spokesperson Ryan Bird told CityNews. "There is a nominal cost savings to the TDSB."

He adds that none of the jobs have been cut.

"Regardless of the job classification we still have qualified caring EA's in the classroom helping students with special needs in this case," said Bird.

Parents say that their children have spent years building relationships with the current educational assistants and that can't easily be replaced.

"There was talk from the TDSB rep and the principal herself that they were bringing grief counsellors. Can you imagine that?" said Rodeck. "That this is such a traumatic event for the kids they're afraid to break the news to them."

To help ease the transition for these kids the TDSB says one educational assistant will be staying on at the school until at least the end of the next school year.

To watch a video on City News please go to

<http://www.citynews.ca/2014/05/19/parents-speak-out-over-transferring-eas-from-etobicoke-school/>



Service
Canada

Reporting Instructions for Employees EI Claims

Reference Code: **3511012014201406** (Code will be open from **June 15, 2014** until **August 3, 2014**)

For those employees who are not required to work over the summer, please use the provided reference code when submitting an employment insurance claim.

Please note this code will be valid from June 15, 2014 to August 3, 2014.

ALCDSB will be issuing ROE's to all 10 month and casual staff. Please note ALCDSB submits ROEs electronically to Service Canada. You do **not** need to request a paper copy of your Record of Employment from your employer.

Employees

Service Canada can be reached at **1 800 206-7218**, Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm if customer service is required. When calling the Contact Centre, press "0" to speak to a representative.

Employees can file their claims by visiting:

<http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca/>

Up For Some Fun?

If you are interested in getting together as a group to have some fun, social time together please email

lizjamescupe1479@gmail.com. Some ideas could be a barbeque, bowling, soft ball, holiday party, darts, family movie night, skating, pot luck dinner....

Employees