## Nat wethite!

We have redone our website! Please have a look at CUPE15. org. To find out news about your worksite, just go the union news section and click on your worksite in the list in the sidebar. We can also take your completed forms via upload on our forms page.

## Please note!

The union office continues to be open to essential staff only and closed to members, executive, and other visitors. Union business is being conducted by telephone, email, video conferencing, conference calls, and outside the office when necessary.

Office telephone hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## NOV=MB=R

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Virtual General Union and General Society meetings will be held on November 25, 2020 via Zoom. You will be sent an invitation via email if the union office has a personal email address on file for you. Details will also be posted at www.cupe15.org. If you do not receive emails from the union office and would like to attend please call us at 604-8794671 to update your information or email us at email@cupe15.org.

- By-election for 2nd Vice President Draft 2021 Union and Society Budgets Committee and Staff Reports Bylaw Amendments (current bylaws and proposed amendments are posted on the website under the "About" tab and in the Notices of Motion section)


## Gathering Place seeking clothing donations

The Gathering Place is a community centre in the downtown south area and services the needs of street kids, seniors, and the homeless. They are in desperate need of men's clothing donations, including all sizes of pants,
 jeans, sweatpants, t-shirts, shirts, jackets, sweaters, shoes, boots, runners, belts, and good condition underwear and socks. Women's items are not needed at this time. They are also in dire need of sleeping bags and backpacks.

Please drop off your donations at 609 Helmcken Street in Vancouver (at the corner of Helmcken and Seymour). For more information or to arrange a drop off, please call Jackie at 604-257-3853. Please consider purging your closets and drawers this weekend as all donations are gratefully appreciated by the citizens we serve. Thank you for your generosity.

## Thank you for supporting the Legion's Book Project

Your ongoing support for the Royal Canadian Legion’s Annual Military Service Recognition Book project is sincerely appreciated. Proceeds raised will be used to improve services to veterans and the more than 145 communities
 that we serve. Proceeds are also directed to programs and services sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion in communities throughout British Columbia and the Yukon. The Royal Canadian Legion is one of the single largest contributors to a vast array of community charitable programs which touch every aspect of life, every age group, and every citizen in some way. We look forward to your continued suppport of this important Legion project.

Val MacGregor, President of the BC/Yukon Command, The Royal Canadian Legion

## Notice of By-election

2nd Vice President
This is for the balance of a three year term ending May 25, 2022. In order to accept nomination a member must have attended at least $50 \%$ of the general membership meetings in the twelve month period preceding the nomination.

## Notices of Motion - Union

1. Proposed New Bylaw

The Executive recommends approval of a proposed new bylaw 12.7.5 as follows: 12.7.5 Upon the conclusion of the calendar year, full time officers are required to complete a full summary of all banked entitlements, consistent with the language of their governing collective agreements, that includes all days used and all days remaining in their respective banks. The summaries must be submitted to the CUPE Local 15 Table Officers for approval.

Approval will not be unreasonably denied. Unless extenuating circumstances justify a later submission, full time officers must submit their summary of banked entitlement no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday of the first full business week in January each year. Once approved, the summaries will be submitted to the CUPE Local 15 Office Manager for reconciliation with the officer's employer.
2. 2021 Proposed Budget The Executive recommends approval of the proposed 2021 Union Budget.

## Notices of Motion - Society

1. 2021 Budget

The Executive recommends approval of the proposed 2021 Society Budget.
2. 2021 Capital Budget

The Executive recommends approval of the proposed 2021 Society Capital Budget.

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## Happy Thanksgiving to all of our Members!


by Warren Williams, President Hello Members,

It's already November and in another month and a half it will be 2021. What a difficult year 2020 has been.

Thank you to all of you for all the contributions you have made in servicing the populations of Vancouver, North Vancouver, and Richmond during this very difficult time in our history.

COVID-19 is a reality, and is having devastating effects on our families, friends, and neighbors.

If your resolve is wearing thin you are definitely not alone. I have reached my limit several times over the last few months because of this pandemic. It has been extremely difficult with the multiple layoffs, school closures, an overworked health sector membership, a devastated cultural sector, and on and on it goes with presumably no end in sight.

This is the time we all need to continue to take a stand against this pandemic whether we believe it or not. It will not get any better if some continue to ignore the science. Many of you have experienced firsthand the financial burden this pandemic has caused you, your friends, and members of your families. We cannot keep acting like there will be no consequence for poor decision making - for every action there is a reaction. We need to all do our part to protect our economy, to keep our infrastructure
operational, and to keep each other working and safe while doing so.

It is respectful to wear a mask in public, wash our hands regularly, not participate in large gatherings, keep two metres apart at all times, and it is disrespectful to our communities not to do these simple acts of caring for each other.

I know there are those, even some of our friends and families, that are having difficulty believing these simple acts of compassion will make a difference. I trust the science and my own eyes. It's not difficult and if we all don't do these things we all have a lot to lose.

Be safe and be mindful. It's your choice and therefore you set the consequences.

## Happy November! Wishing you a happy holidays.

by Debbie Mohabir, Secretary-Treasurer


DEBBIE MOHABIR SECRETARY-TREASURER

Hello Everyone, the pandemic another thing gets thrown as the "Winter Blues" which affects many

As we try to take care of ourselves mentally during in the mix. It is often referred to people this time of the year. With shorter days and darkness setting in earlier, many of our family, friends, and coworkers may suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) and/or depression. Now, throw COVID-19 into the mix, and the tightening of restrictions, it has made it difficult for many to navigate their way. We may not realize it, but we might have moments when we experience the winter blues. I know I have. You can talk to your doctor as well as contact your EFAP to access resources that may be available. Remember to be kind to each other as we continue through this journey together.

## Halloween Pumpkin Contest

I would like to thank those who participated in our first Halloween Pumpkin Contest. So many creative and spooky entries!

Kindly take a look elsewhere in this issue at some of the entries and a big congratulations to all of the winners! Your prizes will be mailed soon so keep your eye out.

VSB Support Staff Recognition Day November 5th
The Vancouver School Board has designated November 5th of every year as the day to recognize the important and crucial work that our members at the Vancouver School Board do. Our members work in a variety areas and jobs such as office support, student support, IT, Indigenous education, payroll, benefits, accounting, Youth and Family workers, Multicultural Liaisons, and Settlement Workers to name a few. We appreciate that this day is dedicated to acknowledge this work as these members are the glue that holds everything together.

I would also like to acknowledge all of our members in each sector who are continuing to do vital work for the public. Thank you!

As this is the last Members' Voice for 2020, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

See you all in 2021.


Feedback from the Canadian Mental Health Association Bottom Line Conference


I am so appreciative to have had the opportunity to virtually attend the 2020 Bottom Line Conference. It was my first time attending and I was not disappointed.

The workplace mental health conference had a plethora of speakers but there were two notable ones that were absolutely brilliant, Ardith (Walpetko We'dalx) Walkem and Marni Panas. These two women were absolutely awe inspiring in so many ways and their stories and journeys were incredible.

I would recommend anyone who has a passion and interest in work place mental health to try to attend this conference next year. The speakers gave such valuable insight into topics that I personally have never been a part of and I was amazed at the knowledge I gained from each.

Thank you CUPE 15 for selecting me to be a part of such an amazing conference.

Aaron Cook
Trustee and OH\&S City Sector Representative

## Thank you!

Thank you for the donation of \$150 in September 2020. Your support builds the voice of progressive Canadians and others struggling for justice around the world. We recognize that you receive far more requests for funding than you can address and we are proud to be recipients of your support.

Your support helps us to provide coverage of issues important to the labour movement across the country - stories that Canadians need to know, and that are skewed or ignored altogether by corporate media.

2020 has been a strong year for rabble.ca as we continue to add more voices and features to the site. We are thrilled to have your support and partnership as we move forward.

Matthew Adams, Board President rabble.ca

Regrettably, I was unable to attend the Bottom Line Conference this year. However, I am able to share that, of my past experiences attending this conference...

First and foremost, it's a very resourceful and educational experience! After taking part in two of the previous conferences, I feel that mental health is a subject that could be talked about for hours (or days).

Mental health is such a delicate and complex topic. I enjoyed participating in the activity workshops and thoroughly enjoyed listening to folks' stories and experiences, which I found both interesting and humbling.

Kind regards,
Chad
I am very grateful that my union registered me for the Bottom Line 2020 conference. Due to COVID-19 the conference was done entirely via zoom teleconferencing. Let me say that this conference was awe-inspiring! The guest speakers and their topics for discussion were phenomenal and very inspirational to me.

I managed to meet and make some direct contacts with people who are just as passionate as I am about mental health and also made direct contact with an advocate who has a mental health program in his work environment.

This conference has given me the energy and inspiration to continue to advocate for mental health rights in our bargaining unit.

Thank you.
Henry Lee, Parks Sector Representative and CUPE OH\&S Representative

## VSB Job Share Opportunity

I am looking for an SSA job share partner at Norquay Elementary starting September 2021 for two days a week. Please contact sclelbianco@vsb.bc.ca.

## decisions

## The Executive Decided

At the Executive and Society meetings on October 20, 2020 the following decisions were made:

- To recommend to the members to receive the 2019 Union Audited Financial Statement and the 2019 Society Audited Financial Statement.
- To recommend that the members appoint Fairhall, Zhang and Associates to conduct the 2020 Union and Society audits.
- To participate in a post-secondary cost share campaign at a cost of approximately \$10 for each Langara College and Emily Carr University member.
To confirm Cynthia Schadt as the Vancouver School Board Chief Shop Steward.
To appoint Eric Price as the OH\&S Site Representative at Dunbar Community Centre.
To cover lost pandemic pay for an Executive member while on union paid leave.
To send interested Executive Board Members and Trustees to the virtual BC Federation of Labour Convention.


## The Members Decided

At the Annual General Membership and Annual General Society Meetings on October 28, 2020 the members in attendance made the following decisions:

- To receive the Society Audited

Financial Statement for 2019.

- To receive the Union Audited Financial Statement for 2019.
- To appoint Fairhall Zhang and Associates to conduct the 2020 Society audit.
- To appoint Fairhall Zhang and Associates to conduct the 2020 Union audit.
To acclaim Mona Mirzayan to the vacant HSCBA Sector Representative position on the Executive Board.
To elect the following members as delegates to the Vancouver and District Labour Council: Aaron Cook, Subrata Dasgupta, Kamal Gautam, Ravina Lal, Henry Lee, Rose Palozzi, Donna Petersen, Cynthia Schadt, Tahmi Yazdanyar
- To elect the following members as delegates to CUPE Metropolitan District Council: Steve Anderson Aaron Cook, Subrata Dasgupta, Kamal Gautam, Azeem Khazi, Henry Lee, Ravina Lal, Mona Mirzayan, Rose Palozzi, Sharmila Patel, Donna Petersen, Santino Scardillo, Cynthia Schadt, Tahmi Yazdanyar
To approve an Associate Member request for Emi Araki, recently retired City of Vancouver member, as per Section 5: Associate Membership of the CUPE Local 15 Bylaws.
To receive the Financial Statement to August 31, 2020 as presented.
To hold a moment of silence for Leslie McGibbon, a member for over 30 years at Civic Theatres, who recently passed away.


# 2021 Union, Society and Capital Budgets 

## by Debbie Mohabir, Secretary-Treasurer

The Finance Committee met in late October to review both the Union and Society draft budgets as well as to discuss any changes. Part of the committee's role is to look at previous spending in each line item to see if there should be increases, decreases, or changes to the allocation of money.

Given that we are currently in a pandemic and keeping in mind the uncertainty around it, there have been some small adjustments in both the Union and Society budgets. We are also including a draft Capital Budget for your approval.

## Society

The VMECW Society was created to protect your assets and to fund events and services for our members. Events such as the Children's Winter Party, CUPE Local 15 Open House, and Summer BBQ are funded out of this budget as well benefits continuance and bursaries. This budget also includes fees and services directly related to the CUPE Local 15 office building as well as other related costs which you can see in the insert. There are a few changes that I would like to highlight:

## Lease \& Members Services

- Children's Winter Party - Decreased by $\$ 4,000$ due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 and the restrictions on gatherings.
- Member's Activities - Increased by $\$ 4,000$. This will allow the Social Committee to be creative with ideas around other activities due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 restrictions.

The Executive Board and Finance Committee recommend approval of the proposed 2021 Society Budget.

## Capital Budget

This is the 5th Capital Budget that is being presented for your approval. This budget includes furniture and equipment, computer equipment and building. The first two have been kept the same but I would like to draw your attention to the building line which is at $\$ 25,000$. This is for the much needed repaving of the CUPE Local 15 office parking lot which hasn't been done in approximately 25-30 years.

The Executive Board and Finance Committee recommend approval of the proposed 2021 Capital Budget.

## Union

This draft budget is the operating budget for the local. Our projected revenue for 2021 is $\$ 6,776,000$. These funds are also used for things like various community support donations, contract enforcement, negotiations, committees, conferences and conventions, staff and officer salaries, as well as
administrative costs. There are a few changes that I would like to highlight:

## Executive and Committee Costs

- Elections CUPE 15 - This line item has a slight increase due to the increase in Simply Voting fees.
- Staff Advisory Committee - This has been increased because the BCUWU Collective Agreement expires in 2020.
- Conventions - CUPE National/CUPE BC is increased. Something to keep in mind is that we don't know what conventions will look like in 2021 due to COVID-19.
- Audit Fees - Slight increase due to a fee increase.

The Executive Board and Finance Committee recommend approval of the proposed 2021 Union Budget.

## CUPE LOCAL 15 - VMECW Draft Budget 2021

 BUDGET 2021



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What an incredible, creative bunch of folks we have in the CUPE 15 family!

Thank you to our participants!

Please find more on our facebook page.

Decorate Category

1. Falin Kostiuk, VCH: Bennett 7yrs - Best Theme 2. Natasha Kadola, VSB: Anez 8yrs - Original Idea 3. Tony Thandi, VSB: Arianna 21 months - Scary

## Paint Category

4. Lori Mountain, VCH: Ayra 3yrs - Most Unusual
5. Inna Danylyuk, VSB: Maksim 5yrs - Scary
6. Natasha Kadola, VSB: Azaria 11yrs - Best Theme

Carve Category
7. Kathy Tran, Langara: Amy 14yrs - Original Idea 1st place
8. Ai Hirano, VSB: Emi 9yrs - Original Idea 2nd place
9. Sengpat Sengsavanh, VSB: Nikita 8yrs - Best theme 1st place
10. Holly Low, VSB: Lia 13yrs - Best theme 2nd place
11. Mark Reed, COV: Skye 8yrs - Most Unusual 1st place
12. Terri Burke, COV: Jack 6yrs - Most Unusual 2nd place
13. Tanya Petterson: Zoe 11yrs - Funny 1st place
14. Jieyun Liang, VCH: Emerson 8yrs - Funny 2nd place
15. Caroline Mathieson, VSB: Joshua - Scary 1st place
16. Debby Hall, HSPBA: Sienna 10yrs - Scary 2nd place
 Volce


## 14



## LOCAL - CUPE

The Members' Voice is published nine times a year for members of CUPE Local 15 - Vancouver Municipal, Education and Community Workers. The deadline for submissions is 9:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. All submissions may be edited for brevity and clarity. Signed articles and letters do not necessarily reflect the views or policy of CUPE Local 15.

## CUPE Local 15

545 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 1K9
Phone: 604-879-4671
Fax: 604-879-7582
Email: email@cupe15.org
Web: www.cupe15.org
Local 15 is a chartered affiliate of the Canadian Union of Public Employees and is also affiliated with the CUPE British Columbia Division, CUPE Metro District Council, the Vancouver \& District Labour Council, and the BC Federation of Labour. CUPE 15 is a member of the Canadian Association of Labour Media (CALM).

## CUPE Local 15 Executive Board

 Table Officers:President: Warren Williams
Secretary-Treasurer: Debbie Mohabir 1st Vice President: Santino Scardillo
2nd Vice President: Vacant

## Sector Representatives:

City: Kamal Gautam, Ravina Lal
College/University: Alex Fowler, Rose Palozzi Cultural: Nicola Clur
Health/HSSCBA: Mona Mirzayan
Health/HSPBA: Mia Nickel
Parks: Kyle Larson, Starla Bayley
K-12: Carley Romas, Cynthia Schadt

## Trustees:

Donna Petersen, Michele Alexander,
Aaron Cook

## Staff Representatives:

Kathie Currie, John Geppert, Steve Salsman, Gail Johnson, Joy Tullos


