



CUPE Local 829

Box 233 Medicine Hat Alberta T1A 7E9

SPRING
2014

UPCOMING MEETING DATES: September 13, October 4, November 15, December 13



Message from President Sharon Stolz

This school year has meant changes for all of us with the new combined collective agreement put into place. Some changes of the CA that have affected us seem drastic and unfair, but we have to

remember that the overuse of sick time affects us all and that our employer has to take into account funds to cover sick days used by employees when negotiating the CA. The funds to cover sick days when calculated over a school year can mean... staff shortages and filling positions due to no money, no subs resulting in short staff, no increases to wages and benefits. Let's all work hard to help maintain these benefits and positions by making wise choices when using sick time. Spring of 2015, Local 829 will again begin the process of negotiations for a new collective agreement with the expiration date of the old one being August of that year.

I am extremely proud of the members of Local 829 for their support for our campaign of *CUPE Brings a Child a Smile*. The work that is being done on your behalf to promote positive interactions and giving back to the community has received recognition from our city, as well as at the provincial and federal levels. CUPE Local 829 Support Staff should be proud as the committee that has been looking after this campaign made it happen and have planted roots that will continue to grow in the future. Hats off to Christina Schmidt and Angie Gackle for their work promoting such a worthwhile cause.

Phase one of the campaign kicked off with placing two helmets in twenty Public, Catholic and Redcliff elementary schools. Funding is in place to bring that total to a minimum of six helmets in each school, as well as starting the process of getting donated skates sharpened in the fall. The committee felt that this project promoted the need for skating at the school level for children that might not ever get that

chance to do so otherwise and the cost required for proper skating gear.

The second part of the campaign we chose was our support for the *Phoenix Safe House*. Before Christmas, we met with the staff from the safe house and the need for pyjamas was brought to our attention. One lady that had used the safe house had emailed them back thanking them and she expressed her gratitude for the memory of receiving a pair of pj's from the house the night she had arrived and how much it meant to her. *Phoenix Safe House* can give out 5 or more pair a week depending on circumstances and intakes. In January our local presented them with 150 pairs and we plan to continue with this campaign on a yearly basis. Watch for info and donation bins set up again in the fall. At this time, we are now collecting shampoo, toothpaste, diapers, wipes or any other necessities that you may feel would benefit woman and children that require the services of the *Phoenix Safe House*. CUPE Local 829 helps the families we work with every day to build a better tomorrow.

Our website is up and running at www.829.cupe.ca with links to access the collective agreements and information to keep you informed on what's happening in our local, in the province and in Canada with CUPE. The attack on pensions has been ongoing as well as the cuts to education that have affected us all. CUPE continues to fight these fights daily at all levels.

This past month we honoured our retirees with a supper and awards night at Medicine Hat Golf and Country Club. The evening was a huge success.

In closing, I would like to thank each and every one of you for the work you do every day in our schools. Whether you are cleaning the schools, looking after the offices or working directly with the children.....you are important. The time and energy that is needed daily, is at a maximum some days, but you continue on, to make a difference in the life of a child.

Have a wonderful summer and I will be in touch in the fall.

Sharon Stolz, President
CUPE Local 829

CUPE Local 829 Annual Retirement Social

This event took place on Sunday, May 25, 2014 at the Medicine Hat Golf Course for those that retired between March 21, 2013 and April 25, 2014. (CUPE Local 829 By-laws state that you must have retired at least one month prior to the Retirement Social).



Honoured Retirees:

Klaus Banasch (SD#76 Custodial)

Rosemary Baumback (SD#76 Clerical)

Karen Flaig (SD#76 Custodial)

Irena Gornisiewicz (CBE Custodial)

Lauren Hider (SD#76 Educational Assistant)

Julie Hrup (CBE Custodial)

Lee Sadlemyer (SD#76 Custodial)

Noel Thompson (SD#76 Custodial)

Merle Tuchscherer (SD#76 Educational Assistant)

Rick Ulmer (CBE Custodial)

Kathi Van (SD#76 Clerical)

Janet White (SD#76 Educational Assistant)

MEETING DRAWS

Winners of the two x \$20

Membership Draws are:

December meeting - Shari Shields & Angie Gackle

January meeting - Sharon Stolz & Clint Stojke

February meeting - Lorna Statham & Lim Kok Yun

March meeting - Lorna Statham & Gary Getz

April meeting - Vicki Miller & Ivan Yaskow

May meeting - Cynthia Henders & Clayton Orge

June meeting - to be announced on June 7th



CUPE Local 829 will pay for one embroidered logo per year to be placed on clothing purchased at Logo's Embroidery or taken to Logo's Embroidery for that purpose.

Website Contest Winners to date:

February - \$5 Tim Horton's Gift Certificates: Colleen Petryshyn, Karan Love, Heather Bellamy, Kathy French

February - \$25 Canada Safeway Gift Certificate: Chris Schmidt

March - \$5 Subway Gift Certificates: Lindsay Bonogofski, Vicki Miller, Vicki Miller, Phyllis Hofer-Gillies

March - \$25 Canada Safeway Gift Certificate: Sharon Seitz

April - \$5 Tim Horton's Gift Certificates: Terri Weiss, Karen Sackman, Heather Bellamy, Corinne Miller-Feasey

April - \$25 Canada Safeway Gift Certificate: Vivian Moch

May - \$5 Subway Gift Certificates; Karen Sackman, Clayton Orge, Lisa Vermette, Terri Weiss

May—\$25 Canada Safeway Gift Certificate: Vicki Miller