

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-SUMMER 2017

A Message to the Membership from CUPW Toronto Local President Megan Whitfield



It has been a challenging time and I would like to thank all the members of our Toronto Local who voted for me and your executives in the last election. We are working hard for our members and will not let you down. The results show that you, the highest governing body, had confidence in your elected executives to make decisions which are in-line with our Local By-laws and the Union's national constitution. Thank you for showing up to vote in such large numbers and having confidence in our integrity and leadership. We will, in return, make sure that we always work hard to protect the interests of all our members. I also have to give credit to the large amount of members in the 'silent majority' who gave me their overwhelming support and thumbs up in the job that I am doing as your Local President, which can be hard and demanding sometimes. Those in the silent majority will not be silent any more. We will get things done. Our number one priority is to serve and represent the interests of our members in fighting the boss and protecting your rights, safety and dignity in the workplace. It will be a challenging year with some big issues on the burner; one being the beginning of negotiations for a new collective agreement. A bargaining team is in place and poised to handle the tough talks ahead. We face some difficult and demanding days as we face-off with Canada Post Corporation (CPC) to seek the best possible deal for our more than 50,000 members, and the well-being of their families, in Toronto and from coast-to-coast. Closer to home, our national union was notified last March by CPC that 16 Multi-line Optical Character Readers (MLOCR) were being removed from the west-area of Gateway. Six are being moved within our Local to SCLPP, with the rest being moved outside of the Toronto Local. The corporation wants to cut 50 jobs in the TWPP due to the removal of the MLOCRs, while only creating 37 jobs at SCLPP. It is yet to be determined if the 37 Group-1 positions will be full-time or part-time. Sisters and brothers, we know that throughout the year the corporation continues to abuse part-time and temp workers. However due to Appendix P, we were able to gain 269 full-time jobs. Some 30 full-time positions will go to South Central and 239 full-time positions to Gateway. Last April, I was on a conference call in regards to the Appendix JJ project that was negotiated in our last collective agreement. Appendix JJ is the parcel delivery by temporary workers on weekends. The locations for these for this project for the EDC is 145 The West Mall, Oakdale Wicksteed and 66 Ray. The local will continue to monitor this project and will report back as soon as it goes live. We will be working hard at the Local in these changing times to look out for our members and will keep you posted of the latest developments in The Voice and Postal Journal, as well as issuing bulletins as they become available.

Thank you and In Solidarity

Megan Whitfield