

COLLEGE OF THE ROCKIES OPERATIONAL STAFF

Quarterly Newsletter

Welcome to our Fall edition!

A new semester is starting, and I hope everyone had a wonderful and restful summer holiday.

If you haven't seen me around the College, I am Karen L. Langan, your CUPE Local 2773 Treasurer. I have been with the College for 18 years and actively involved in the Union for many of those years. Treasurer is the only Executive position I have held with our Union, and I take pride in being able to serve our membership this way.

I adore dogs and have three beauties at home. Pictured below is Dakota catching a stick, not an unusual activity for her. You may find a dog meme in the emails I send out, and I am always happy to see pictures of other people's precious puppies.

Welcome to our new members: Catherine Shadgett (Golden Admin), Tad Hall (Media Services Technician), Jane Hogan (Aux-Admin), Marla Chapman (Aux-Admin), Amy Deschamps (Aux-Admin), Ollie Speedie (Aux- Facilities), Ankita Dubey (Student Housing), and Sharina Prasad (Sr. Admin, Learning Commons).



KAREN LANGAN
CUPE 2773 TREASURER



This is the third edition of our newsletter and I hope you all enjoy the information included in this issue. For even more information and resources, I encourage new and current members to visit the CUPE Local 2773 website at [College of the Rockies' Operational Staff - CUPE 2773](#). There is an awesome picture of the Professional Development participants on the front page!

If you need assistance or have a question, remember your executive team are at the College to assist you. Hope everyone has a great fall semester!

-Karen



2024/2025 Annual Kick-off

It was wonderful to connect with returning and new employees at the annual Employee Kick-off on August 27th. We hope you had a blast!



CUPE Christmas Party

Although the date is yet to be set, the 2024 CUPE Christmas Committee Members will be meeting soon to begin planning this fun, annual event.

To get the ball rolling, we are welcoming recommendations, prizes and donations.

Mail your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions to marketing@cotr.bc.ca.

Prizes and donations can be dropped off at the Comms and Marketing office (Room S119)



CUPE Calendar Fall 2024

SEPTEMBER 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

CUPE GENERAL MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 24 - 12:00 - 1:00 PM - ROOM S203
OCTOBER 29 - 1:00 - 2:00 PM - ROOM S203
NOVEMBER 26 - 12:00 - 1:00 PM - ROOM S203

EXECUTIVE TEAM MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 18 - 12:00 - 1:00 PM - ROOM KC228A
OCTOBER 16 - 12:00 - 1:00 PM - ROOM KC228A
NOVEMBER 13 - 12:00 - 1:00 PM - ROOM KC228A

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 12 - COTR BOARD ROOM

If you wish to attend the public session of the Board meeting, please email woods@cotr.bc.ca to confirm your attendance and receive the meeting package.

Did you realize that labour unions made the following possible?

- Paid vacation
- Family & medical leave
- Weekends without work
- Pensions
- Sexual harassment laws
- Pregnancy and parental leave
- Equal pay no matter your gender
- Prohibiting employer discrimination
- Holiday pay
- 40-hour work week
- Overtime pay
- Child labour laws

• All breaks at work, including your lunch break - and so much more!

Professional Development

Submitted by Kyle Stooshnov
Education Technologist, CITL

Early in my career as an Education Technologist at College of the Rockies, I realized the need to expand my knowledge of computer languages. I registered for online courses funded by CUPE's PD Funds. After narrowly squeaking by with a passing grade in my second database management course, I noticed that the PD Funds form also included line items for travel and registration fees. Great news as it meant attending conferences was on the table!



The first conference I attended was BCNet Connect, a province-wide gathering of post-secondary IT Services, education technologists and system admins. It just so happened that the conference was being held in Vancouver (my hometown)! After a family gathering at our favourite restaurant, I was ready to start learning from others at Connect, readying myself for an hour-long session titled SOUL at the Top of the World: Mindfully slowing down online education. The main idea was to consider the SOUL (Slow Online Ubiquitous Learning) intervention developed by professors in UBC Master of Educational Technology program and offer reflections on COTR's eLearning experience.



Within a year of my Vancouver trip, I had the chance to present internationally at the EAET 2024 conference at the University of Cambridge. On March 9th, 2024, I presented a similar SOULful topic. Thanks to leftover PD Funds, I covered several flights (Cranbrook-Vancouver-Calgary-London), a train (London-Cambridge), and accommodations. Despite a snowstorm delay in Calgary, I arrived in time to see The Duchess of Malfi at the Sam Wannamaker Playhouse before heading to Cambridge. The use of projected text for this Jacobean tragedy was remarkable!

My EAET 2024 presentation was a comedy of errors with a happy outcome. Although European in the organization title, many of the researchers were from parts of Asia, North and South America. My PechaKucha-style presentation featured majestic Rocky Mountain images while I discussed "Mindfully Slowing Down eLearning with SOUL Intervention." A Dutch keynote speaker, who chaired my session, was particularly interested in how emerging media helps slow down the learning process. I enjoyed other presentations, a dinner, and explored the ancient campus. On a rainy morning, I returned to Cambridge's Robinson Hall for Day 2, but all sessions were online, so I missed a chance at getting back to London early for the ABBA Voyages concert—next time! With travel planned for four cities over the next three days, I took Sunday to rest and returned to work refreshed and engaged.



I look forward to the next opportunity to travel and confer with other scholars when something piques my interest. Thank you to the CUPE/HR team for allowing me to access the PD Funds.

We're glad we could support your quest for lifelong learning - well done, Kyle!

Union Education



CURIOUS ABOUT WORKING WITH US?

Whether you're an Executive member, part of a CUPE committee, or a member in good standing interested in enhancing your skills or learning something new, we encourage you to explore these upcoming workshops. These sessions are conducted online via Zoom and cover a variety of topics.

UPCOMING COURSES OF INTEREST

Health and Safety - Part 1 & 2

Sept. 20, 2024 | 10:00am – 5:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Challenging Racism & Introduction to Allyship

October 4, 2024 | 10:00am – 5:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Introduction to Stewarding - Part 1 & 2

Oct. 10, 2024 | 10:00am – 5:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Introduction to CUPE

October 16, 2024 | 7:00pm – 10:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Grievance Handling & Notetaking

Nov. 14, 2024 | 10:00am – 1:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Duty of Fair Representation

December 12, 2024 | 7:00pm – 10:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

EDUCATION CALENDAR

Paramedical - what's covered?

Regular, full-time employees are entitled to treatment up to max \$500 per specialty per calendar year for the following services:



- Acupuncturist
- Clinical Counsellor
- Social Worker
- Speech Therapist
- Osteopath
- Naturopath
- Psychologist
- Physiotherapist
- Massage Therapist
- Podiatrist/Chiropodist
- Chiropractor

Regular part-time and regular sessional employees should refer to our [Collective Agreement](#) for cost sharing details.

Meet your CUPE colleagues from Library Services!



Michele Adams
Circulation/Admin Support



Suzanne M.
Senior Library Technician, Copyright



Lindsay Newton
Library Services Technician

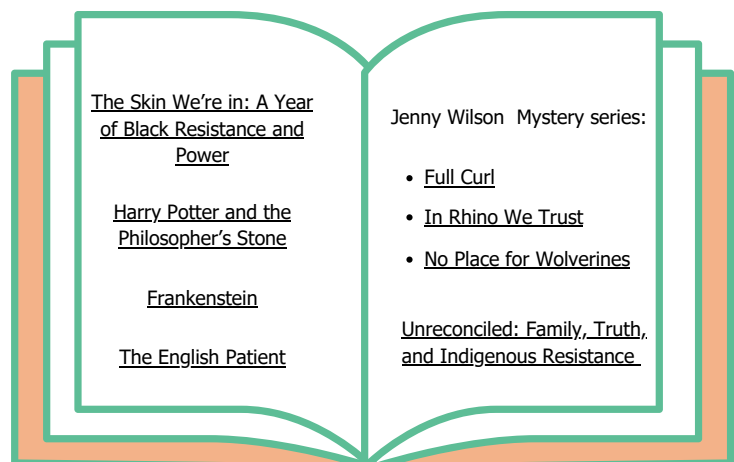
Cortney Newton
Library Technician, Cataloguing/ Acquisitions

Did you know?

- Staff can borrow any resource available in the library collection – print and electronic, streaming videos, and more!
- You are also able to access a streaming platform called Criterion-on-Demand that contains over 5,500 feature films and documentaries! Access is available on and off campus (login with your network login to access off-campus) Visit: [Criterion-on-Demand](#)
- Do you have kids? We also have many juvenile chapter and picture books for children!



Staff Faves



The Skin We're in: A Year of Black Resistance and Power

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

Frankenstein

The English Patient

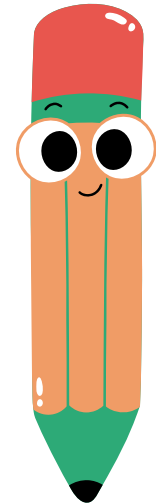
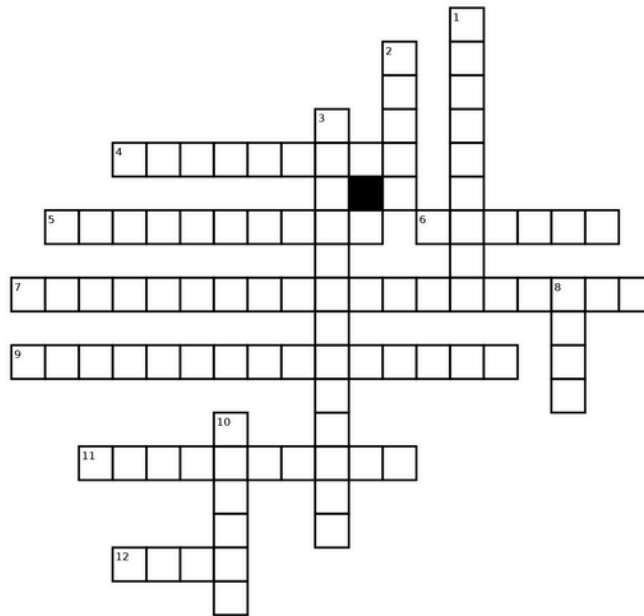
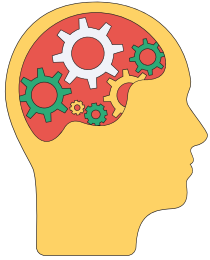
Jenny Wilson Mystery series:

- Full Curl
- In Rhino We Trust
- No Place for Wolverines

Unreconciled: Family, Truth, and Indigenous Resistance

We invite you to stop in to say hello and browse the stacks!

Test your College knowledge!!



Down:

1. The only COTR campus located in the Columbia Valley
2. Name of our Campus Store
3. Colleges, universities and trade schools for example
8. Confidential, short term counselling service available to all CUPE members
10. Avalanche Athletics mascot

Across:

4. The city or town that houses two COTR campuses
5. Unity, agreement of feeling or action, mutual support within a group
6. The only COTR campus located in the Elk Valley
7. A contract between the employer and the union that represents a bargaining unit
9. Area the Library is located within
11. Where the Nursing classrooms are located
12. Ticketing system for submitting requests to IT Services and Production Support

Complete, scan and email your crossword to:
cupe2773president@gmail.com by midnight, September 14th for your chance
to be entered into a draw to win a P-R-I-Z-E!

CUPE BC Headlines

[More CUPE members now covered by WorkSafeBC mental-health presumption](#)

[B.C. moving forward with seamless childcare in schools](#)

[CUPE BC donates \\$25,000 to support wildfire relief in Alberta and across the country.](#)

[VISIT THE CUPE 2773 WEBSITE](#)