

COLLEGE OF THE ROCKIES OPERATIONAL STAFF

Quarterly Newsletter

Hello CUPE Local 2773!

If we haven't met yet, I'm Rhonda Sheridan, your Recording Secretary. I've worked at College of the Rockies for 8 years and have been involved with our union for most of that time. My role has always been Recording Secretary, and I'm also active with the Empowerment and Engagement Working Group and the COTR Social Committee.

I'm currently a Co-op and Employment Services Coordinator, passionate about helping students gain valuable experience and skills before graduating. I've also worked in Continuing Education and Enrolment Services. I'm committed to making our workplace a safe, inspiring, and happy place for all!

Outside of work, I'm a proud mom of Parker (14) and our fur baby Bowie (Finnish Spitz). I'm involved in the local arts community, including theatre and ceramics. In the warmer months, my family loves paddling, hiking, biking, swimming, and enjoying the Kootenays. This winter I tried cross-country skiing and loved it!



RHONDA SHERIDAN
CUPE 2773 RECORDING SECRETARY



New to Cranbrook? I'd love to share my favorite activities and must-sees. I moved here from Ontario in 2017 and have built meaningful connections along the way.

If you know me, you'll know I love supporting others in living their best lives. I'm always open to listening and helping colleagues find the right resources!

- Rhonda



CUPE Calendar

Spring 2025

CUPE GENERAL MEETINGS

FOR MEETING TIMES AND LOCATIONS
PLEASE VISIT THE [EVENT CALENDAR](#) ON
THE CUPE LOCAL 2773 WEBSITE

March						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23	24	25	26	27	28	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	31	1	2	2025		

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL 9 – CUPE EXECUTIVE MEETING | 12:00pm | RM 228A
APRIL 18 – GOOD FRIDAY – COLLEGE CLOSED
APRIL 21 – EASTER MONDAY – COLLEGE CLOSED
MAY 8 – BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
MAY 19– VICTORIA DAY – COLLEGE CLOSED

Save the date! PD Days are May 29 & 30

Get ready for an exciting mix of professional development and fun at this year's Professional Development Days! Organized through a dynamic partnership between CUPE Local 2773 and the COTR Management Team, this two-day event features a wide range of engaging workshops.



We're on the lookout for eager volunteers to help with setup, food service, and cleanup. If you're interested, reach out to the always-energetic [Kristy Brons](#) – she'll be happy to add you to the team!

Professional Development Days aren't just about learning – they're about connecting, having fun, and growing together.

Did you know? Our monthly General Meetings include a \$nowball Draw!

What you ask, is a snowball draw?! At the end of every CUPE General meeting the names of those attending (either in person or online via MS Teams) are entered into a draw for \$50 cash. If the member is not present then another \$50 is added and the prize pool rolls over to the next month, and so on, until a winner is awarded – so the more meetings you attend – the greater your chance of winning!



2025: Let the Bargaining Begin!

Watch your inbox — a survey is on its way

2025 is a bargaining year, with our current Collective Agreement expiring on June 30. The Bargaining Committee will be sending out a survey in the next few months. This is your chance to share what matters most to you, so please take a few minutes to complete this important survey when it arrives.



Get to Know Your CUPE Local 2773 Bargaining Committee!

Question: What motivates you to be part of the bargaining committee?

“

I want better wages, benefits, and working conditions for our membership.

”

~ **Kristy Brons**



“

I love negotiating and trying to make our collective agreement better for our members.

”

~ **Tiffany Gustafson**



“

I want our collective agreement to be a strong agreement that supports our workers in every way possible.

”

~ **Karen Langan**



“

We all deserve fair wages, and a healthy and safe work environment. I believe I can make a difference by engaging and taking a stand.

”

~ **Livia Lara**



Professional Development

Submitted by Cortney Newton

Library Technician, Acquisition and Cataloguing

The past few years I have been working towards a degree in history with a minor in heritage resource management from Athabasca University. Juggling a work, school, life balance can be challenging so I appreciate the format of self-paced studies. I hope to complete my degree by the end of 2026 and my long-term goal is to eventually pursue a master's degree.

Working towards my degree has increased my abilities to research more in depth, critically think, and use analytical reasoning. These abilities have made me more effective in my role as a library technician in supporting learning success to our students, staff, and faculty.

This continuous learning opportunity has fostered not only personal growth, but strengthened my skill set in writing which has led to new pathways. Since Feb 2025, I have begun working as a Writing Tutor with Writeway – a writing service offered through the Learning Commons. I have also recently taken on a volunteer position as a peer reviewer of submitted publications for the Journal of Integrated Studies.

Our Professional Development funds play a key role in career success so take full advantage to learn, connect, and build on your future. I am on the Professional Development Committee, so please reach out if you have any questions.



Some new faces & some farewells

We're pleased to send a warm CUPE 2773 welcome to our newest members:

hello

- Logan Shellborn – Lead Graphic Designer
- Haley Richter – Department Head Admin Asst.
- Linley McLean – Admin. Assistant – Golden
- Phoebe Chow – Student Housing Assistant

And we bid adieu to our retiring members:

- Tracy Kiedyk | 22 years of service
- Suzanne Morin | 15 years of service
- Karl Walker | 12 years of service

Warmest
Wishes



Union Education

THINKING ABOUT GETTING INVOLVED?

If you're an Executive member, part of a CUPE committee, or a member in good standing eager to build new skills or explore fresh ideas, these upcoming Zoom workshops are for you! Don't miss the chance to learn, grow, and connect!

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Anti-Harassment and Bystander Training & Challenging Racism

March 19, 2025 | 10:00am – 5:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Introduction to Stewarding – Part 1 & 2

April 17, 2025 | 10:00am – 5:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Bylaw Essentials & Duty of Fair Representation

April 23, 2025 | 10:00am – 5:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Introduction to Stewarding – Part 1 & 2

May 12, 2025 | 10:00am – 5:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Secretary-Treasurer & Trustee Orientation

June 4, 2025 | 2:00pm – 5:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Anti-Harassment & Bystander Training + Duty of Fair Representation

June 12, 2025 | 10:00am – 5:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

EDUCATION CALENDAR

Collective Agreement

IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Our Union and the College crafted a set of rules – the Collective Agreement (C.A.)

Some are familiar with it, while others may not have as clear an understanding of the entirety of its contents.

Take some time to read and understand your rights in the C.A. Knowledge is power, and the more we understand, the stronger we stand.



Meet the Enrolment Services Team!



Jay Bhatt

Enrolment
Services Officer

**Favourite subject in
high school:**

Social Sciences



Amber Flannigan

Admissions
Coordinator

**Favourite subject in
high school:**

Shorthand



Jackie Hill

Enrolment
Services Officer

**Favourite subject in
high school:**

Commerce Classes



Marifer Lam

Financial Aid and
Awards Officer

**Favourite subject in
high school:**

PE, Accounting &
Economy

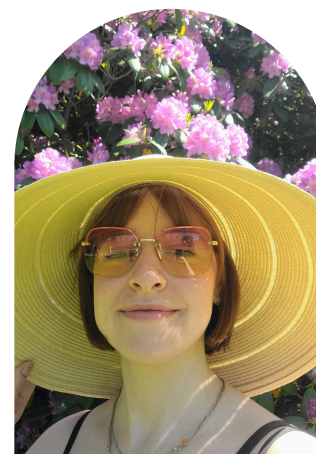


Alexa Pesklevits

Enrolment
Services Officer

**Favourite subject in
high school:**

Drama / Stage
Craft



Tessie Ward

Enrolment
Services Officer

**Favourite subject in
high school:**

English

You'll also find these friendly faces on our Enrolment Services team:
Amanda B., Demin C., Heather H., David Q., Lucie S., and Laura S.

Spot the Difference!

Can you find all 7 differences?



Scan and email your spot the difference to:
cupe2773president@gmail.com by midnight March 14th to be entered into a
draw to win a P-R-I-Z-E!

CUPE BC –

Investment in Public
Services is Critical
During Economic
Uncertainty

CUPE BC Headlines

Bulletin – Standing
in solidarity with
Alberta CUPE
education workers

VISIT THE CUPE 2773 WEBSITE