

COLLEGE OF THE ROCKIES OPERATIONAL STAFF

Quarterly Newsletter

Union Elections – Part 1

CUPE 2773 held its elections in March and will be continuing into April. We would like to welcome both new and returning members into their roles and recognize the continued commitment of members who have stepped forward to serve and support the work of the union.

New executive members:

Communications Officer Cortney Newton
Shop Steward Ashley Tibodeau

New committee members:

Heath and Safety Matt Jackson, Karen Langan
PD Committee Jay Bhatt
Sustainability Ankita Dubey, Heather Sharpe

Returning executive members:

Vice President Tiffany Gustofson
Recording Secretary Rhonda Sheridan
Lead Shop Steward Colhane Martyniuk
Shop Steward Livia Lara
Trustee Jackie Hill

Returning committee members:

PD Committee Jennifer Inglis
Labour Management Karen Langan
Job Evaluation Karen Langan





A sincere thank you to members who have stepped down from their roles. Thank you for the valuable contributions, dedication, and the time you've taken to invest in strengthening our union and advocating for members.

Karla Vishoff, Daryll Dux, Emma Inman, Jennifer Inglis, Colhane Martyniuk, Steve Bonham, and Jen Smith.



SPIRIT OF THE ROCKIES Festival

CUPE 2773 will be joining the Spirit of the Rockies Parade this year and need volunteers to show our pride, connect with the community, and represent the strength of the membership. Volunteers will get a CUPE shirt so just bring your energy and spirit! Reach out to any of the executive team if you are interested!

NEWS

UPDATE

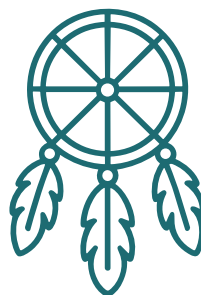
CUPE and Management PD Days have been reduced to 1 day this year. But don't stress, CUPE 2773 will be utilizing a day in 2026 for professional development! **For this event to be successful, we will require some volunteers to help with planning and organizing so reach out if you are interested!**

STAY TUNED

Upcoming PD Day

CUPE and Management PD day has been scheduled for **May 14th** and the theme this year is Emotional Intelligence and Clear Communication. The PD Day Planning Committee has been meeting and are working on booking various sessions based off previous feedback from employees.

The committee is working on sessions that will spark ideas, build useful skills, and support both your workday and well-being. Keep an eye out for upcoming invites and registration!



Meet your CUPE Colleagues from the Invermere campus!



Invermere



Justine Matheson

Program Administrator

I love strength training, diving into romantasy books, spending summers at my cabin at White Swan with my husband and my dog Kodi, paddle boarding, going to see concerts, and getting creative with painting pottery.



Zack Remple

Administrator Assistant

I enjoy going on hikes with my camera, savoring the vistas, and photographing whatever wildlife I may spy along the way.



Kristy Brons
Tiffany Gustofson
Anita Sylvestre
Rhonda Sheridan
Karen Langan
Colhane Martyniuk
Karen Vause

Joanne MacLean
Alexa Durban
Ashley Tibodeau
Livia Lara
Jen Smith
Jackie Hill

Notes From the Editor

After over a decade at this College, I didn't think I'd gain a new perspective on the union, but stepping into this new role has made me realize that the executive committee is a group of people who care deeply. While outcomes aren't always ideal or unfold the way anyone expects, these dedicated folks put in the time, have hard conversations, and carry the weight of others' concerns with a level of commitment that is encouraging and impactful.

I say these words because I would like to recognize that hard work that goes into ensuring our CUPE voices are represented and heard. So thank you to the executive team, past and present, for all you do for us.

~Cortney Newton

CUPE Calendar



CUPE GENERAL & EXECUTIVE TEAM MEETINGS

For meeting times and locations, please visit the [EVENT CALENDAR](#) on the CUPE 2773 website.

Please note: Dates and times may vary due to room availability. Always check your Outlook meeting invite for the most up-to-date info.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETINGS

May 14, 2026 - COTR BOARD ROOM

If you are interested in attending the public session of a board meeting please reach out to [Susan Woods](#) at least one week prior to confirm your attendance.

STATUTORY HOLIDAYS

April 3 - Good Friday

April 6 - Easter Monday

May 18 - Victoria Day

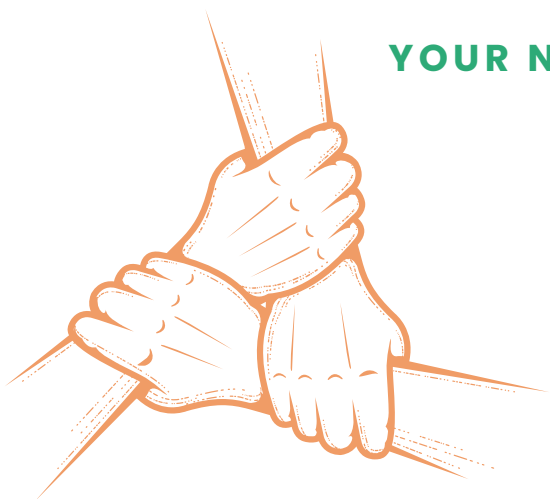
We want to hear from you!

Have something happening you would like to share? Or is there something you would like to see in the newsletter? We'd love to hear about it! If you have news to share, such as an event, project, achievement, PD activity or something interesting in your area, please consider reaching out for future newsletter editions. Your updates help keep our community informed and connected.

Please reach out to the Communications Officer,

Cortney Newton cnewton@cotr.bc.ca
Learning Commons, Cranbrook Campus





YOUR NEXT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY AWAITS

Whether you're an Executive member, part of a CUPE committee, or a member 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

Challenging Racism (OLS) & Global People Power

March 31, 2026 | 10:00am – 1:00pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

Introduction to Stewarding

June 17, 2026 | 10:00am – 5:30pm (MT)

[Register here](#)

[EDUCATION CALENDAR](#)

CUPE Professional Development Funds

**DON'T
FORGET**



The CUPE Professional Development (PD) fund is meant to assist employees to upgrade skills that enhance and/or advance their careers within the College as well as the provincial College system.

These funds can be used to attend a conference, take a course that interests you, upskill, or even pursue a degree!

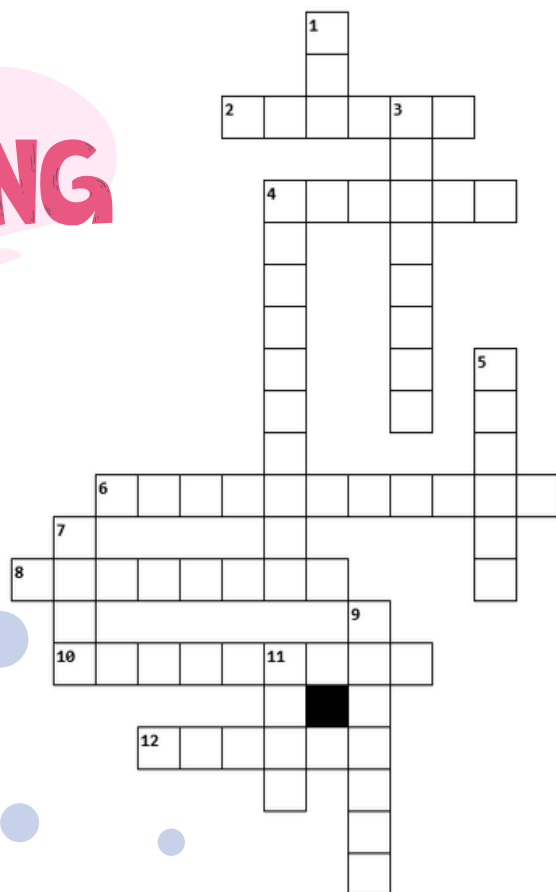
[Find out more about our PD Funds](#)





Crossword Time!

hello
SPRING



Across

- 2. Tree that produces pink spring blossoms
- 4. Season before summer
- 6. Transfer of pollen between flowers
- 8. A person who works with plants and flowers
- 10. Colorful winged insect common around flowers
- 12. Bright cup-shaped spring flowers

Down

- 1. Insect known for producing honey
- 3. Colorful arc sometimes seen after spring rain
- 4. Another word for the spring season period
- 5. Tiny new plant shoot
- 7. A baby sheep often born in spring
- 9. Flowering stage of many fruit trees
- 11. Gentle water falling from clouds



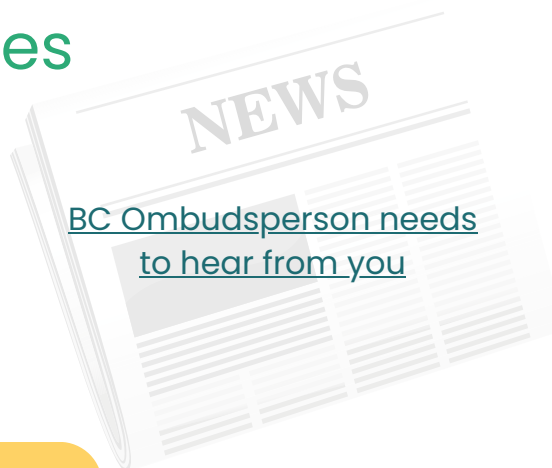
Complete and email your answers to:
cupe2773president@gmail.com by midnight, March 31st for your chance
to be entered into a draw to win a P-R-I-Z-E!

CUPE BC Headlines

[Big step forward for public
childcare](#)

[A Statement from CUPE BC:
Defending Truth, Rejecting
Denialism](#)

[BC Ombudsperson needs
to hear from you](#)



[VISIT THE CUPE 2773 WEBSITE](#)