Toronto and York Region Labour Council – CUPE 3903 Delegate ReportMay 4, 2017

Delegate present: Brian Mossop

Report: BM

Note to readers: What do you think CUPE 3903 should be getting out of representation at the Labour Council? Are there labour issues we should take to Council? Should we bring Council campaigns to York campuses? Write to me at brmossop@yorku.ca.

To find out about Council, and see photos of recent meetings and actions, visit www.labourcouncil.ca. For a calendar of Council events: http://www.labourcouncil.ca/calendar--145thanniversary.html. For current Council campaigns: http://www.labourcouncil.ca/campaigns.html.

- A group of Aramark workers from Unite-Here Local 75 told Council about the successful conclusion to their strike. They mentioned the support they had received from groups at various locations where they work, "especially at York University".
- Council passed a statement about the Toronto Community Housing Corporation. "We need a clear commitment from all levels of government to long term, sustainable funding for social housing in all forms—municipal, co-operatives and non-profits."
 http://www.labourcouncil.ca/uploads/8/8/6/1/8861416/long_saga_of_tchc-may2017.pdf
- There was a presentation on the Toronto Workers History Project by York faculty member (and former Council delegate) Craig Heron. To read about them and their upcoming activities: www.twhp.ca. Donations from unions are welcome!
- A video was shown about the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in March.
- There was a presentation on the Westray mine disaster of 1992 and the resulting amendment of the Criminal Code in 2004 (after 12 years of campaigning by the United Steelworkers) to make those responsible for workers being killed on the job face criminal charges. There are still problems with prosecutions under this section of the Code because of lack of dedicated Crown attorneys, lack of training of police and prosecutors, and poor coordination among police, Crown attorneys and regulators. www.stopthekilling.ca
- There was a presentation by workers from the Liquor Board Employees Division of OPSEU. They have voted 93% in favour of an Ontario-wide strike, though there will be no job action before the May long weekend. Management and the union are "very far apart". https://opseu.org/news/93-cent-team-returns-table-strong-mandate-2017-lbed-bargaining-bulletin-12