

Toronto & York Region Labour Council General Membership Meeting  
Thursday, April 6, 2017

Minutes sheet attached

## **6. Moment of Silence**

There was a moment of silence for Kevin Cameron, LiUNA Local 506.  
Reminder: There will be a day of mourning April 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **7. Strike Reports**

### **CUPE 3902 - U of T Scarborough food service workers**

Strike is still ongoing. They were on the picket line today in the rain. There is no end yet in sight for the chapter.

### **CUPE 2073 - Canadian Hard of Hearing workers Deaf and Hard of Hearing workers strike**

Still ongoing. Started March 6<sup>th</sup>. The staff has been without a contract for 4 years. There have been no raise during this time. The Canadian Hard of Hearing Association Board now refuses to negotiate at all. There is a management team who are making decisions about the hard of hearing community, and they are not going to quit.

There was a response from the federal government, for a "sunshine" list, which will not be amended until later in the year. We are encouraged to contact the Association to pressure them to update this list.

Change in tactics: picketing now starts at 7am, because the managerial/office staff have been trying to enter the building earlier and earlier.

A Hard of Hearing worker spoke:

Integral to the demands is to have the management to understand sign language.

The board wants to have a model based on healing sickness. We are not sick. We just need help and respect.

## **8. Executive Board Reports**

a) Video that dealt with racism in various places of work, and the value of unions to fight bigotry in labor.

Muslim woman involved spoke to anti-Muslim bigotry.

Mentioned how people of various religions do respect her faith, and tolerance is possible with networking and education.

Report: International day against racism had a rally and march at city hall. It went well and had over 300 people involved.

b) Step Up and Speak Out statement. Four speakers spoke to the statement. All spoke favorably and advocated that the Toronto & York Labour Council adopt it.

c) The Toronto & York Labour Council endorses the People's Climate March.

Pitch: Join the People's Climate Movement as our city joins others around Turtle Island to stand up for our communities and our climate.

Labour, environmental, indigenous, and social justice groups have united to form this march as part of a North American Day of Action, close to President Trump's 100 days in office.

When: The start of the march is April 29<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00pm.

Where: Allan Gardens (19 Horticultural Ave.)

Why: To protect our biosphere and hold our governments accountable.

Who: Everyone – including you!

Event: <http://bit.ly/2ohCrmQ>

There will be a Week of Education preceding the march, and a Week of Action afterwards. For more details, and events calendars, visit

<https://peoplesclimatecanada.ca/>

## **10. Reports of Canadian Labour Council and Labour Council Projects**

Scanned report attached.

### **Keep Hydro Public announcement**

Rally this Saturday in Queen's Park.

March begins at 1pm Hydro One headquarters

## **12. Committee Reports**

### **Equity committee report**

Proud to announce the beginning of registration for a conference against racism.

There is a dynamic panel and dynamic panels. There will be a "No one chooses to be a refugee" workshop, with a virtual reality set-up. We expect to be sold out, register early if you want to be there.

### **Women's committee report**

April 11<sup>th</sup>: Equal Pay Day. Women make 70 cents on the dollar to men today. Join us with our movement.

More info at [equalpaycoalition.org](http://equalpaycoalition.org)

Film announcement

## **13. Reports from Unions**

### **CUPE local 1281 – student unions and faculty associations**

Spoke to a rise of right-wing candidates in union elections that should be opposed.

There was a petition passed around, which anyone present could choose to sign.

### **CUPE Local 5338**

Announcement for an event for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle of Vimy ridge.

Date: Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

Where: United Steelworkers Hall

Presentation by Ian McKay on a book called "The Vimy Trap."

Adjourned 8:30