

Toronto and York Region Labour Council – CUPE 3903 Delegate Report

August 2 2018

Delegates 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.html>. For current Council campaigns:

<http://www.labourcouncil.ca/campaigns.html>.

- James Hutt of CUPW described the post office workers' campaign Delivering Community Power project <http://www.deliveringcommunitypower.ca>: "Our postal service can deliver the sustainable infrastructure of the next economy: postal banking that finances green energy, services for seniors, farm-to-table food delivery, coast-to-coast charging stations for electric cars, and much more...An equitable, climate-friendly economy is in sight. Our post office can deliver it." CUPW (which is currently taking a strike vote) is looking for more union allies for the project.
- Council approved a statement on the Danforth Avenue shootings. During discussion, an article in NOW Magazine about the islamophobic aspect of the incident was recommended.
- <https://nowtoronto.com/news/danforth-shooting-islamophobia/>
- Jessica Bell, NDP MLA for University-Rosedale, spoke about herself and her goals. She is the last of the newly elected NDP members from Toronto to address Council.
- Council approved a statement on Bill 5, which reduces City Council from 47 to 25 seats. During discussion at tables afterward, everyone at my table agreed that there is no way to stop this and other matters (sex education, minimum wage, housing, expected privatizations of public services) are far more important. I said that the important thing is to get as many pro-Labour councillors as possible elected to the 25 seats. A few of the speakers during the plenary discussion also described Bill 5 as a diversion from more important matters.
- There was a report about an alarming outbreak of anti-migrant hate in Markham, delivered by one of the counter-demonstrators (a 3903 member who lives there). <https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/8768961-police-descend-on-fist-swinging-markham-protest-against-illegal-border-crossers/>