**Toronto and York Region Labour Council – CUPE 3903 Delegate Report**

October 3, 2019

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 brmossop@yorku.ca.*

*To find out about Council, and see photos of recent meetings and actions, visit* [*www.labourcouncil.ca*](http://www.labourcouncil.ca)*.*

*For a calendar of Council events: https://www.labourcouncil.ca/events.*

*For current Council campaigns: https://www.labourcouncil.ca/campaigns\_and\_programs*

* There was a moment of silence for the latest (fifth) temp worker killed at Fiera Foods.
* Videos were shown of Greta Thunberg at the UN and Alex Gray from IBEW 353, who spoke at the climate strike the previous Friday; Kim Fry from the Elementary Teachers spoke about her experience on Friday
* There was a presentation on the Canadian Labour Congress' federal election strategy. In Toronto, the strategy is to focus on electing NDP members in 3 ridings that were lost to the Liberals in 2015 (Toronto Danforth, Davenport and Parkdale-High Park). Member locals of the Council are encouraged to participate in labour canvassing events in these ridings (Davenport Oct 9, 5:30 pm 1243 Bloor West; Parkdale Oct 15, 5 pm 2962 Dundas West).
* With a strike in the education sector imminent (next week), several people spoke about defending public education. For more, see https://www.labourcouncil.ca/education.
* **A statement from CUPE Local 2 (a group of 650 electricians and others who work for the TTC) was circulated that called for free public transit and a campaign of mass strikes and protests to bring down Doug Ford. (CUPE 3903 endorsed it at our September GMM.) However, in a move that many delegates thought undemocratic, Council executive substituted their own statement that merely says that the labour movement should "consider what it would take to carry out widespread action up to and including a general strike" and "determine the viability of a free transit campaign". So there was no vote on the CUPE 2 statement. The substitute resolution passed but the chair never got around to asking for the "opposed" votes because right after the "in favour" vote, someone called out a point of order (asked whether the CUPE 2 resolution would be voted on). Apparently this is normal procedure at Labour Council. Resolutions from member locals have to be approved by the executive! There was vigorous debate (the first such debate I've seen in 3 years attending Council), with some saying the labour movement must be bold and others saying the movement is not ready for a general strike and the public is not ready for free transit.**
* **During the reports from unions section of the meeting, I spoke briefly about York's latest move to unilaterally change Unit 1 and 3 funding payments.**
* Council decided to raise dues for the first time in 6 years. Effective 1 Jan 2020, dues will go up from 50 to 52 cents per month per member of each affiliated local; dues will go up to 53 cents on 1 Jan 2021 and 54 cents on 1 Jan 2022. I notified our treasurer of the notice of motion to this effect that was given at the September Council meeting.