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

March 5, 2020

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 video and reports on the teachers' strike, with a special shout-out to music teachers for their creative contribution to keeping up spirits on the picket lines.
* Locations for the International Women's Day rally, march and fair were announced.
* The newly elected (and first female) president of the Ontario Federation of Labour spoke at length on a variety of topics related to labour and the Ford government.
* Council passed a statement "Keep Fighting for Workers Rights" which the victory of CUPW and Foodsters United in achieving recognition of Foodora couriers as dependent contractors, entitling them to unionize under the Labour Relations Act. Three food couriers led us in a chant (yes, sometimes Council meetings are fun!).
* Council passed a statement "Council stands in solidarity with Wet'suwet'en nation". Speakers mentioned that vast numbers of Canadians learned for the first time about the difference between band councils running reserves under the 19th century Indian Act and hereditary leaders with authority over much larger areas. People also found out about the dependence of significant sectors of the economy on the railways, and for the first time time there were cross-country blocades extending over weeks. Also, polls showed such widespread support for the Wet'suwet'en that, for weeks, governments were unable to bring the blocades to a halt and did not know what to do.