

Conference Program



October 18 - 19, 2018 ▷▷ *Saskatoon, SK*
Advancements in Aboriginal Education, Health, Employment and Business.



CUPE SASKATCHEWAN ABORIGINAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE 2017 – 2018

LOUISE WATSON

(CUPE Local 5430)

Member

Elected 2017 for a two-year term.

CHERYL BOB-REDSTAR

(CUPE Local 5430)

Member

Elected 2017 for a two-year term.

JILLIAN SEEBACK

(CUPE Local 5430)

Member

Elected 2016 for a two-year term. (Term ends 2018)

JODI (JOE-ANN) GOSSELIN

(CUPE Local 5430)

Senator

Aboriginal Member, CUPE Saskatchewan Executive Board

Re-elected 2016 for a two-year term. (Term ends 2018)

DAVID MILLER

(CUPE Local 5430)

Alternate Aboriginal Member, CUPE Saskatchewan Executive Board

Re-elected 2016 for a two-year term. (Term ends 2018)

TONY HEAD

CUPE National Representative

Staff Advisor

The Aboriginal Council Committee is a Standing Committee of CUPE Saskatchewan – the provincial division of the Canadian Union of Public Employees and the political arm of CUPE local unions in Saskatchewan.

The Aboriginal Council Committee acts as a resource to CUPE Saskatchewan on Aboriginal issues by advising and making recommendations to the Executive Board on Aboriginal issues; carries out the policies and programs of CUPE Saskatchewan; recommends and/or prepares resource material and a list of speakers on aboriginal issues; establishes Aboriginal peoples' place within CUPE Saskatchewan; works for the integration of Aboriginal perspectives in CUPE's work; discusses Aboriginal issues occurring across the province; promotes National Aboriginal Day - June 21; develops working links with other Aboriginal organizations, unions, like-minded groups and other CUPE Saskatchewan Committees; acts as an advisor or facilitator regarding labour/Aboriginal concerns, and forwards issues to the National Aboriginal Council.

ABORIGINAL COUNCIL CONFERENCE 2018



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*18th Annual CUPE Saskatchewan Aboriginal Conference
Building union activism with a focus on equality and rights for Indigenous People in our workplaces and communities.*

EQUALITY STATEMENT

Union solidarity is based on the principle that union members are equal and deserve mutual respect at all levels. Any behaviour that creates conflict prevents us from working together to strengthen our union.

As unionists, mutual respect, cooperation and understanding are our goals. We should neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

Discriminatory speech or conduct which is racist, sexist, transphobic or homophobic hurts and thereby divides us. So too, does discrimination on the basis of ability, age, class, religion, language and ethnic origin.

Sometimes discrimination takes the form of harassment. Harassment means using real or perceived power to abuse, devalue or humiliate. Harassment should not be treated as a joke. The uneasiness and resentment that it creates are not feelings that help us grow as a union.

Discrimination and harassment focus on characteristics that make us different; and they reduce our capacity to work together on shared concerns such as decent wages, safe working conditions, and justice in the workplace, society and in our union.

CUPE's policies and practices must reflect our commitment to equality. Members, staff and elected officers must be mindful that all persons deserve dignity, equality and respect.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2018

The conference will be held in the Picasso Room, Main Floor.

Treaty 6 Territory. Homeland of the Métis.

8:30 AM Smudge

Registration (At the doors of the Picasso Room - Main Floor)

9:00 AM Call to Order
Equality Statement
Traditional Greetings - Elder Peter Nippi
Conference Welcome
Aboriginal Council Committee Introduction

Greetings:

- Darren Hill, Deputy Mayor, City of Saskatoon
- Charles Fleury, CUPE National Secretary-Treasurer
- Tom Graham, President, CUPE Saskatchewan

Presentation by Robert Doucette

Guest Speakers:

- Mary Culbertson, Treaty Commissioner of Saskatchewan
- Amy Seesequasis, Director of Speakers Bureau, Office of the Treaty Commissioner
- Elder Peter Nippi

Noon Lunch Break (provided)

1:00 PM Conference Resumes

Faceless Dolls Presentation

Guest Speakers

Adjourn

7:00 PM Evening Movie & Discussion

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2018

8:30 AM Smudge

9:00 AM Conference Resumes

Traditional Greetings

Guest Speaker:

- Robert Doucette, Métis survivors of the Sixties Scoop

Guest Speaker:

- Hon. Judge David Arnot, Chief Commissioner, Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission

Ad Hoc Committee Presentation

Elections

- Aboriginal Council Standing Committee: One Member for a two-year term
- Executive Board of CUPE Saskatchewan: One Member & Alternate for a two-year term

Closing Remarks and Conference Evaluations

Door Prize Draws

12:30 PM Adjourn

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

BOTTLED WATER

Delegates are asked to refrain from commercially bottled water and, instead, drink tap water. Bottled water is banned from CUPE events. (Resolution E4, 2008 Convention)

SCENT-FREE ENVIRONMENT

Delegates are asked to refrain from wearing scented products. (Resolution L15, 2007 Convention; Resolution E24, 2012 Convention)

SMUDGING CEREMONY

A smudge will be held at the times indicated on the conference agenda.

What is Smudging?

Smudging is a purification ceremony that usually initiates healing sessions. It is also a way to cleanse.

Smudging is done using the smoke from sacred plants such as sage, sweet grass, or cedar. The smoke from the sacred medicine purifies the mind, body, and spirit. The smoke is believed to disperse impurities.

Anyone can participate, though there are some traditional cultural restrictions. Ask a member of the Aboriginal Council to learn more.

