



CUPE BC Transportation Committee Report to Convention – May 2019

CUPE BC's Transportation Committee continues to work on a number of issues and areas of concern that affect all members in the transportation sector.

CUPE National Transportation Committee

The committee has outlined and continues to work on the following areas of focus and concern within the transportation sector both regionally and nationally:

- Mapping the transportation sector and safety legislation on maximum hours of work per day for transportation workers and drivers.
- Creating a fatigue management structure that can be circulated to locals and potentially included in upcoming bargaining proposals.
- Having an indigenous and young worker representative appointed to the committee.
- Creating a lobby kit in order to arm us with the necessary tools to participate in efforts demanding improved legislation governing our working conditions.
- Fighting against both mandatory and random marijuana testing for workers.

We remain committed to raising the profile of the important work that the transportation sector workers do on a daily basis around the country and look forward to meeting as a National committee again.

Occupational health and safety

Health and safety issues continue to be the major item of concern for the Transportation Committee. Issues facing our transportation sector members include:

- Increasing numbers of violent incidents against drivers and transportation workers.
- Increasing ridership and stagnant or decreasing staffing levels which are causing workload pressures and driver fatigue.

- Recruitment and retention of transportation workers is an increasing challenge.

Transportation workers are coping with new technologies that are changing how they do their jobs and the increasing use of electronic monitoring increasing the chances of disciplinary action against our members.

The committee will continue to support transportation workers by participating in campaigns and lobbying politicians at all levels of government across the province and the country.

CUPE BC Transportation Committee meetings

Our committee met on October 2, 2018 and February 15, 2019.

We engaged in a lively round table discussions and the sharing of strategies in regards to issues that are prevalent amongst our locals and district councils. We discussed the use of file sharing technology that will allow committee members to communicate more effectively with each other and with CUPE BC. This strategy will also reduce the use of paper at meetings. We discussed the creation of a *Passenger Code of Conduct* for passengers on public transportation as a way to improve the safety of our members and the public. The committee has submitted the following two resolutions to convention:

- Lobby the Provincial Government for forward facing dash cameras to be installed in all school buses.
- Lobby BC Transit to accelerate the pace of installing the driver's safety shields in all transit buses.

Conclusion

CUPE members in the Transportation Sector are facing many ongoing and emerging issues. The Transportation Committee looks forward to working with the Provincial Union, National Union and our fellow CUPE members to tackle these issues.

Special thanks to Brother Bryan Bickley our National Servicing Representative and Sister Tanya Paterson. Brother Bryan and Sister Tanya (although she is currently on a Staff assignment and unable to attend meetings) have been instrumental in supporting the initiatives and projects that our committee has embarked upon.

Respectfully submitted:

Tanya Paterson, Chair
Maureen Hummel, Co-Chair
Patrick Attias
Rick Belfry
Don Duncan
Jerrinya Churko
Laura-Lee Fried
Tony Rebelo
Mike Rochford
Duane Wheatley
Bryan Bickley, Staff Advisor

May 2019

