CUPE Ontario Health and Safety/Injured Workers Conference

November 6 - 10, 2023

Yolanda McClean updated the delegates on the safer union spaces working group regarding harassment and discrimination in union spaces. Karen has a digital copy from CUPE National.

Paul Sylvester, from CUPE National gave a presentation called: Thrive, Not Survive. It was about supporting our joint health and safety committees and putting an end to intimidation and fear tactics.

His keys to strengthening unions:

-Union support is empowerment

-Locals MUST invest in their JHSC members to achieve meaningful training

-Many JHSC members don’t feel comfortable on the committee for at least 3yrs. They don't have to be experts to be effective.

Justin Hollaway, CUPE 3902 spoke on:

-Indoor air quality

-Psychosocial Hazard

-Asbestos

He reminded us all we have the power within the JSHC

Brandon Haynes (4898) spoke on:

-Library workers’ Harassment and Violence

-More info on cupe.on.ca

The fact that management is not listening to workers

reminded us 25(2)9d)

Natasha Luckhhandt. told us of a workplace accident in St Catherines where an industrial explosion killed a young worker

Chris Grawey spoke on WSIAT and their impact on the claims and appeals process. He discussed the changes in the forms that WSIB uses now.

Tom Parkin discussed mental health and how it affects people during shift work and how some people experience social isolation at work.

Daniel Callanan gave a presentation on the Climate Justice Committee. It is a new committee for public advocacy and action for combating the impact of the global climate crisis on workers

University Sector Caucus: OUWCC

Chaired by: Chris Yates and Jeff Cornelisson.

-They had a discussion on Injured workers and RTW accommodations.

-They reminded us to push the “Undue Hardship” point, because there is no known price limit in the public sector.

 We did a vote for the Injured Workers Advocacy Committee Nominees

-Colleen Ferreira

-Stephine Deszi

Troy Winters presented about Psychological Safety, Mental Health Policies and Critical Incidents