

Langshaw – CUPE School 2025 – Brief Summary

Attending the most recent CUPE André Lamoureux Memorial School afforded me the opportunity to have one and a half days of in person discussion with CUPE National representatives, including one instructor who sits on the Education board, helping to write workshops and leadership development programs. Having taken the Intro to Stewarding course online in 2024, I found the in person discussion to be much more engaging and informative. Being able to learn along side other CUPE Brothers and Sisters from different Locals helped strengthen my understanding of my role and responsibilities as a Union Steward for CUPE 1334. This, along side the supplementary 'Handling Discipline and Discharge' course cemented the importance of my role as a Steward and elevated my interest in continuing through the CUPE Steward Learning Series, which I intend to take full advantage of going forward. The most useful element that I took away from the School was the need to re-frame complaints and concerns from Union Members, changing "What has the Union ever done for me" into "What tension prompted this question? What are you thinking that the Union is not doing for you, and how can I help to fix this issue?". I look forward to any opportunity for continuing education within CUPE, and would appreciate the chance to attend future CUPE Schools.