
CUPE 2950
LOCAL NEWS

JUNE 2009

BUSINESS AGENT'S REPORT

By Frans Van de Ven

Facebook is a social networking tool. It is also quickly becoming a business tool for workers to build their professional profiles. Mark Swartz has just written and published a book called "Get wired, you're hired".

What Facebook and other networking sites are not is private. Beware of your updates falling into unintended hands.

As with e-mail, workers are networking themselves out of jobs.

Recently a factory clerk was fired for attributing certain sexual practices to his boss. It was a co-worker who turned him in. Another worker was suspended for detailing her boss's lazy work habits. A third was disciplined for praising a competitor's product on her home page.

The Canadian Human Rights Reporter stated in a recent story that based on media reports at least 15 people in the USA and Britain have lost their jobs for bad-mouthing colleagues over Facebook.

In Canada a recent court case was derailed when the defense entered into evidence pictures and chat that seemed to contradict the plaintiff's injury claims. The judge said that his view of the case might have been different except for those Facebook updates.

Seems that the more electronically engaged we become the less private our lives and the more activities that some of us fondly recall as personal become relevant to the work place.

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HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

By Richard Hare

UBC SAFETY SKILLS WORKSHOP—Dates for the University's next two-day **Safety Skills Workshop** have been confirmed. It will be held at the Michael Smith Laboratories, 2185 East Mall, on June 18th and 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The workshop is facilitated by staff from the Department of Health, Safety and Environment for UBC Safety Committee members and supervisors. Topics include accident prevention, effective committee operations, safety inspections, accident investigation, safety training and the role of WorkSafeBC. The course co-coordinator is Calvin Cheung who can be contacted at cheung@hse.ubc for more information about course content and future dates. To register go to "Courses" on the Health, Safety and Environment web site or use the following link:
http://www.hse.ubc.ca/gosignmeup/dev_students.asp

Health & Safety Quiz

Answer the following questions for a chance to win a CUPE mug and \$25 gift certificate to the UBC Bookstore. Fax (604-822-1481) or e-mail (office@cupe2950.ca) your answers to the CUPE 2950 office by June 30th.

1. Who are your CUPE 2950 Health and Safety Committee reps?
2. What telephone number do you call for staff related first aid emergencies?
3. Name 3 benefits of ergonomics.
4. How often does the University Health and Safety Committee meet?
5. Name the 2 on-going health promotion initiatives.

Hint: All answers can be found on the HSE website

CUPE BC CONVENTION REPORT

By Jaimie Miller

This year in Victoria your 2950 representatives participated in:

- ◆ deciding not to alter the Executive structure of CUPE BC
- ◆ reaffirmed many commitments to stated CUPE BC aims and objectives
- ◆ elected the CUPE BC Executive, as well as caucus specific representatives
- ◆ received the action plan for the coming year
- ◆ heard rousing speeches given by Stephen Lewis and Carole James

I encourage you to attend the CUPE BC convention next year!

Worker to Worker Solidarity

By Joan Treleaven

Members from CUPE Local 116 and I had the opportunity to meet with Activist Antonio Tinio at a Worker to Worker Solidarity lunch held at UBC in May. Antonio was touring Canada speaking about the struggles of Filipino teachers and education workers and the deteriorating human and labour rights in the Philippines.



The tour was organized and sponsored by CUPE local 4600 with support from the CUPE National Global Justice Fund

as part of a project entitled "Defend Human Rights in the Philippines: A Worker to Worker Solidarity Exchange".

For further information on this project visit:

http://cupe.ca/updir/CUPE_in_sol_report_07-08_EN-0.pdf

CUPE 2950 Education Lunch and Learn Series "What are my rights?"

Our local is offering free Lunch and Learn sessions to members to explore language that protects their rights in the workplace. These sessions will also provide some information on practice and procedures. Each session is held from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. on the Point Grey Campus on the following dates:

July 8	Career Planning and Education
August 12	Various Leaves
September 9	Maternity/Parental/Adoption Leave and Benefits
October 14	Medical Leave and Benefits
November 18	Grievance/Complaint Process

To register for any or all of these sessions, please e-mail us at office@cupe2950.ca or call us at 604-822-1494.

Please feel free to bring your lunch. Light refreshments will be provided.

You are invited to the

**CUPE 2950
Summer BBQ**

**Thursday, July 9,
2009
Noon—2:00 pm**

**Outside the
Union Office**



Please RSVP by June 19th and be entered in the draw for a door prize. Email office@cupe2950.ca with your choice of hamburger or veggie burger.

Congratulations to Joan Struchner

from the UBC Library Processing Centre – who won the 2009 Chocolate Lily Award for *Honey Cake* - by Joan Betty Struchner & Cynthia Nugent published by Tradewind



Chocolate Lily Book

Awards is a choice award that showcases and celebrates the best of BC children's fiction by encouraging BC grade school students to read the short-listed titles and vote for their favourite at the end of each school year.

June 21st—National Aboriginal Day is a day of recognition of the cultures and contributions of the First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples of Canada. The day was first celebrated in 1996, after it was proclaimed that year, by then Governor General of Canada, Romeo LeBlanc, to be celebrated on June 21st annually. Most provincial jurisdictions, however, do not recognize it as a statutory holiday.

Congratulations to Liliana

Castaneda-Lopez—winner of the May Trivia Contest (\$25.00 UBC Bookstore Gift Certificate and CUPE Mug)

MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS

Staff Pension Plan—Jay Parker and Margaret Leathley talked about the new contribution and benefit structure that will become effective July 1st and answered questions from the floor. They invited members to attend the Pension Fair on May 29th in the Ponderosa Centre.

The following motions were approved at the meeting: that we change the mileage/gas costs in our Local Expense Policy to: the cost of gas used plus 15 cents per km and that we sponsor one child (\$469) to attend Camp Jubilee in 2009 for one week. There was an error in the formula for the subtotal of expenses when budget was approved in March 2009 therefore, the following motion was passed: That we accept the \$1,009,490 expense line total in the 2009 budget with a total deficit of \$49,322.

Wendy Hillman was acclaimed as Communications Chair. She will be sworn in at the June membership meeting. Nominations for the CUPE National Convention will be carried forward to the June membership meeting.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR \$100 CASH DOOR PRIZE WINNER, TIP PLACZEK

35th Anniversary

As part of our 35th Anniversary celebration, we would like to have some photos available to place on our web site and in our newsletter of our Local members highlighting the work that they do.

We are also looking for members to be interviewed as part of a video vignette series that will be posted to our web site with a particular interest in those members who have been here for 10+ years that can comment on some of the history at UBC.

If you are interested or know a Local 2950 member who would be willing participate, please contact us at office@cupe2950.ca or call 604-822-1494 to schedule an appointment and indicate if you are interested in the photo shoot and/or a video interview session in May.

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Local 2950

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CUPE 2950 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA

June 25, 2009 12:30—2:30 pm
Buchanan D317 (1866 Main Mall)

12:30-12:45 p.m. Open Forum Discussion

1. Roll Call of Officers
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Adoption of Minutes of May 28, 2009
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - a. Nominations—Local Officers: Education Committee Chair, Job Evaluation Committee Chair, Sergeant-at-Arms(1 position), Treasurer, Trustee (3 terms ending Dec. 31/09, Dec. 31/10, Dec. 31/11)
 - b. CUPE National Convention, October 5-9, 2009, Montreal
Open & Close Nominations for 3 Delegates
5. Unfinished Business
6. Executive Report
 - a. 35th Anniversary Celebration
7. Business Agent's Report
8. Treasurer's Report
9. Committee Reports
 - a. Chief Shop Steward
 - b. Communications Committee
 - c. Contract Committee
 - d. Diversity Committee
 - e. Education Committee
 - f. Grievance Committee
 - g. Health and Safety Committee
 - h. Job Evaluation Committee
10. New Business

In consideration of others who suffer from allergies and/or respiratory problems, please refrain from wearing perfumes or any scented items.

Article 10.01—The University agrees to allow the Union to hold nine (9) two-hour lunch meetings (12:30 to 2:30) on employer time. Members are expected to use their lunch as part of the two hours.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed or the articles published in *Local News* are not necessarily those of the Editor or Executive. If you have any questions, comments, letters, articles, please contact our Communications Committee at our Union Office or email us at office@cupe2950.ca.