



# CUPE 2011

CUPE NATIONAL CONVENTION – VANCOUVER

## Thursday, November 3

### Moist acclaimed; Fleury succeeds Généreux



In elections held on Wednesday, Paul Moist was acclaimed to another two-year term as National President, a position he has held since 2003, and Charles Fleury became CUPE's new National Secretary-Treasurer.

Four contenders were running to replace Claude Généreux. Fleury won on the third ballot, with more than 60 per cent of votes cast. A Hydro-Québec employee, he has been a CUPE activist since 1982. An active figure in CUPE-Quebec, he joined CUPE's National Executive Board in 2003 as General Vice-President.

"Filling Brother Claude's shoes will not be easy. I will do my best to follow the great example he left as his legacy to CUPE," said the new Secretary-Treasurer.

Also re-elected are General Vice-Presidents Fred Hahn, Barry O'Neill, Lucie Levasseur, Tom Graham and Daniel Légère.

### Claude "has his numbers"

It all started in Vancouver and it ends here. After serving as National Secretary-Treasurer for ten years, Claude Généreux, surrounded by his family, received a resounding tribute from delegates.

In a video tribute, colleagues and friends testified to his finer qualities with a little humour and, above all, gratitude for his most remarkable success: the spectacular turnaround of CUPE's finances. (See [cupe.ca](http://cupe.ca))

CUPE-Quebec President Lucie Levasseur thanked him elegantly, adding her own spin to a quote from Claude's speech of the previous day: "What's important cannot always be measured, and you were immeasurably important to us!"

Claude's partner Manon Charlebois had the last word: "Now that you're no longer busy with national, we'll 'go local' together at home."



### Barlow makes passionate call to action



Council of Canadians National Chairperson Maude Barlow stirred delegates with a call for "resistance and action" from the majority of Canadians who didn't vote for Stephen Harper.

Barlow praised CUPE's progressive stance on many issues, including the fight to stop CETA and protect Medicare. Privatization, greed and overconsumption are destroying the planet and creating fierce class warfare, said Barlow. But

workers and community allies are standing in the way of this agenda, united as "an unstoppable force for justice."

### Grace Hartman Award



This year's winner of the Grace Hartman Award, Lynn Chassé, dedicated her award "to the memory of all loved ones lost due to violence."

Chassé, whose mother was murdered by an ex-boyfriend in 2000, is the driving force behind the annual Shoe Memorial, held since 2008 in Kamloops, BC.

She is a payroll clerk for the municipality of Kamloops, a member of CUPE local 900, a Trustee, and a member of her local's women's committee.

### Clear language Constitution

The rules that govern our national union are now easier to understand.

On Tuesday, delegates passed Constitutional Amendment C1, which brought our Constitution into clear language, to take effect when Convention adjourns.

Our new Constitution makes CUPE more democratic.

### Ending Harper's war on us

Delegates debated an emergency resolution on Wednesday responding to the Harper government's attack on working people.

Since being elected with a majority in May, the Conservatives have interfered with collective bargaining at Air Canada and Canada Post. The government also ignored a plebiscite by western farmers, ploughing ahead with a plan to dismantle the Canadian Wheat Board.

The Emergency Resolution called upon CUPE to work with unions and other allies to oppose Harper and work to elect an NDP government in 2015.

### Health and Safety Forum

More than 250 delegates attended the Health and Safety forum on Tuesday night, engaging in a rousing discussion fuelled by concern over lack of enforcement of health and safety regulations.

Members spoke on a variety of issues, including violence in the workplace, psychological hazards, and a need to educate young workers.