

# PAUL MOIST

National President

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Paul Moist is national president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) – Canada’s largest union with more than 627,000 members.

An ardent advocate for public services, Moist has led CUPE to the forefront in the fight against privatization. He’s championed the positive and vital role services like health care, education, and child care play in making our communities better places to live for all Canadians.

Moist is a firm believer in the labour movement as a force for social change, and has used his leadership to expand CUPE’s work in literacy, combating climate change, improving the socio-economic conditions of Aboriginal peoples, anti-racism, and LGBTT rights advocacy.

As national president, Moist is a leading voice on the economy, globalization, trade, and a staunch defender of human rights in Canada and around the world. Most recently he’s focused on workers’ rights and pension reform.

Moist became a CUPE member in 1975 when he began working as a wading pool attendant with the City of Winnipeg. After a variety of other jobs with the City, he became and remains a greenhouse gardener.

He would go on to spend a decade as a national staff representative, and another 10 years as president of CUPE 500 – representing 5,500 municipal workers in Winnipeg. His service to CUPE and the labour movement in his home province would continue as president of the provincial division of CUPE in Manitoba, and as a long-time executive member of the Manitoba Federation of Labour.

Nationally, Moist is vice-president of the Canadian Labour Congress, and a governor of the Labour College of Canada. On the international stage, Moist is a vice-president for Public Services International – the global body for public sector unions.

Moist also has a long record of public service outside of CUPE. He’s served as vice-chair for the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation, co-chair of the Manitoba Premier’s Economic Activity Council, treasurer of the United Way of Winnipeg, director of the Misericordia Health Centre, and director of the Winnipeg Library Foundation. He sits on the Board of Directors of the Shareholder Association for Research and Education (SHARE).

First elected in 2003, Moist is CUPE’s fifth national president and the first from Western Canada. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Manitoba, where he studied Canadian history and political science. He lives in Winnipeg with his wife Marion.