

## Message from the National President



December 2009

Sisters and Brothers:

CUPE has designated 2010 as the “Year of the Steward”. Stewardship of our union is the responsibility of all members who hold a union position. Effective stewardship that engages and mobilizes members is in large part due to union education.

Union education is one of the most effective and powerful tools that activists and members have at their disposal to defend free collective bargaining and resist concessions. Employers of all types, large and small, public and private, are attempting to roll back our hard fought gains. Union education will help the struggle to advance your members’ economic and social well-being.

CUPE education programs prepare today’s members to be leaders for the future – to be able to withstand the attacks we face from employers on a daily basis, and to provide members the best representation possible.

CUPE’s weeklong schools provide members with the opportunity to share experiences with others in a relaxed setting. Friendships are made, networks developed, and solidarity built.

Local unions are encouraged to send as many members as possible to the 2010 David Saunders Memorial Weeklong School.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Moist".

PAUL MOIST  
National President



## Message from CUPE Ontario Division

CUPE Ontario is committed to lifelong learning and the Dave Saunders school is an important part of our member education program. Without the skills that member education provides, our activists couldn’t run locals, lead committees or participate effectively in campaigns.

But lifelong learning also has a deeper meaning for CUPE members. For some of us, it means gaining literacy skills as adults. For others, it may mean the opportunity to reflect on our work, and to find new ways to build solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the workplace. Member education is an important way for us to fully realize our potential.

We are living in tough economic times that require CUPE members to mobilize and to demand that governments invest in people. Union education is the key to ensuring that our members have the skills to organize against attacks on workers, and to preserve the public services so many people depend on.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred Hahn".

Fred Hahn