

Everyone Reads
with Public
Libraries
cupe.ca/libraries



CUPE library workers are in your community

- They total 16,785 people, or 48 per cent of all library workers in Canada.
- They are in all provinces, represented by 411 different bargaining units.
- They serve you as librarians, library assistants, library technicians, shelvers, library clerks, and pages.
- They work in public and municipal libraries as well as libraries in primary and secondary schools, colleges, universities, and hospitals.

A human face to:

- Welcome kids and introduce them to reading.
- Find the right sources for school and academic work.
- Supply the material required to learn a new language.
- Teach seniors to use the Internet and computerized catalogs.
- Recommend music, movies and books to fill leisure time.
- Inspire us while guiding us through science, art, and technology... and changing our lives!

It's Time to Build

In these difficult economic times, should we aggravate the situation by making cuts to libraries or should we use knowledge to rebuild the economy?
The answer is in the question!

CUPE

CUPE is the largest union in Canada, with approximately 590,000 members – a majority of whom are women. CUPE represents workers in health, education, municipalities, social services, public utilities, transportation, emergency services, and airlines as well as libraries, universities and colleges. Our goal is to improve the Canadian worker's quality of life. CUPE is known for its support for social justice, environmental protection, and the rights of First Nations and minorities. We have over 70 offices across Canada.

Keep our libraries public

- Keep services in public hands to avoid cuts in services and the loss of a professional human presence.
- Invest in high quality public services, not in high private profit.
- Keep libraries cohesive by preventing the subcontracting of various tasks (orders, processing, cataloguing, technical services).
- Support a model of excellence based on dedicated, qualified, and experienced workers who are up-to-date on technologies.

CUPE goals

- Uphold the great tradition of Canada's libraries as social and cultural hubs.
- Remind administrations and governments of the importance of proper funding for libraries.
- Properly meet the special needs of children, senior citizens and persons with disabilities.
- Ensure that library staff – approximately 85 per cent of whom are women – receive fair wages and continue the fight for pay equity and against sexual harassment.
- Ensure staff stability and renewal through good salaries and benefits (nearly a quarter of library employees will retire by 2014).

Together, let's send the message:

*Our libraries matter!
Give them what they need.*