

CUPE National Sector Council Guidelines

1. Purpose

The purpose of the CUPE National Sector Council is to provide an ongoing national vehicle for members to communicate within their respective sectors. The National Sector Council is not a constitutional, decision-making body. Rather, the council provides sector representatives with an opportunity to share information and strategies, and to highlight the successes and challenges unique to each sector.

By fostering this communication, sector representatives can develop common approaches that will increase members' power at the bargaining table, in their communities, and in dealing with local, provincial and federal governments. The sector council will enable CUPE to better represent our members, and improve legislative protection for workers.

Including the perspectives of young workers and equality-seeking groups (women, racialized and Indigenous members, persons with disabilities, and LGBTTI members) is essential to fostering effective communication. CUPE will encourage participation from young workers and members of equality-seeking groups at all sector council events and in ongoing communication.

2. Composition

The National Sector Council will be made up of two co-chairs from each of the 11 sectors listed in section 3. The 22 co-chairs are appointed to a two-year term by the National President and ratified by the National Executive Board. The co-chairs of each sector will be teamed up with a staff advisor to assist with planning and convening meetings, and support ongoing communication as required in each sector.

3. Sectors

Below is a description of each of the 11 sectors. The sectors were voted on and approved by delegates at the 2013 National Convention (Resolution 904) and amended by an NEB resolution in December 2015. Some sector overlap is inevitable. Locals can choose which sector(s) they will participate in.

<p>Health Care</p> <p>The Health Care Sector Council includes members from hospitals (acute care), long-term care facilities, home care, public health and community health services.</p>
<p>Education</p> <p>The Education Sector Council includes members working in the school board sector, providing services in institutions serving children from junior kindergarten through high school.</p>
<p>Post-Secondary</p> <p>The Post-Secondary Sector Council includes members working for universities and colleges in both teaching and non-teaching jobs.</p>
<p>Child Care</p> <p>The Child Care Sector Council includes members working in public and private child care centres serving pre-school children, and in before- and after-school programs.</p>
<p>Municipal</p> <p>The Municipal Sector Council includes members working for municipal governments in “inside” and “outside” bargaining units in services such as planning, solid waste, water, recreation, transit, roads, as well as other services which bargain with municipal boards such as housing corporations and municipal animal shelters. This sector will also include locals and members who provide municipal services but bargain with the private sector.</p>

Library

The Library Sector Council includes members working in libraries and related library services who bargain with municipalities, public library boards, and provincial governments.

Emergency and Security Services

The Emergency and Security Services Sector Council includes members in emergency medical (ambulance), correctional, fire, police and security services.

Energy

The Energy Sector Council will include members working for electrical utilities.

Social Services

The Social Services Sector Council includes members working in community agencies offering social and community services, such as those working with homeless individuals, with victims of violence, with children and adults with developmental disabilities, in child protection agencies, offering employment counselling or more. It will also include members working in social assistance services. Members of some provincial organizations such as workers' compensation services and legal aid services will be invited to join the social services sector.

Transportation

The Transportation Sector Council includes members working in airlines, airports, ferries, port authorities, rail, roads and transit industries.

Communications

The Communications Sector Council includes members working in the broadcasting, newspaper, publishing and telecommunications industries.

4. Operations

The CUPE National Sector Council will have three areas of operation:

- i) A biennial CUPE National Sector Council Conference held each fall in the non-convention year. Agendas for these meetings will be prepared by the co-chairs and the staff advisor for each sector.
- ii) The day prior to each National Convention, the CUPE National Sector Council hosts meetings for each of the sectors. Airline workers are exempted from this sector council meeting and will continue with their own convention on the day prior to National Convention.
- iii) Each sector will have the opportunity to communicate between meetings, (ie conference calls, email, etc). The means of communication between meetings will be determined based on the intended goal of the communication. In consultation with the communications branch, the sector co-chairs and staff advisor may draft a plan for communications between meetings to be submitted to the National President's Office.