

# Re-Elect Sid Ryan

## CUPE Sisters & Brothers:

I am writing to let you know that I will be standing for president of CUPE Ontario at the upcoming convention in Niagara Falls.

I am privileged to have led our union through many politically turbulent times in Ontario. Under the Dalton McGuinty Liberals, we have had some tremendous successes in areas such as home care, long-term care, school board provincial bargaining, and fighting-off energy and health care privatization.

Together we have mobilized CUPE locals across the province in defense of public services. Recent examples of this mobilization are:

**Competitive Bidding:** Two weeks after CUPE supported a massive mobilization in Hamilton the Liberals placed a freeze on the competitive bidding process for home care contracts across the province.

**Long-Term Care:** Our MPP lobbies, information pickets, radio ads, letter writing and petition signing for the 3.5 hrs. campaign put the issue of standards for seniors in front

of the public and Queen's Park. As a direct result of our constant pressure around levels of care for seniors, in the recent budget 4,500 new frontline workers were funded.

**Hospitals:** Working with OCHU we have continued to press the Liberals on the implementation of LHINS. In communities like Durham, Uxbridge, Toronto and North Bay, CUPE and OCHU have mobilized communities to stop the mergers that would result in the loss of jobs and local services. The Liberals announced \$661 million in the last budget for Ontario hospitals.



**Flawed Funding Formula:** The current central bargaining table is positioned to begin fixing the funding formula that has worked against our members since the Harris years. We achieved this table because we have successfully used a strategy that coordinated pressure at the bargaining table, strikes and provincial elections with our political goal.

I am privileged to have led our union through many politically turbulent times in Ontario.

**Social Services:** Again, through coordinating bargaining and making the connection to political pressure, the

Associations for Community Living have made significant gains. The Liberals, after intense lobbying, have made the largest government investment in the Association for Community Living sector in years. Last Spring the Liberals announced \$200 million in funding for developmental services.

Vote for Sid Ryan, President  
Annual CUPE Ontario Convention Niagara Falls, May 2008



**Universities:** CUPE Ontario's University Workers Coordinating Committee, seeing the gains made by the School Board Sector and ACLs and OCHU, are now working with CUPE Ontario to begin moving towards greater sector coordination. The sector has taken a significant step forward in lining-up common expiry dates. CUPE Ontario has continued to provide resources and support to protest the Liberal decision to lift the freeze on tuition fees, alongside the Canadian Federation of Students.

**Municipalities:** Based on the experience of CUPE Ontario working with L. 1115 in Welland, CUPE Ontario and OMECC are spearheading a province-wide Anti-P3 campaign that will include an "Early Warning System" (hinged on communications and lobbying council) and P3 educationals across the province. Locals will have a template for action when local councils begin entertaining P3s as a means to address their fiscal crunch. Currently we are working with Locals and the Ontario Electricity Coalition to defend against the constant pressure to contract-out work and sell-off the cities ownership of hydro- especially in Toronto and Mississauga.

**Equality:** I am very proud that within CUPE, Ontario was the first division to create equity seats on the executive board. This year is the 10th anniversary of this decision. Both the CUPE Ontario Aboriginal and Visible Minority executive board members have been attending sectoral conferences and outreaching to members. We are taking a resolution forward to expand the table officers to include our equity board members.

---

As a union our mobilization has been at a heightened level over the last several years and we have moved forward together. However, there are still outstanding issues where we need to focus the strength of our union. My main campaign flyer will outline what I believe lies ahead.

With your vote, as President of CUPE Ontario, my experience and knowledge of Queen's Park will continue to facilitate a strategy to make CUPE bargaining priorities part of the budgetary and legislative priorities of the province.

In solidarity.

Sid Ryan