

Retirees Network

March 2020 Board Report

Communities Not Cuts



While representing CUPE Ontario at the Ontario Federation of Union Retirees board I've been able to amplify our *Communities Not Cuts* message during the planning of the OFUR convention next month. Components of the biennial convention will address the serious impacts of Ford's plunder of programs essential to union retirees across the province.

Locals and district councils



Engaging retirees in building the resistance to the Ford attack on Ontario's working class builds key support for our local, sectoral and Ontario-wide campaigns.

Our 2019 convention resolution asked us to expand our retirees network and actively promote setting up retiree committees at locals and at district councils. Our success so far is modest, with only 2 district councils and a handful of locals having designated retiree representatives and committees. There are however some impressive examples of retiree representation being

embedded in local and district council by-laws. These are available from the Network. These are well worth promoting but support from our officers, each executive board member and Staff Reps is essential if we are to duplicate these initiatives across Ontario. Our local and district council by-laws are available from the Network. Please ask.

Network organizing



Network representatives from district councils and locals met on March 2nd to review our network progress and to prepare for the May convention.

The promotion of retiree engagement at our sectoral conferences and at the spring school continues and aims to uncover how local leaders view retiree activation at locals and at our district councils across Ontario.

Our <https://cupe.on.ca/retirees-network/> page is an great support for our retirees around the province. It's designed to be an up-to-date resource for locals, councils and retirees.

- Stephen Seaborn