

What are Emergency Resolutions at CUPE Ontario Convention?

Article 4 – Conventions of the CUPE Ontario Constitution, spells out everything delegates need to know about Resolutions as part of the CUPE Ontario Constitution. Specifically, Article 4 (2) (i) – speaks to emergency resolutions.

What follows is a clear language guide to help delegates know the process based on the rules set out in our Constitution.

There is a deadline to submit resolutions for debate at the CUPE Ontario convention. That deadline is 48 days BEFORE the convention begins, so this year that date was April 10, 2025.

It is completely possible that between this cut off date and when convention starts, a new matter might arise. That's what emergency resolutions can address.

An emergency resolution must be not longer than 200 words and must be signed by the officers of the local, like all resolutions. They can be submitted through email to [resolutions@cupe.on.ca](mailto:resolutions@cupe.on.ca) or by hard copy on letter head to the convention office during the convention.

Once submitted a resolution is considered by the CUPE Ontario Executive Board – who meet prior to the convention and every day of it.

The Executive Board considers the text of the resolution to decide whether the matter is truly an emergency based on the cut off date.

There is a vote by the Executive Board – and if they vote to not accept the resolution as an emergency because it doesn't meet the criteria, the submitting affiliate is informed and the resolution goes no further.

If the Executive Board votes to accept the resolution as an emergency, it is sent to the Resolutions Committee for consideration. Like all other resolutions, the Resolution Committee has full say over which resolutions come forward for debate.

Before the Resolution Committee makes its decision on whether to bring forward an emergency resolution for debate, the convention itself must vote to accept the resolution as an emergency.

A resolution accepted by Executive Board as an emergency will also be distributed to delegates and put on the convention app. After having been available to delegates for a minimum of 2 hours, delegates will be asked by the chair if they vote to accept the resolution as an emergency. If delegates agree, the resolution can be fully considered by the resolutions committee to be brought for debate at some point. If they do not, the resolution will go no further.

Its very important for delegates to be respectful of this process. The emergency resolutions process should not be used to deal with issues that took place prior to the cut off but were not submitted by an affiliate for debate.