

JIM BEATTIE

3rd Vice-President

Dear Sisters and Brothers

I'm writing to let you know that I have decided to offer for the position of 3rd vice-president at our Convention in Niagara. I want to take a few moments to introduce myself and tell you why I feel that I would make a good 3rd VP and what I hope to accomplish, if elected.

I have been a CUPE activist for over 20 years. Currently I am the president of local 3943 in Hamilton which represents over 500 members who work in social services. For the past 6 years I have been the Chair of the CUPE Associations for Community Living Bargaining Committee. I am also a member of the Social Service Workers Coordinating Committee as one of the three ACL representatives.

I am deeply committed to building a stronger CUPE Ontario, one that truly reflects the make-up of all our members and fights for the rights of all. To achieve this we must:

- Continue fighting for better wages and real pensions.
- Ensure our structures reflect the diversity within our membership.
- Organize more, particularly in low wage ghettos that are predominantly comprised of women and racialized workers.
- Forge more alliances with the broader labour movement and progressive social organizations.
- Improve communications, both at the Division level and between our locals.
- Build on coordinated bargaining in all sectors to build strength for workers at the bargaining table.
- Ensure that our bargaining is accompanied with sound communication strategies and effective political lobbying.

Finally we need to make sure that our National Union delivers the resources we need to accomplish our plans. That is the way we will win. That is the way that we will be able to successfully fight against privatization and contracting out.

As chair of the ACL Bargaining Committee, I know firsthand how to achieve these goals. I understand the importance of working together, and building commitment between locals to increase solidarity. And I know how to work as part of an effective team to get real results for workers.

I look forward to meeting and talking with you at our Convention in a few short weeks. I look forward to gaining the support of your local's delegates for my vision for CUPE Ontario. Together we can make our Division even stronger.

In Solidarity

Jim Beattie
CUPE 3943