



VERILINE HOWE



membre en général

My name is Veriline Howe from Local 2191, in the social services sector. Currently I am serving my second term as the Equity Diversity Chair on the Executive Board of my Local. I was also recently elected as a trustee of the CUPE Toronto District Council. I am seeking election for an Executive Member at Large. I bring strong leadership skills, good interpersonal skills and a strong vision for the future of our great union.

My platform takes a look at Part Time workers and their limited involvement in the leadership of our Union.

- Casualization is used as a means of eroding Full Time bargaining units.
- It is a failed plan to stop the spread of numbers
- Casualization is a way for our Government and organizations to exploit the labour of workers, since there are little or, no job security and benefits and low wages become the norm.

Part Time Workers face barriers to Leadership Responsibilities

- Part Time members consist mainly of women, youth, and racialized workers making up 2/3 of the membership.
- Part Timers should be represented in the trade union movement but they are virtually missing from our executive boards, standing committees and equality committees and campaigns. Part-Time workers are rare in our leadership and we need to campaign for “Protective Legislation” to ensure their survival and presence. We need to understand the issues that Part-Time workers face from their perspective, and they must be present in our leadership to ensure those issues are heard.
- We need to implement a book off policy that will support the needs of Part-Time or relief workers.

Education for Leadership and Empowerment

Education is critical to the empowerment of Part-Time, Relief, and Casual workers and their involvement in CUPE Ontario. I will push for the mobilization of part time workers involvement in leadership and training development program. Leaders are made, not born! We need to create the opportunities for the emergence of leaders who are Part-Time workers to work on issues such as rights at work, anti-oppression, organizing, and social justice.

Organizing For the Future of CUPE

- Organizing is essential to the survival and growth of the labour movement. I am going to work tirelessly as an Executive Member on initiatives to push the National Office in making the organizing of home care workers and Personal Support workers a priority.
- CUPE needs to make the organizing of the broader public sector a main concern. Continuing to organize the non-profit sector is a survival issue for CUPE. Women are over 74% of the non-profit sector’s workers and the important public service work we all do is the main focus of our union.
- The Government should be lobbied to reverse cuts to Unemployment programs which make it more difficult for Part Time, and casual workers to qualify for benefits.

In an agenda which calls for change our goal should be to strengthen the union by organizing Part-Time, Relief and Casual Workers.

BRING THEM ALONG - TOGETHER THEY BELONG