



April, 2014

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Our Local continues making great strides in moving us forward, through communication, education and information. We are seeing better turnouts in all Regions, and continue to hear from our members. Relationships created with our employer CUPE are allowing for proper practice and implementation of our collective agreement. They are aware that it is easier to speak to us before implementing policy, and that we will raise any question where we feel needed to ensure and continue our representative of our members. We are and will continue to work with other staff union's employed by CUPE. Where common goals can be reached, approaching the employer from all sides show solidarity.

We are seeing and welcoming more membership awareness and involvement. Regions feel their voices are being heard and questions can be asked. This allows for more knowledge and education as we seeing in education requests. Our monthly Executive meetings allow for efficient posting of minutes to the website for members to follow. Regional conference calls continue to progress in each region allowing our members to be aware of what the executive is doing for them.

Training and development continue to be important to our members. We are working out a structural foundation with the employer to allow for continuous training and development for classifications and advancement. The Executive wants to make sure our member's needs are met for sufficient training and development opportunities.

I have been busy representing our local since last reported. I have attended grievances, RTW meetings, WSIB meetings, COPE Ontario's Executive Board Meeting(s), CUPE NEB meetings, and will be attending CLC convention at the start of May. As well as COPE ON Convention at the end of May.

I look forward to the rest of my term as President and working with you all and the employer to achieving the goals set out for our Local. As governments continue to go after the labour movement our dedication and work for our members can never be more important and transparent.

In Solidarity,

Steve Smith
President, COPE491
Canadian Office and Professional Employees