



## **COPE RVP – Region 2 – Alberta, Melody Voykin**

Good day Friends!

Just wanted to let you all know I am excited and thankful for the nomination for RVP for the Alberta Region and the chance to become a COPE RVP.

I started with CUPE in 2006 temporary and became permanent full-time in March of 2008. During my time with CUPE I have worked with specialty representatives from Research, Education and Organizing along with many National representatives and Division over the years. I was also a part of the COPE Adhoc Committee for Job Evaluation.

As many of you know I recently had the amazing opportunity to travel east and work in the Atlantic Region in the St. John's Area Office. Even with my years of experience with CUPE and my role as secretary, I had more learning to do. I am truly blessed to have worked in another region and division. I experienced my first Employer lock-out, attended the Newfoundland and Labrador Division Convention in Corner Brook and my first Local strike! I have gained a better understanding of the issues the CUPE members face in different regions and that COPE members have an important role to work and support all areas in CUPE.

I believe it is important to have good communication amongst the COPE members and be able to communicate any concerns that arise with the Regional Director and the Administrative Assistant. Having the opportunity in the different support roles over the years has given me a greater understanding of the workloads, struggles and happy times we all face. It was best put to me by a former Division President that the Collective Agreement is a rule book for both the Employer and Employees. With that in mind, I am here to listen and help find the best resolves to any issues that arise.

If elected, I will work hard to keep that communication open and positive for all of us. We are not alone and together we have a stronger voice.

In solidarity,  
Melody



*Always look for the rainbow!*