

CUPE 3913

Teaching Assistants and Sessional Lecturers at the University of Guelph

Member Newsletter • August 2015

President's Update

Hi Folks!

I hope you have all been enjoying the summer and have found some time to relax. As the summer comes to a close there are a few things to keep in mind and to do before August 31st. Make the most of your benefits! All benefits claims from the previous academic year must be submitted by August 31st for reimbursement and your benefits renew starting in September. August 31st also marks the deadline for feedback on the draft of the new bylaws. Please read through the draft and get in touch with your suggestions.

Many of you have probably received a survey request from Faculty and Academic Staff Relations asking you to validate your seniority points. We're here to help with any questions or concerns you might have about your seniority points (or any other aspect of your employment and new contracts for the Fall semester). Seniority points are an important part of the hiring process and our Collective Agreement and this survey will help ensure they are properly recorded.

Finally, I would like to welcome all of the new teaching assistants and sessional lecturers who will be joining us in the Fall! If you're looking for new things to do in the upcoming semester, we have many opportunities for members to be involved in the Local and we would love to have you. We'll be having our Fall membership meeting in early October, so keep your eyes open for the details coming soon!



Ashley Wilson
President
CUPE Local 3913

New Bylaws: Ready for Membership Review

After almost a year of composition, drafting, and review the Local's new Bylaws are ready to be reviewed by the membership. This is a chance for members to suggest changes, corrections, or additions to the bylaws for approximately 30 days (**until August 31 to be exact**). Once the 30 days are up the Bylaws Committee will incorporate as many changes as are both practical and possible. The new Bylaws will then be voted upon (online) by the membership (about 2-4 weeks later).

Please read over the proposed Bylaws and respond with any feedback directly to the Bylaws Committee at bylaws@cupe3913.on.ca. The best way to structure your feedback is by using the internal section numbering in the draft Bylaws. The draft Bylaws have not been given proper page numbers and pagination but this will be done once all feedback has been received and in preparation to send the draft to CUPE National. If you have any questions about this process, please let the Bylaws Committee know.

You can see the draft Bylaws by logging into the [website](#) and visiting the **Draft Bylaws** link under the **Documents** tab. You cannot view this link without first logging in. Information about your login and password was sent to you when the new benefits system was implemented or when you became a member. If you have trouble logging in, please visit the **FAQ** tab above for more information.

Note: Notice to amend the Bylaws was given at the last three membership meetings and the processes for amending the Bylaws have been confirmed by reviewing the current Bylaws and the CUPE National Constitution.

Social Justice Fair

This coming September, CUPE Local 3913 will be tabling at the Social Justice Fair organized by the Central Student Association. Come out and join us if you have any questions regarding our union and for some fun and prizes!

Here is a schedule of events:

Carnival and Resource Fair:

Tuesday Sept 14, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Branion Plaza

Social Justice Trivia Night

Thursday Sept 16, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM, The BullRing

Social Justice Forum

Friday Sept 17, 6:00PM - 9:00 PM, University Centre

Hope to see you there!

Reminder: Use your Benefits before August 31

This is just a reminder that the end of the benefits year is August 31st and this is the last day on which you can submit claims from the previous academic year. If you have any claims that you have not submitted yet please do so before the benefits year renews. Unit 1 members are eligible for a \$200 reimbursement for vision related expenses and Unit 2 members are eligible for reimbursement of up to \$800 for any health related expense. Starting September 1st your benefits renew and you are once again eligible for \$200 in vision care if you are a Unit 1 member of \$800 for any health related expense for Unit 2 members.

For more information, please visit the [Benefits](#) section of our website, log in, look at the Benefits Pool information and assess your eligibility for **Unit 1** or **Unit 2** benefits. For questions about logging in and answers to other questions about benefits, visit our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) or email us at benefits@cupe3913.on.ca.

Stay Updated!

Our Facebook and Twitter accounts are constantly being updated with information. Be sure to follow us to keep updated with the activities of our Local.

Links are below:

<http://www.facebook.com/CUPE3913>

<https://twitter.com/cupe3913>

Crossword Puzzle

It's Crossword Puzzle time again!

This month's prize:
\$20 gift card to [Planet Bean!](#)

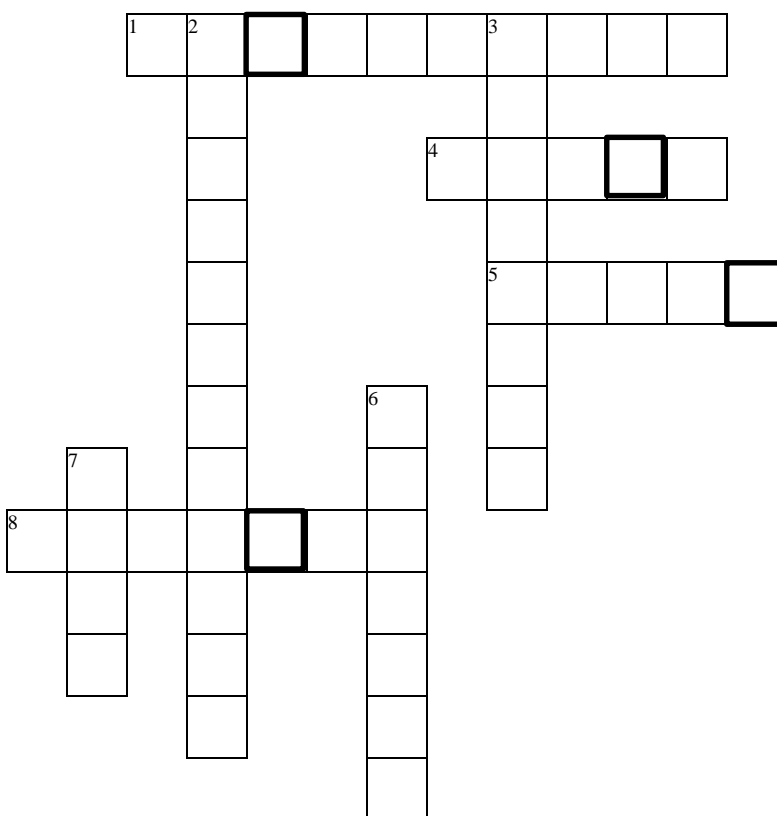
Here's how to win:

1. Complete the Crossword puzzle
2. Write down the letters of the bolded boxes and unscramble them to form a "secret word"
3. Once you've obtained the "secret word" email it to communications@cupe3913.on.ca with subject title "CROSSWORD PUZZLE #2 - SECRET WORD"
4. All submissions must be in by the deadline stated on the newsletter to be eligible.
5. Good luck and have fun!

The deadline for submissions is: **Sept 07, 2015 @ 5:00 PM**

CUPE 3913 - CROSSWORD PUZZLE #2

THEME: SAFARI ANIMALS



Across

1. Second largest land mammal
4. Same taxonomic family as the horse and donkey
5. Banzai, Ed, and Shenzi
8. The only mammal born with horns

Down

2. Also known as "River Horse"
3. Possesses elongated incisors made of Ivory
6. Only big cat that cannot roar
7. King of the Jungle