

➤ Focus: find us on facebook!



Win a Blu-ray Player!

Simply "like" us on facebook and be entered into a draw for a Blue Ray DVD Player.

www.facebook.com/cupe556



CUPE Local 556 has launched a Facebook page. This will be an easy way to keep up on current events, education, meeting dates and everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask. No, you don't have to join Facebook or be a "friend" to view the site. However, if you are a Facebook user and "like" the site, you will see a post the second it is there. If you're afraid you'll be bombarded with posts, that is not likely. The only posts will be items that may be of interest to our members. So check it out! Check us out at facebook.com/cupe556 ■

Photo contest continues



The photo contest winner for this quarter is **Deb Andrew** with her photo of the cadet camp dock, Comox; part of the Valley's long standing tradition. Thanks for the submission, Deb! The winner for the year for the \$100 prize will be decided on Facebook. Just go to the new facebook.com/cupe556 page and "like" your favourite picture. The one with the highest number of responses will be our winner. Thanks to everyone for participating! ■

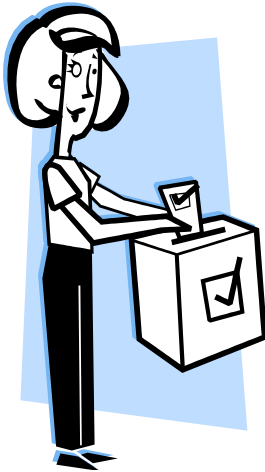
Inside this issue

Civic elections	2
CUPE elections	2
Meet a member	3
Just bouquets	3
Lest we forget	4
Meeting highlights and schedule	5
Announcements	6



Do you know “who” you are voting for?

Are you ready to vote on November 19th. The candidates could become your employer. Find out what their platforms are. Educate yourself so that you can make an informed decision when you vote. We will be helping the local Canadian Labour Congress in an interview process for local candidates. Are you up to asking candidates some questions? Let us know. Stay tuned on Facebook to see who the CLC will be endorsing. ■



CUPE elections January

Your unit may have committee or shop steward positions available that will be elected in your first unit meeting in January. Are you interested in running for one of these positions? Do you know of anyone that you think would be suited to being your representative on the executive? If you have any questions or suggestions, talk to any of the current executive. They would love to hear from you.

Participation is key. Your local executive represents you. They make decisions on behalf of the local and without your input and involvement, how are they going to do that? As with any other election, be informed, get involved and get out and vote. ■

CUPE elections in January

The following positions are up for election at the first general meeting in January.

- Vice President
- Comox Valley
RD Unit Vice
- Cumberland Unit Vice
- Secretary-Treasurer
- Trustee

To receive our next quarterly issue, be sure we have your current e-mail address.

E-mail us at cupe556@members.cupe.ca with 'subscribe' in the subject line.



(not exactly as illustrated)

Be a part of the communications team!

We're looking for one member from each unit to manage the content of our quarterly newsletter. **Kristy Morro** has stepped up from the **CVRD** and we're looking forward to seeing the fresh ideas this energetic young woman comes up with. The newsletter project was started to connect our members. We try to keep the topics light, to share information and activities of members, all with a positive attitude. We even (try to) add a little humour. Join Kristy or suggest someone that can keep us in touch with what your unit is doing. Come up with the text and photos and Greg will work his magic. Let's hear from you. cupe556@members.ca ■

Meet a member



Krystal Stevens,
Town of Comox



Just Bouquets

Thanks to the **Kitty Cat PAL Society** for all the great work they do with our feral cat population. They are making a difference!

What bouquets would you like to give in our next issue?

cupe556@members.cupe.ca

Name:	Krystal Stevens
Position:	Shop Steward CUPE 556, Town of Comox Recreation Department
# of years:	1
Years in the Valley:	5
Originally from:	Guelph, Ontario, then Vancouver BC
Hobbies/interests:	Roller Derby! Photography. Playing guitar, piano, singing. Gardening. Reading. Camping. Dancing. '78 Suzuki 400GS. Boating. Board games.
Any union service:	Social Committee 2011
Book on your bedside table:	Charlaine Harris "Dead to the World"
Favorite places:	Kye Bay at low tide, on a warm sunny day. Gearing up at the gym for a roller derby game or practice. Snoozing in my hammock on a summer afternoon.
Family notes:	Married 4 years, 2 cats, 1 dog.
Additional information:	I love the Comox Valley for its many variations of natural beauty and options for outdoor activities, its vibrant artistic community, and the small town friendliness I see on a daily basis. I always try to support our local businesses and artists, whether it's buying groceries, listening to live music, dining out, attending community events, or buying gifts for my friends and family. I am most grateful for the people who grace my life; my husband, family, friends, and my roller derby sisters!





Lest we forget

Remembrance Day is once again just around the corner. Our local will be placing wreaths at the three local Royal Canadian Legion ceremonies in Comox, Cumberland and Courtenay to pay tribute to those who died in war. Remembrance Day commemorates the sacrifices of people in all armed conflicts. If you can't attend the ceremony in your area, take time to observe the two minutes of silence to remember. Two minutes is just a pittance in time. ■



Terry Kelly - A Pittance in Time - [watch the video on YouTube](#)

Humour mill



Featured video

Try to guess what this commercial is for. . .before it ends!

http://vimeo.com/moogaloop.swf?clip_id=22984504&server=vimeo.com&show_title=0&show_byline=0&show_portrait=0&color=00adef&fullscreen=1&autoplay=1&loop=0

Quote for the Day

"Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe."

Albert Einstein

Do you have a favourite quote? Send it in for the next newsletter issue.

Texting for seniors

It won't be long before some of us will need to learn texting for seniors:

ATD - At The Doctors
BFF - Best Friend Fell
BTW - Bring The Wheelchair
... FWIW - Forgot Where I Was
LMDO -Laughing My Dentures Out
OMMR - On My Massage Recliner
BYOT - Bring Your Own Teeth
ROFLCGU - Rolling On Floor Laughing Can't Get Up



General Meeting highlights

July 26th

Members approved bylaw amendments with respect to per diem and the goodwill amounts. There was a budget amendment reallocating executive expense funds to provide sufficient funds for 2 members to attend the 2011 CUPE BC Convention in Vancouver.

Good of the Union

The winners of the three \$50 draws were:

- Gary Franceschini
- Brian Allaert
- Cammy Dallamore



Sept 27th

CUPE National approved the bylaw amendments passed at our meeting of July 26, 2011.

The curling party planned for October 15 has been cancelled as not enough expressions of interest were received. It is hopeful that there may be another opportunity to pursue this type of social event.

The membership voted in favour of proceeding to arbitration with regard to the City of Courtenay grievances on termination of an employee with a disability, not accommodating a disability, financial hardship, sick time usage and the termination.



Good of the Union

The winners of the three \$50 draws were:

- Deb Andrew, Comox
- Ralda Leroux, CVRD
- Gig Morton, Comox

CUPE 556

Upcoming meetings

**Next General Meeting:
Final meeting for 2011**
Tues, November 22, 2011
at 6:30 p.m.

Location: 496-10th Street
(CUPE Local 556 office)

Your current executive officers

Cindy Major, President
(Comox Recreation)

Claudette Pavin, Vice President
(CVRD)

Lisa McPherson, Unit Vice President
(City of Courtenay)

Bill Smith, Unit Vice President
(Town of Comox)

Mike Murphy, Unit Vice President
(CVRD)

Joanne Pilson, Unit Vice President
(Village of Cumberland)

Brian Allaert, Recording Secretary
(CVRD)

Cheryl Sellers, Secretary-Treasurer
(Comox Valley Regional District)

Dave Stewart, Sergeant at Arms
(Comox Valley Regional District)

Fred Ennis, Trustee
(City of Courtenay)

Mike Major, Trustee
(City of Courtenay)

Eric Jernslett, Trustee
(City of Courtenay)

Telephone
250-338-2447
(leave message)

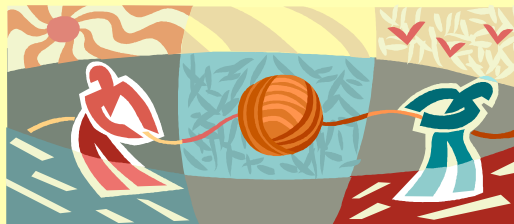
Email
cupe556@members.cupe.ca

Address
496-10th Street
PO Box 3454
Courtenay, BC V9N 5N5

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Bargaining Update

The Town of Comox and Comox Valley Regional District are complete and the new agreements are posted on our website. At the time the newsletter was being compiled, the City of Courtenay contract is being proofed and should be signed and posted soon. The Village of Cumberland is still in the bargaining process. ■



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to our 2011 Grads!

We would like to extend our congratulations and wishes for a bright future to all of our 2011 bursary recipients. These students have received a \$500 bursary from our local to help them with their continuing studies. The students whose parents are members of the CVRD unit received an additional \$500 from that unit.



Sarah Davies

University of Victoria Early childhood education studies.



Shea Baldwin

North Island College Post Secondary Studies



Taryn Coles

North Island College University Studies



Nicole Schoonover

University of Victoria Bachelor of Arts



Neil Gage

Camosun College municipal engineering



Marin Evergreen

University of Victoria Bachelor of Sciences



Cheyenne Morton

Simon Fraser University Public Health Studies

Photo missing

Ryley Carr

Simon Fraser University Bachelor of Sciences



Happy Retirement to Roger Smith!

Roger retired after 25 years with the Town of Comox. We wish him well in his new found freedom!



Birth Announcement

Congratulations to **Hannah Molnar** (CVRD) and husband Aaron on the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Evie Alexandra on September 8th. The CVRD staff recently held a shower at the office for the new arrival.

local 556
cupe  **connector**

CUPE 556

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