

# CANADIAN UNION OF SKILLED WORKERS



# CUSW

**Welcome to  
the inaugural  
CUSW Newsletter  
from the  
National  
Communications  
Committee**

This quarterly newsletter will bring you news from all corners of the CUSW world. Please send your content, news, pictures, feedback, questions, suggestions, or whatever else you want to share with your fellow CUSW Members to us at

[communications@cusw.ca](mailto:communications@cusw.ca)

All units and committees are encouraged to use this newsletter as a resource for communicating to the entire Membership.

For those unit and committees that may still be forming, or do not have their group email set up, please email the committee the contact email(s) you would like us to use when we solicit your news.

Communications Committee Members: Pauline Cranston, Janet Crowther, Mark Keyes  
NEB Liaison: Kevin Forbes

## CUSW SWAG STORE

**Have you had a chance to browse through the CUSW Swag Store?**

**It's got CUSW clothes you can order online and have shipped right to your door!**

[www.cuswswag.ca](http://www.cuswswag.ca)

# NATIONAL SOCIAL COMMITTEE



## Fun Events for our Members and their Families

The goal of the National Social Committee has always been to encourage participation and socialization, bringing the units, Members, and their families together. The National Social Committee organizes and runs National events that allow our Members to engage with one another creating togetherness and building stronger relationships.

This year we have not been able to host the events that we would like to, however, we have incorporated online events via our National Social Committee [Facebook Page](#) for Members and their families to connect with. If you would like to reach anyone at the National Social Committee, you can email us at [social@cusw.ca](mailto:social@cusw.ca)

An E-blast will be sent out to all Members on upcoming events throughout the year! The National Social Committee would like to thank everyone that has participated online and we look forward to seeing more Members and their families joining in for different virtual and eventually, in person events!

June – Father's Day Contest – Online Facebook Contest

May / September / November: Trivia Family Night – Zoom Event

July – Canada Day Colouring Contest for Kids – Online Facebook Contest

August – Family Wonderland Day – Saturday August 14<sup>th</sup>

(dependent on health and safety guidelines in place due to Covid-19)

## VALUES & BELIEFS COMMITTEE

The Values & Beliefs Committee has been very busy so far this year. We have begun our third Human Rights Rep training that will go through to November. It is nice to see some new faces participating and learning how to help other Members on this very sensitive topic.

We have another participation call for more Members to participate in the Advocate training, again to help Members through issues that may have arisen in the workplace or our other CUSW events we are involved in.

We are working on various strategies of educating Members on our Values & Beliefs found in our Constitution, as well as Article 2.01. Check out our [Web Page](#)! It contains many diverse topics on human rights and equality plus current topics of worldwide issues that surround us daily.

Regards the Values & Beliefs Committee



## WORKING RULES & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Our Mission is to develop fair and equitable policies for all categories of Membership as they pertain to working rules and Membership participation.

Committee Members are : Jeff McGowan, Tyler Postill, Chris Godda, Cody Quan, Matt Hurley, NEB Liaison: Pete Baird

To learn about the various types of Membership participation in CUSW, please visit the Membership matrix located on our committee webpage.

If anyone has any questions or concerns surrounding out of work dates or national dispatch rules, please email [workingrules@cusw.ca](mailto:workingrules@cusw.ca).

If you have a question concerning the Job Centre, please feel free to send it to us at [jobcentre@cusw.ca](mailto:jobcentre@cusw.ca)

## NATIONAL TRADESWOMEN COMMITTEE

Hello all CUSW Members! Here is an update on the newly formed CUSW National Tradeswomen Committee (NTWC).

This committee was formed to mentor, support, and empower CUSW Tradeswomen through all levels of their career and to encourage participation in paying it forward! Our [committee webpage](#) is now available online.

Our Chat Groups are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 11am.

Please grab yourself a tea or coffee, and a snack, and join in our virtual chat for some laughs, some information, some history, and some lively discussions.

Consider yourself invited! [Click here to join!](#)

Please email us at [tradeswomen@cusw.ca](mailto:tradeswomen@cusw.ca) any issues or ideas you may have. We are putting together a file of photos to be used for promotional material at events, so please send us any photos you have of CUSW Tradeswomen at work or play.

***This email address can be used to reach out if you require immediate support.  
We are here to help.***

## CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

The Constitution Committee is currently preparing mailouts for Members regarding the upcoming 2021 Convention. Now is the time to brush up on the constitution, and start thinking about your resolution submissions!

## NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

The Negotiating Committee is halfway through conducting a 4-part Negotiating Skills Training course with Members. This is an example of our continuing education in skilled negotiations.

## HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLNESS COMMITTEE

The 2021 CUSW HS&W conference was held virtually in April. The conference was well attended, and very informational and uplifting. Topics included: our Member & Family Assistance program, which is available as part of the Power Sector Benefit Trust; the CUSW Member-Peer Eco Support System; and guest speakers Beverly Beuermann-King, a Resiliency and Wellness Strategist; James Herman, a CUSW Workplace Mentor; and Dan Plexman, an International Professional Workplace Safety Expert, and Member of the Health, Safety & Wellness Committee.

## CONVENTION COMMITTEE

It's a CUSW Convention year!

**OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at the Unifor Family Education Centre, Port Elgin**

This is your chance as Members to make a difference to our Constitution.

More information will be coming to Members soon.

## UNIT UPDATES

### KINGSTON - OTTAWA

Going forward the Kingston-Ottawa Unit will be meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. The zoom link can be found on the Kingston-Ottawa Unit webpage online and emailed out monthly. [Click here to join](#)

Anyone interested in unit news, is asked to join the [CUSW KO Facebook group!](#)

This past Fall, the Kingston – Ottawa Unit donated \$1500 to Seaway District High School in Iroquois Ontario. \$1000 is being split into two bursary funds for students who are entering the trades programs, either through post secondary education or an apprenticeship program. The remaining \$500 will be used to help with supplies for the trades programs within the schools. We look forward to helping students realize their future potential, through skills development.

We are currently looking for interested individuals to participate and help fill our vacancies on our unit committees and on our unit executive.

**Chair:** Cody Quan

**Vice Chair:** Matt Young

**Recorder:** Clay Dumoulin

**Treasurer:** Alex Edwards

**Executive:** Brendan Lalonde

**Executive:** Tyler Steele

**Executive:** Vacant

## GREATER DURHAM REGION

The Greater Durham Region Unit meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6pm. Please see the link on our committee webpage to join the meeting. We send out reminder emails the week of the meeting. [Click here to join](#)

**Chair:** Jeff Gagne

**Executive:** Jon Fry (acting recorder)

**Vice Chair:** Kyle Davey

**Executive:** Jesse Parrington

**Recorder:** Vacant

**Executive:** Paul Deck

**Treasurer:** Janet Crowther

## NIAGARA FALLS - HAMILTON

Greetings from the Niagara Falls-Hamilton Unit. Since we met last we have formed a new unit executive and our Events, Grievance, Growth, Human Rights & Equality, Indigenous Relations, and Training Committees.

As many Unit and social activities were unable to happen last year, the Unit pivoted and donated \$4500 to various Food Banks and charities from Niagara Falls to Cambridge. Looking ahead for this year (fingers crossed!), we are planning our annual memorial golf tournament later in the summer, again participating in the St.Catharines/Merriton Labour Day Parade, and putting on an apprentice orientation session in the month of September.

Please visit our Unit webpage for unit meeting dates and details. For non-unit Members, if you are interested in receiving our communications, please email the unit, via the button on the webpage or [nhunit@cusw.ca](mailto:nhunit@cusw.ca) and we will add you to the distribution list.

## NORTH-EAST

Hello! From the North-East Unit. The Northern Unit was previously all one, now we are split between the North-East and North-West. The North-East Unit's goal is to inform and educate our Membership while getting more social gatherings in the works for when we can go back to normal. Our Unit Committees require Members to run them, so we are **calling for participation!** We want to leave the North-East Unit, and the rest of the Union, with this quote:

UNLESS SOMEONE LIKE YOU CARES A WHOLE AWFUL LOT,  
NOTHING IS GOING TO GET BETTER. IT'S NOT!

-Dr. Seuss The Lorax

We will be meeting on the last Wednesday of every month at 7:30 pm. Next Meetings will be:

May 26<sup>th</sup>

September 29<sup>th</sup>

June 30<sup>th</sup>

October 27<sup>th</sup>

July 28<sup>th</sup>

November 24<sup>th</sup> (last one of the year)

August 25<sup>th</sup>



# DID YOU KNOW?



## HOMEWOOD HEALTH



### Member & Family Assistance Program

Members and their families have immediate access to a wide range of confidential counselling services offered 24/7 over the telephone. Guidance, support, and counselling are available to Members and their families in several life areas that can sometimes feel overwhelming. Each of us has home-life and Workplace related issues that we need help with

from time to time. MFAP is available a part of Power Sector Benefit Trust. [PSBT.ca](http://PSBT.ca)

## NOW ACCEPTING JOURNEYPerson & APPRENTICE APPLICATIONS

Please share with your family and friends that CUSW is now accepting applications for Journeypersons and Apprentices:

- ELECTRICIANS
- STEAMFITTERS
- CARPENTERS
- IRONWORKERS
- PLUMBERS
- AND MORE!

Visit  
[Apply to CUSW](#)  
for More Information

## OUT OF WORK DUES

Don't forget to keep your dues up to date! Out of work dues are \$25 a month and can be paid through your online banking directly to CUSW. It will appear as an OTC (over the counter) payment when you [view your contributions online](#).

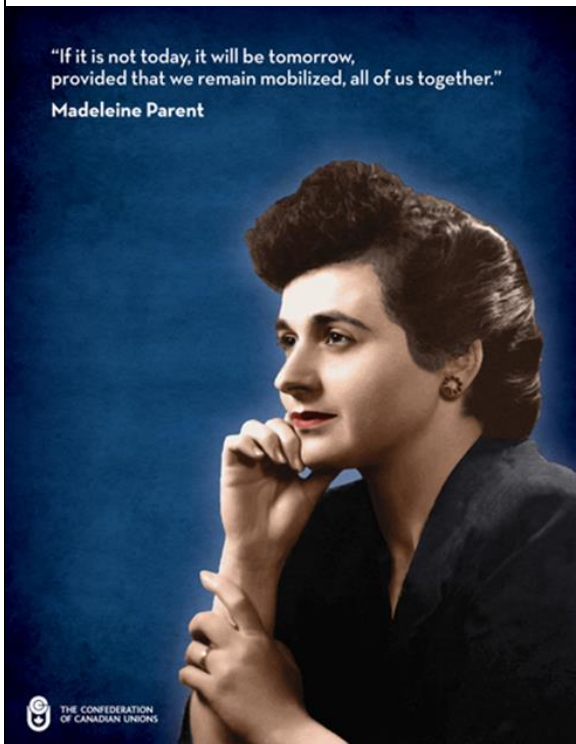
## SECURITY CLEARANCE

You can check your security clearance status on the CUSW website. [CUSW Security Clearance](#) Make sure your information is accurate!

## CUSW CALENDAR

Remember to take pictures throughout the year that can be used in the CUSW calendar. Pictures can be submitted anytime to [communications@cusw.ca](mailto:communications@cusw.ca) Please include names and members for captions.

# CONFEDERATION OF CANADIAN UNIONS



During the 2018 Convention of the Canadian Union of Skilled Workers, delegates voted to have CUSW become an affiliate of the Confederation of Canadian Unions (CCU). CCU President Kelly Johnson, spoke to the Members of CUSW on the benefits of becoming a CCU affiliate and partnering with other like-minded Unions to work together to ensure workers are protected and heard by Government.

CCU was founded in 1969 on the initiative of Madeleine Parent and Kent Rowley celebrating 50 years of operation in 2019. CCU is dedicated to the establishment of democratic, independent Labour movement, free of the influence of American based Unions. CCU affiliate Membership is limited to democratic small & medium sized Canadian Unions.

## CCU Affiliate Members

Private and Public Workers of Canada (PPWC)  
 Construction Maintenance and Allied Workers (CMAW)  
 Association of Employees Supporting Education Services (AESES)  
 York University Staff Association (YUSAPUY)  
 Canadian Oversea Telecommunications Union (COTU)  
 Nova Scotia Union of Public and Private Employees (NSUPE)  
 Canadian Union of Skilled Workers (CUSW)

Finding Labour partners is important to the Members of CUSW for purposes of support, education, research, lobbying, and growth. CUSW has generally focused its lobbying and approaches on MPPs and Provincial bureaucrats, whereas CCU focuses on Federal issues affecting Labour.

CCU puts on great Labour Schools, by bringing Subject Matter Experts to talk to workers about issues affecting workers. Members of CUSW have participated or have been speakers at CCU Labour schools.

CUSW has two voting Members that sit on the CCU Executive Committee which meets quarterly. The annual CCU Convention is to be held October 16<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> this year. For more information on CCU, and to learn what we are collectively doing to protect and progress workers and their families' rights in their communities, please visit their website.

[www.CCU-CSC.CA](http://www.CCU-CSC.CA)

# 2020/2021 GRADUATES

## 2020

### JANUARY 2020

Ryan Buffet - 309A  
Aaron Bullock - 309A  
Jordan Esseltine - 309A  
Ryan Koestler - 309A  
Cole Reynolds - 309A  
Jarret Thomson - 434A

### FEBRUARY 2020

Kiefer Brough - 434A  
Stuart Guadet - 309A  
Daniel Nish - 309A  
Trevor Raynard - 434A

### MARCH 2020

Joshua Jamieson - 309A  
Kevin Rumak - 309A

### JULY 2020

Michael Bowins - 309A  
Simon Frystak - 434A

### AUGUST 2020

Thomas Cameron - 309A

### SEPTEMBER 2020

Edwin Chung - 309A  
David Courtney - 309A  
Devon McBride - 434A  
Phillip O'Donnell - 434A

### OCTOBER 2020

Shawn Campbell - 309A  
Liam Dalton - 434A  
Brennan Dickie - 434A  
Campbell Fisher - 434A  
Jonathan Hamlyn - 309A  
Stephen McKellar - 434A  
Kirk McKillop - 434A  
Edan McMullen - 434A  
David Morris - 309A  
Ross Paul - 434A  
Kenneth Rhame - 434A  
Jeffrey Stanley - 309A

### NOVEMBER 2020

Michel Chartrand - 309A  
Devin Erdmann - 447A  
Nicholas Guzzo - 434A  
Jonah Higgins - 309A  
Jesse Lambert - 309A  
Lloyd Mitchell - 434A  
Leonard Papineau - 309A  
Beth Reeder - 309A

### DECEMBER 2020

Logan Booth - 434A  
Cody Bruder - 309A  
Michael Gaudet - 309A  
Benjamin Martin - 309A  
Jacob Mitchell - 434A  
Steven Smigelski - 434A  
David Whitehead - 309A  
James Whiteside - 309A

## 2021

### JANUARY

Eric Aubin - 309A  
Brendan Douglas - 309A  
Shawn Filion - 434A  
Ben Kalotai - 434A  
Conner Tafertshofer - 309A

### FEBRUARY

Cody Britton - 309A

### MARCH

Jacob Day - 434A  
Justin Greig - 309A  
Brendan McCartney - 309A  
Mitchell Rushlow - 309A