

**CUPE Manitoba Aboriginal Council**  
***Inaugural Gathering***  
**AGENDA**  
**Living and Working a Positive Approach**

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This Gathering intends to bring CUPE members together to work on how to better support Aboriginal members within the union. Therefore we want to:

- foster Aboriginal members' sense of inclusion in the union,
- increase their awareness of CUPE, and
- recommend ways the union can work on their behalf.

Saturday, November 14, 2009

- 8:00 am**      **Registration**
- 8:30**            **Smudge**
- 9:00**            **Opening Welcome Ceremony**
- Introduction and Opening Remarks – Shirley Langan, CUPE Manitoba Aboriginal Council Chairperson
  - Métis Aboriginal Elder – Velma Orvis
  - Equality Statement – Keith Bousquet, CUPE Manitoba Aboriginal Council Recording-Secretary
- 9:15**            **Greetings from CUPE – *Reaching Out to Aboriginal Workers***
- Paul Moist – CUPE National President
  - Mike Skaftfeld – CUPE Manitoba President
  - Sandra Oakley – CUPE Manitoba Regional Director
- 10:30**          **Guest Speakers – *Addressing Aboriginal Issues Today***
- Ron Chartrand – Manitoba Métis Federation, Winnipeg Region VP
  - Ron Evans (or rep TBD) – Manitoba Grand Chief
  - Dan Vandal – City of Winnipeg Councillor
- 11:30**          **Learning Circle – *A Positive Approach to Public Health Threats***  
Discussion on how public health issues affect Aboriginal workers and what employers and the union are doing to address these issues.  
Facilitated by: Roger Procyk & friends
- 12:00**          **Lunch Break – Lunch Provided**
- 1:00 pm**        **Learning Circle – *A Positive Approach to Public Health Threats* - continued**
- 2:30 - 3:00**    **Métis Square Dancer**
- 3:00**            **Sharing Circle – *CUPE's Efforts to Address Aboriginal Issues***  
Discussion on how unions, particularly CUPE, are reaching out to support Aboriginal workers, and how the unions gain from this effort.  
Brian Barron – CUPE National Aboriginal Diversity Vice-President
- 3:30**            **Adjournment for the Day**

Sunday, November 15, 2009

**8:30 am**      **Smudge**

**9:00**            **Sharing Circle – *Challenges Facing Aboriginal Workers***

Discussion on the various social, cultural and economic issues facing Aboriginal workers/members and why it is important for all union members to respond to these issues.

Don Moran – CUPE Aboriginal Strategy to Representational Workforce Strategy  
Cathy Woods – MGEU Aboriginal Liaison

**11:00**            **Learning Circle – *Guiding a CUPE response to Aboriginal Issues***

Based on what has been shared, this will be a discussion on what more CUPE can do to assist Aboriginal workers/members and why it is important for all CUPE members to be part of this response.

Facilitated by: Don Moran & friends

**12:00**            **Lunch Break**

**1:00 pm**        **Aboriginal Council Reports – *Commitment in Action***

- Manitoba Aboriginal Council – Shirley Langan
- National Aboriginal Council – Roger Procyk
- CUPE Local 1550 Aboriginal Council – Shirley Langan
- Provincial Aboriginal Council Reports

**1:30**            **Closing Remarks and Ceremony**

- Shirley Langan / Roger Procyk / Keith Bousquet / Brian Barron
- Aboriginal Elder
- Sharing Circle

**2:00**            **Adjournment**

DL:cbc/cope 491  
10-Nov-09

