

CUPE 3906 ANNOUNCES THE FIFTH ANNUAL MIKE SKINNER ACTIVIST AWARD!

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Mike Skinner Activist Award is a member-mandated award offered by the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 3906. Its title honours long-time labour activist and CUPE 3906 Staff Member Mike Skinner. At McMaster University, CUPE 3906 is the Union representing over 3000 Teaching Assistants, Research Assistants, Sessional Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows. The value of this year's award is \$500 to one person (or committee), an award certificate and an inscription on the Mike Skinner Activist Award plaque.

This award is open to all current members in good standing of CUPE 3906. Teaching Assistants, Research Assistants, Sessional Faculty, Sessional Music Faculty and Postdoctoral Fellows for the period of April 1st, 2010 to the closing of the nomination period qualify. If a qualified candidate has been active in your organization, we invite you to nominate them. Specifically, the recipient of the Mike Skinner Activist Award will have been involved in such issues over the course of his or her stay at McMaster University as:

- Fighting for social justice issues (these issues are diverse and can range from environmental to gender to equity issues);
- Promoting the welfare of humanity and the environment and the elimination of pain and suffering through acts of community organizing, education and/or solidarity.

Award Criteria:

Please review the award criteria, and, when writing your letter of nomination and seeking supporting letters from others, include the nominee's specific contributions. The main criterions are:

- Impact of her or his service to the community;
- Length and level of involvement or commitment of the nominee to her or his act of community service;
- The dedication and courage of the nominee's activism.

The selection committee is comprised of members of the CUPE 3906 executive and members-at-large. Members of the selection committee cannot nominate a candidate. Members of the selection committee who have personal ties with the nominees must yield their place to another member of the Executive or a CUPE member-at-large nominated by the members of the selection committee. This year's Activist Awards will be presented at the Annual General Meeting in April 2011.

We look forward to receiving your nomination of an amazing CUPE 3906 member activist. Please find attached a copy of the nomination form. Additional copies are available at the CUPE 3906 office (Wentworth House B108) or by e-mail (staff@cupe3906.org).

For further information please contact president@cupe3906.org or staff@cupe3906.org

Nomination Form for the CUPE 3906 Mike Skinner Activist Award

Nomination Deadline: March 31st, 2011

Additional Copies of this form are available at the CUPE 3906 office (Wentworth House B108)
Completed nomination forms and supporting documentation may be submitted by mail, fax or e-mail to:

CUPE 3906 Mike Skinner Activist Award Selection Committee

Tel: 905-525-9140 x 24003

Fax: 905-525-3837 (Attention: Mike Skinner Award Selection Committee)

E-mail: president@cupe3906.org, staff@cupe3906.org

Name of Nominee: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

University Affiliation(s): _____

Name of Nominator: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

University Affiliation(s): _____

Signature of Nominator: _____

Date: _____

Supporting Documentation:

1. Letter of nomination

A statement that provides evidence that the nominee has consistently demonstrated through her or his volunteer efforts a sense of personal responsibility and commitment toward community, education, and/or social-justice organizing. List specific activities in which the nominee has participated as an advocate for social justice.

2. Two to six letters of support

Letters of support from at least two of the following: student organization members, community members, faculty, staff and others who support this nomination.

3. Additional documentation

Any additional documentation included in the nomination package should serve to illustrate how specific award criteria were met by the nominee. These may include: newspaper, web, or magazine articles; any outstanding achievements, awards, and other types of recognition (these could refer to community involvement that has served and/or advanced a social justice cause); a list of committees on which the nominee has served and the advocacy work performed in connection with these committees; any additional relevant information.