

Dear Postdoctoral Fellow,

Welcome to CUPE Local 3906! We are the Union that represents you as a Postdoctoral Fellow at McMaster. You are part of "Unit 3", representing Postdoctoral Fellows (excluding those employed by McMaster Health Sciences) at McMaster University. CUPE Local 3906 represents over 3,000 academic workers at McMaster, including Teaching Assistants, Research Assistants in lieu of Teaching Assistants, Sessional Faculty and Hourly Rated Sessional Music Faculty in addition to Postdoctoral Fellows at McMaster.

As a CUPE Local 3906 Unit 3 member, you are covered by a set of rights and regulations stipulated in a legally binding, negotiated document called a Collective Agreement: <http://cupe3906.org/postdocs-unit-3/collective-agreement-unit-3-2/>. It is the Employer's responsibility to provide you with a copy of the Collective Agreement.

We invite and encourage you to contact our Unit 3 Chief Steward and Staff to introduce yourself and to learn more about your rights and benefits as a Postdoctoral Fellow at McMaster. Currently, our Unit 3 Chief Steward is Kezhuan Gu (chiefsteward_postdocs@cupe3906.org). Our Staff Representative Assigned to Postdoctoral Fellows is Mary Ellen Campbell (mecampbell@cupe3906.org). We look forward to meeting you and explaining your rights and benefits as a Unit 3 member, as well as explaining how our democratic Union processes work and how you can get involved in the activities and decisions that shape your experience as an academic worker at McMaster.

Please note that the first 30 days of your employment as a Postdoctoral Fellow at McMaster may entail important change of coverage deadline for your benefits. For example, if you would like to enroll in our family dental coverage or would like to opt-out of dental coverage (if you have other, comparable dental coverage), you must do so in the first 30 days of your contract. For more information about these options, please visit <http://cupe3906.org/postdocs-unit-3/dental-plan/> and/or contact our Administrative Coordinator at administrator@cupe3906.org.

To learn more about your benefits, including Dental benefits, Professional Development Fund (currently \$400 per academic year), Health Care Spending Account (currently \$300 per academic year), Employee & Family Assistance Program (<https://homeweb.ca/>), Postdoc Support Fund (<http://cupe3906.org/postdocs-unit-3/post-doc-support-fund-unit-3/>) and more, and to hear the latest news from your Union, please visit our website at <http://cupe3906.org>, and follow us on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/cupe3906/> and Twitter at https://twitter.com/cupe_3906.

We look forward to meeting you and defending your rights and benefits over the coming months!

In solidarity,

Your CUPE 3906 Executive and Staff