

President's Report – June 2021 GMM
Sharoni Mitra

Dear Members,

I am most excited and honoured to continue to serve our union as President. This Spring, I've helped kick off our preparations for bargaining as Unit 2's contract will expire in August and we'll be negotiating once more. My involvement includes directly engaging with the bargain team, coordinating bargaining logistics with the Employer, and connecting with our bargaining support team.

In April, I moderated a webinar hosted by the OUWCC, in solidarity with workers at Laurentian University who are undergoing an insolvency process. This precedent setting move by the Ford Government that poses risk to all of us in the academic sector more widely. In June I'm hoping to help coordinate a webinar or conversational space in which we can learn lessons from steelworkers in the Hamilton area who've already navigated the same insolvency legislation (the CCAA) now being brought forth to the public-sector.

In May, our Vice President External (Shirleen Datt) and I spoke at a Virtual May Day Rally alongside a coalition of unionists and radical organizers in the GTHA. I also attended a solidarity rally for Palestine in Hamilton and was proud to represent CUPE 3906 amongst a mass action and have helped coordinate executive motions in relation to Palestinian Solidarity as well. I'm also please to report several members took action on Paid Sick Days by canvassing canvas (in a safe, socially distant matter) and hanging a beautiful banner of a 403 overpass. We intend to continue building our capacity for such actions.

Otherwise, I've recently helped onboard our newly elected executives for the year and provided them with orientation to their roles and continued to support our members through grievance and mediation processes. In relation, we finally reached a resolution with the Employer concerning [out of province TAs](#) – a process that involved an immense amount of work from our wonderful staff (Brad, Mary Ellen, and Fran), and our representatives at CUPE National.

Finally, I attended the 2021 CUPE Ontario Convention as a delegate of our local (alongside a few other members from 3906) and I participated in conference planning for the CUPE Ontario Young Workers conference set for this Fall. Additionally, I continue to regularly attend meetings for the Hamilton District Labour Council as a delegate.

In Solidarity,
Sharoni Mitra
president@cupe3906.org (please reach out to me anytime!)

