

CUPE Ontario Convention 2025 - Attendee Report

Dear comrades,

This is a report on the CUPE Ontario Convention held from May 27 to May 31, 2025. Our delegation comprised:

1. Oluwadamilola Babatunde
2. Caleb Smolenaars
3. Vanessa Leece
4. Bonnie Evans
5. Enrique Luna Villagómez
6. Kyle Morrison
7. Mitchell Lupa
8. Mason Fitzpatrick
9. Ori Freiman

On the first day of convention, members attended the University Caucus to vote on priority items that would have the best chance of hitting the floor and being debated. Consensus emerged on prioritizing the hiring of a full-time sector coordinator and full-time sector researcher, two positions that other sectors already have in a full-time capacity. The motion eventually passed (Resolution #41).

Members also participated in the Young Workers Caucus, where a priority vote resulted in pushing a resolution to call on CUPE Ontario to submit a resolution to CUPE National Convention 2025 that would raise the maximum age of Young Workers from 30 to 35, in line with recent changes made at CUPE Ontario, Manitoba, and Alberta. This motion eventually passed (Resolution #5).

This was not an election year and so no elections were held for positions on the CUPE Ontario Executive Board. There was, however, an election for Trustee.

At the outset of convention, a member of another Local raised the point that at CUPE Ontario Convention 2023, a resolution was passed that required for a minimum of one full day to be dedicated to business (i.e. voting and debating resolutions and constitutional amendments), yet the 2025 Convention agenda clearly reflected that this resolution had not been implemented. No clear explanation was given as to why this oversight occurred, but attendees were reassured that it would be addressed at the next CUPE Ontario convention. Given that at the 2023 CUPE National Convention, our Local submitted a similar constitutional amendment that would've required CUPE National Convention to allocate sufficient time to debate and consider all proposed resolutions and constitutional amendments, our delegation, along with many other Locals, were disappointed by the mixup.

We did not submit any resolutions or constitutional amendments as a Local. In future, it would be fruitful for our Local to plan ahead and begin discussing resolutions and constitutional amendments well in advance of convention so as to ensure that 3906 has time to submit proposals.

Please feel free to contact any of the delegates should you have further questions about Convention.

Prepared by: Mitchell Lupa