

To: CUPE 3906 Executive Board & Membership

From: Albert Ashong, VP External, CUPE 3906

Date: June, 2026

Subject: Report back from Hamilton & District Labour Council (HDLC) and External Partners – June 2026

Overview

This report summarizes the key items from the June 18, 2026, HDLC Delegates' Meeting, as well as relevant updates from the CLC Ontario Labour Council Report for June 2026. I've focused on initiatives, campaigns, and decisions most relevant to CUPE 3906 members particularly around solidarity actions, political advocacy, and opportunities for member involvement.

Key Solidarity Actions & Campaigns

Support for OPSEU/SEFPO Strike – "Worth Fighting For"

- Over 4,000 OPSEU/SEFPO members are currently on strike in Ontario's community and social services sector.
- Workers include social workers, child therapists, shelter workers, legal aid staff, and developmental service workers.
- How CUPE 3906 can support: Labour Councils are encouraged to support local picket lines and amplify the campaign. Picket line information is available at worthfightingfor.ca/picket-finder

Support for SEIU Local 2 – Immigrants Working Centre (IWC) Funding

- The IWC in Hamilton is facing a 23% (\$1.1 million) cut in federal settlement funding, resulting in 30 layoffs and cancellation of 57% of newcomer classes.
- HDLC action: The Council will contact local MPs demanding funding restoration and publicize the campaign with affiliates.
- Why this matters for 3906: Many of our members are newcomers or work with immigrant communities. This is a direct attack on services our community relies on.

Opposition to Dominion Society of Canada "DomCon" Conference

- The Dominion Society of Canada an organization the Canadian Anti-Hate Network has characterized as part of the white nationalist movement is planning a national conference in Hamilton.
- Their platform includes the "Great Replacement" theory and calls for mass deportation.
- **HDLC action:** The Council opposes the conference and will assist local anti-racism organizations in organizing/mobilizing against it. If you're interested in supporting this work, let me know.

Negev Dinner Protest & Boycott

- The HDLC opposes the annual Negev Dinner (June 22, 2026), which raises funds for the Israeli regime, and encourages workers to protest and boycott.
- The Council is also urging the Minister of National Revenue to revoke the charitable status of "Friends of the Jewish National Fund".

Important Events & Opportunities for CUPE 3906

USW Local 1005 – 80th Anniversary of the 1946 Strike

- **Date:** July 15, 2026
- **Location:** Carmen's Event Centre, 1520 Stone Church Rd East, Hamilton.
- HDLC has purchased **10 tickets** to this event.
- **Action:** As CUPE 3906 is also a steelworkers' local (USW), this is a valuable solidarity opportunity. If any member is interested in attending, please reach out to me I can try to connect with the HDLC on ticket availability.

Summer Social / Open House at Solidarity Place

- HDLC allocated **\$250** for a summer social/open house at Solidarity Place on a date to be determined.
- This is a great networking opportunity. I will share details when confirmed.

Political Actions & Resolutions

Fighting Ford Campaign

- HDLC purchased **25 "Fighting Ford" lawn signs \$250 and \$200 for pins** for distribution to delegates. If you'd like a sign or pin for your lawn or office, let me know.

Opposition to Increased Military Spending

- The HDLC publicly opposes the Carney government's goal of increasing military spending to meet NATO's **5% of GDP target**.
- The Council calls for repatriating troops from Latvia and developing a foreign policy independent of U.S. and NATO control.

Cuba Solidarity Association

- HDLC donated **\$300** to support the annual "Blockade Run" fundraising event on September 26, 2026

National & Provincial Updates – CLC Report Highlights

CLC 31st Constitutional Convention – Winnipeg

- **Re-elected:** Bea Bruske (President), Lily Chang (Secretary-Treasurer), Siobhan Vipond (Executive VP).
- **Newly elected:** Marc-Edouard Joubert as Executive VP.
- **Key focus:** Fighting extremism, defending collective bargaining, strengthening public services, and advancing reconciliation.

International Court of Justice – Landmark Ruling

- The ICJ affirmed that the right to strike is protected under international law through ILO Convention 87. This is a historic victory for workers globally and comes at a critical time as workers face increasing attacks on collective bargaining rights in Canada.

Canada Labour Code Review

- The CLC is warning the federal government against using the Code review to weaken collective bargaining rights and restrict the right to strike. Since 2024, the federal government has used section 107 (which allows ending strikes through binding arbitration) eight times a dramatic shift.

CLC Ontario Women's School & Summer School – Registration Deadline June 15

- Note: This deadline has passed, but we can keep it in mind for next year. Schools are held in July and offer skill-building on organizing, bargaining, and political action

Meeting Schedule Changes

- July & August 2026: Regular Delegates' Meetings are suspended.
- September 2026: The meeting is moved to Thursday, September 10, 2026 to allow full participation in Take Back the Night.
- Next meeting: October 2026 (date to be confirmed).

Recommendations for CUPE 3906

- That CUPE 3906 receives this report from its VP External.
- That interested members contact me to participate in the HDLC's opposition to the Dominion Society of Canada conference in Hamilton.
- That we consider sending a small delegation to support OPSEU/SEFPO picket lines in our area.
- That members interested in attending the USW 1005 80th Anniversary dinner contact me to explore ticket availability.

Closing

The HDLC remains an active site of solidarity, political action, and resources. I will continue representing CUPE 3906's interests particularly around precarity, campus safety, and community solidarity at the district level.

In solidarity,

VP External(Albert Ashong)