



# MARCH 2012 NEWSLETTER

## **CUPE Nova Scotia Convention**

CUPE Nova Scotia's 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will be held from Sunday, April 22, 2012 to Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at the Rodd Grand Hotel in Yarmouth. We would like to remind delegates that Wednesday is a full day of business and ask that you make appropriate arrangements to stay until completion.

## **School board cuts affect more than teachers**

CUPE Nova Scotia President Danny Cavanagh says, "While teachers are obviously a vital part of the system, they simply could not function without the 4,500 CUPE school board workers who are the glue that holds the system together in every board across the province."

Boards face a 1.3% cut to budgets plus the added burden of absorbing inflation and wage increases which will result in an even higher cut. Last year boards were ordered to cut 1.65% which resulted in the Cape Breton Board losing 53.5 positions through lay off and attrition and the rest of the boards losing bargaining unit positions through attrition which we all know is just a fancy word for lay off.

## **Tentative agreements**

A two year tentative agreement was reached by the 45 LPNs at the Braemore Home, CUPE Local 1478.

Local 3986 and Local 4354 representing 155 Continuing Care Assistants have both reached a tentative agreement. Ratification votes will take place over the next couple of weeks so no details have been released.



Members of Local 227 are preparing for their ratification vote on a tentative agreement with the Halifax Regional Water Commission. The bargaining committee is recommending acceptance.

## **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination – March 21<sup>st</sup>**

The Black Cultural Center in Dartmouth was the scene of an event to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. There were stories shared, cultural performances and light refreshments.



## **CETA – Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement**

CUPE Nova Scotia is urging Premier Dexter to explain to citizens exactly what is being negotiated as part of the CETA agreement with Europe. "It's time for the government to put an end to the secrecy and let the people of Nova Scotia know what's on the table and what's off the table as part of the CETA trade talks," said Danny Cavanagh.

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