# CUPE 5791 Winter 2019 Scholarship Essay Emma J.B Chuckry

CUPE 5791 University of Regina March 2018 One of my first jobs while I was a teenager, was working in the deli section of the Weyburn Co-op Food Store. There, I was part of a union. My parents were part of a union as well. My father, a custodian and bus drive within the school district, and my mother, a salesperson at a Co-operative women's fashion store. I never thought too much into what a union truly was until I received my position at the University of Regina. Unions, big or small, all fight for the bigger picture, which is equality, fairness, security, dignity, and they bring support to every one of their members. I really did not realize how rich of history the Canadian Union of Public Employees until I started research for this paper.

In 1963, the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE), and the National Union of Public Service Employees (NUPSE) merged as one whole. Thus, creating the Canadian Union of Public Employees. Better known as CUPE. At this time, Robert Rintoul from NUPE was elected as the first secretary-treasurer, and Stan Little from NUPSE was elected the first national president of CUPE. In the early years of this union, they participated in their first strike in 1964. This strike was over the right for public utility workers in Ontario to join the union. Then, in 1971, CUPE adopted the "9-Point Plan on women's rights. This pushed CUPE through as a leader in the fight for equality.

Going along the timeline, Grace Hartman was elected as the CUPE national president in 1973, making her the first woman to lead a North American trade union. Keally Cummings was the secretary-treasurer at that time. Throughout their years, they went on to take on the fight for better child care while fighting for gender equality in the workplace by marking the International Women's Year in 1975. While 1976 inflation problems came underway, 100,000 CUPE members joined one million other Canadians in a one-day general strike. This inflation and wage controls were brought on by Liberal Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. Coming to the end of this era, in 1981, 14,000 hospital workers joined in an illegal strike across Ontario. This strike caused Canadian union leaders to be arrested and put in prison. This sent a wave of outrage throughout Canada and the event got international attention.

From 1983 – 1992, CUPE pushes back on all fronts. There was a prediction that "...the decade would see the decline and fall of public sector unions. CUPE proved them wrong." (2014) The CUPE national president is now Jeff Rose, and the elected secretary-treasurer is Jean Claude Laniel. Members of the union came together in 1984, to create "Defending CUPE" which was a program that trained members in grassroot activism. Within five years of this program,

they had more than 3,000 graduates. Over half of the graduates were women. CUPE had a busy and prosperous year in 1984. Along with the defending CUPE program, the union also launched the Airline Division after 7,000 members of the Canadian Airline Flight Attendants Association voted for a merge with CUPE. They also brought forth April 28<sup>th</sup> to become National Day of Mourning for Workers Killed or Hurt on the Job. Along with these major events, this era also developed the Equal Opportunities Department.

Moving towards the 2000s, CUPE wasn't slowing down. The 4<sup>th</sup> National president was Judy Darcy, along with secretary-treasurer Geraldine McGuire. They focused a lot on the campaigns geared towards strengthening the Medicare systems and enhancing pensions, as well as creating a national child care program for working parents. CUPE was also met with the threat of globalization. With this threat, they became a leader in trade agreements that would protect the resources loved by Canadians. Out of this, came the issues that CUPE really stood behind. Their message was "Water is a public resource that must remain in public hands." (2014) As they promised, CUPE reached out to all underrepresented workers. This included all ages, people with disabilities, as well as Aboriginal, Métis, and Inuit workers.

Coming closer to our present day, from 2003 – 2013, the elected president of CUPE was Paul Moist and the secretary-treasurer was Claude Généreux. Paul Moist made headway and reinforced the union's direction towards CUPE as an agent of social change. Both Moist and Généreux oversaw the growth of the National Strike Fund, as well as solidifying CUPE's finances for the coming years. In 2011, secretary-treasurer Charles Fleury oversaw the creation of a Permanent Fight Back Fund. The fund gives members the resources they need for the fight ahead.

This short essay only scratches the surface of the history of The Canadian Union of Public Employees. The CUPE website shows an amazing diagram of the events that went one throughout the years. (2015) I am blessed and proud to be a part of such a strong and passionate group of people who every day are striving for the best interests of all of their 680,000 members across Canada. *Fairness. Equality. Dignity*.

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## Citations

- 1983 1992: CUPE pushes back on all fronts. (2014, May 07). Retrieved from https://cupe.ca/1983-1992-cupe-pushes-back-all-fronts
- 1993 2002: CUPE gains widespread support for public services. (2014, May 07). Retrieved from https://cupe.ca/1993-2002-cupe-gains-widespread-support-public-services
- CUPE Equality History digital timeline. (2015, October 20). Retrieved from https://cupe.ca/cupe-equality-history-digital-timeline

### **Current Registration & List of Courses**

ID: 200379992 Name: Chuckry, Emma Joyleen Barbara

**Program One Program Two** 

Campus: U of R

Faculty: Media, Art, and Performance

Program: **Bachelor of Arts** 

Major(s): Media, Art, and Performance

Minor(s): Film Production

Concentration(s): Creative Technologies

Campus:

Faculty:

Program:

Major(s):

Minor(s):

Concentration(s):

#### **Currently Registered Courses**

Term	Course	ID		Course Title	Status	Start Date	End Date	Credit Hours
2019 Winter	ART	423	001	Senior Photography II	Registered by Staff	08/Jan/19	11/Apr/19	3
	ARTH	360	001	Curating the New	Registered in Self-Service	08/Jan/19	11/Apr/19	3
	СТСН	200AL	L01	Visual Identity Design	Registered in Self-Service	08/Jan/19	11/Apr/19	3
	СТСН	210AE	3 001	3D Animation: Art, Social Media	Registered in Self-Service	08/Jan/19	22/Apr/19	3
	СТСН	310AE	001	Intro Computer Game & VRDesign	Registered in Self-Service	08/Jan/19	17/Apr/19	3
2019 Spring	СТСН	200Ah	1020	Global Exploration in CTCH - 2	Registered in Self-Service	12/May/19	28/May/19	3
Summer	ENGL	110	398	Critical Reading & Writing II	Registered in Self-Service	06/May/19	27/Jun/19	3
	soc	215	397	Soc of Crime Criminal Justice	Registered in Self-Service	06/May/19	19/Jun/19	3
2019 Fall	СТСН	200Ak	(L01	Visual Comm for the WEB	Registered in Self-Service	04/Sep/19	10/Dec/19	3
	СТСН	211	397	Digital Studio Tools	Registered in Self-Service	04/Sep/19	06/Dec/19	3
	СТСН	301	001	Play: interact. In new media	Registered in Self-Service	04/Sep/19	09/Dec/19	3
	MAP	400AC	001	International Arts Management	Registered in Self-Service	04/Sep/19	06/Dec/19	3

#### **Undergraduate Courses Taken at the University of Regina**

Term	Course I	D		Course Title	Grade	Hours Taken	Hours Passed	Class Size	Class Average
2016 Fall	ART	223	002	Digital Photography	83	3	3	6	72.00
	CTCH	110	001	Intro to Creative Technologies	89	3	3	87	77.54
	ENGL	100	L10	Critical Reading and Writing I	71	3	3	34	71.26
	FILM	100	001	The Art of Motion Pictures	72	3	3	98	68.15
	MAP	001	004	Strategies for Success	Р	0	0	40	
	WGST	100	L01	Intr to Womens and Gender Stud	63	3	3	41	74.39
2017 Winter	ART	290A	C L01	Introduction to Graphic Design	74	3	3	15	76.73
	ART	323	001	Digital Photo in Contemp. Art	80	3	3	5	77.80
	CTCH	211	397	Digital Studio Tools	W	0	0	38	70.82
	FILM	200	002	Intro to Film Production	75	3	3	14	78.29
2017	ANTH	100	397	Introduction to Anthropology	60	3	3	64	75.38
Spring Summer	ART	100	397	Introduction to Art	62	3	3	47	71.64
2017 Fall	ART	325	001	Prairie Landscape Photography	65	3	3	7	74.29

	CTCH	203	001	Intro to Media and Comm.	76	3	3	39	78.62
/ <i>(</i>	CTCH	310AE	3 001	Wearables: Art and Body Tech	75	3	3	12	79.18
	FILM	205	002	Black and White Photography	75	3	3	7	75.86
	FRN	100	002	Discovery I	77	3	3	22	75.41
	CS	100	S01	Introduction to Computers	71	3	3	29	70.79
Winter	CTCH	111	001	Creative Tech Processes	78	3	3	45	70.56
- /	CTCH	204	001	Intro: New Media Graph. Design	74	3	3	13	67.00
	FRN	101	003	Discovery II	65	3	3	24	74.88
2018 Spring Summer	SOC	210	398	Social Structure & Personality	NP	3	0	41	70.71
2018 Fall	ACAD	100	397	Academic Discourse	W	0	0	31	61.71
	ART	422	001	Senior Photography I	75	3	3	6	82.50
	CS	207	001	Building Interactive Gadgets	75	3	3	33	75.97
	CTCH	200AG L01		Branding, Advertising & Design	84	3	3	15	80.87
	ENGG	123	001	Engg Design & Communications	77	3	3	136	66.40

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