

President's Message



Dear CUPE Local 8920 Members,

My name is Dianne Frittenburg and in July of this year I was elected as your new President. Before I begin sharing a little about myself, I want to thank Beverly Strachan for her unwavering commitment to the members of our local. She has left an impressive legacy and a strong local framework for success

in defending members rights. I have no doubt that Bev will bring that same commitment to her new role as Labour Relations Officer with NSNU.

Prior to being elected I served as Area 1 Vice President and was the former President of CUPE Local 1933 prior to the 2015 merger of all the CUPE Hospital Locals which created CUPE Local 8920.

I served on the CUPE Nova Scotia Executive Board in the role as Treasurer and as Vice President. I also served as a Co-Chair of the Health Care Issues Committee with CUPE National and a graduate of the CLC Labour College. These opportunities have provided me with an irreplaceable opportunity to learn and grow valuable knowledge in the labour movement.

As a health care worker for over 30 years, I have seen firsthand the dedicated, invaluable work our members deliver every day to the citizens of Nova Scotia. Which mostly goes unrecognized by the employer and the government. Please know that your local see's you

and thanks you for all you do to keep our healthcare system working.

In closing I give my commitment to working with our local executive board to represent all members with transparency, collaboration and fairness. To foster positive relationships and to protect and defend our collective agreement rights.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as your president and thank you for your trust, support and patience as I take on this new role. I am here to represent you; you can always reach out to me at my contact information below!

In Solidarity,



Dianne Frittenburg
President
CUPE Local 8920
1 902 521-7782
president@cupe8920.ca

Solidarity

Supporting USW Local 4883 on the picket line!



Supporting CUPW Postal Workers across Nova Scotia!

On behalf of CUPE Local 8920 Membership the Executive Board has made a \$2000 donation to Feed Nova Scotia.

Contract Corner



If you are not receiving updates scan the code and fill in all the information to receive updates and to be able to vote.

Administrative Professional
Nov. 1, 2020 – Oct. 31, 2025

Nursing (LPNs in CUPE)
Nov. 1, 2020 – Oct. 31, 2025

Health Care
Nov. 1, 2023 – Oct. 31, 2025

Health Support
Nov. 1, 2020 – Oct. 31, 2023
Currently in bargaining

Member Inspiration



A feel good member story and how connections can be made through CUPE 8920 "swag"!

On a Thursday this year in late September, my son called home from

British Columbia. He says 'I think I want to come home to Nova Scotia, and I want to leave before I change my mind this weekend.'

He had gone to the west coast with a backpack and a snowboard in 2018 and was coming home with a truck and motor-home 53' from front to back measured for the BC Ferry ticket. His home he had been living in since the pandemic began was full, and he was bringing his cat and dog too.

I knew this journey would need a copilot and on Saturday I flew to Vancouver Island to join him for the drive across Canada. On the flight I took a pet carrier for the cat. It looked like and was just the size of a carry-on bag so I added a change of clothes in case my luggage was lost, and my CUPE 8920 NS Hospital Workers bag with my lap-top and jokingly assured the stewardess and others there were no pets inside of the bag during the flights before arriving at the Comox airport where Ben met me at 10:30 pm.

After gathering my luggage, and being

excited to see one another after so long, we quickly put my things in the truck absently setting the bag I was carrying on the back of the truck. It wasn't until we drove through two communities and a woods road to his place that we realized the bag was missing.

Retracing the drive in the dark all the way back to the airport, we did not find it. We both felt bad it was lost, and we were leaving the next day, but I told him it was ok. The computer was locked and would power down soon, the change of clothes was not important, no worries.

Then late into the night I realized with a shock that in my CUPE bag-front-pocket were a couple of very important things that had belonged to my father: A rosary and a small book of his given to me after he had passed. I had been carrying them for so long, I almost forgot they were there.

On Sunday before we left, I made a call to the RCMP in Comox and a file was created for my lost bag, and I hoped for the best. There was no time to search again if we were to catch the Ferry to the mainland as planned, so we had to go. I prayed that it would come back to me, or that whoever found it would need it as much as I had if they kept it. There was nothing in the bag that I thought would identify me, maybe an inhaler, but I did not expect what happened next.

On Wednesday afternoon, we had driven as far as Ontario when I received a text message from my colleague at work 'I have information on your missing bag, call asap'. I had not mentioned to any of my colleagues that I

lost my bag. When we spoke, she told me of a call at Switchboard from Constable Douglas at the Courtenay BC detachment of the RCMP. This was not the detachment I left my information with on Sunday before we left. The constable asked her if it was possible to locate worker Rhonda Pitts in the system as a bag was turned in at the detachment that possibly belonged to me.

The bag had been found on Tuesday, when someone leaving the night-road at the airport spotted the pet-carrier in a ditch. Thankfully finding no pet inside they turned it in the next day.

When the officer investigated the bag, he took out my CUPE Local 8920 bag and my lap-top still had enough charge to show my sign-in name on-screen. The custodian working in the detachment on this day, had once lived in Pictou County, and over-hearing it was an NS hospital worker's bag suggested calling the Aberdeen Hospital in New Glasgow to see if I could be located in a staff directory for NS Health.

I am a switchboard operator at the Aberdeen Hospital, in Pictou County, and this is truly my story for the power of prayer and CUPE Local 8920 swag!

Sincerely
Rhonda P.

PS The constable told me that it was the quickest 'open and shut' case he solved 😊 and my son's friend was able to send my bag home - with everything inside!

Important Dates



January 15th: vacation requests due for April 1st to Sept 30th

February 9th: By-law submissions due

March: Site Audits due

May 10th: CUPE 8920 AGM

May 25th-29th: CUPE NS Convention

Executive Board Members

Dianne Frittenburg.....	President	president@cupe8920.ca
Cindy Hunter.....	Secretary Treasurer	treasurer@cupe8920.ca
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