



Canadian Union of Public Employees – Local 561

Coquitlam School Board, Coquitlam Municipal Library, First Canada-Fraser Valley,
and Children's-House Montessori Pre-School Employees
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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL ELECTION VIA ONLINE & TELEPHONE VOTING

Due to COVID, CUPE 561 was unable to hold the April AGM for the 2020-2021 year. Meetings had been suspended temporarily, and voting was not able to commence.

CUPE National has given our Local an extension to September 30, 2020. We will need to proceed with nominations for vacant executive positions and vote on them by that date.

The Union Office will be following other locals' lead with online/telephone voting set up. In the future we will hold our monthly General Meetings through an electronic platform.

A 3rd party company (Simply Voting) has been acquired to manage the Online/Telephone voting process for CUPE 561. This is a CUPE National sanctioned company, and other locals have successfully completed their elections with this service. Simply Voting will be sending out, via CUPE SD43 district email, the instructions and individual private login information to each CUPE 561 SD43 member. Please watch for their email over the week of September 28th, 2020.

Please find the Nominee Request Form attached.

If you would like to nominate a CUPE 561 member for any of the vacancies, please use the standardized Nomination form to complete and email to the CUPE Voting email address. Please ensure that you have the acceptance of the nominee, prior to sending in the nomination. Reminder that you are only able to nominate one CUPE member in good standing per vacant position. A member can only stand for 2 vacant positions.

This is a new process and there will be some stretches and strengths with it. We appreciate everyone's support while we navigate this new process. Please ensure that all correspondence regarding the election is sent to the new elections email address: elections561@outlook.com.

In order to run for elected office, you must be a member in good standing. 'Good standing' is defined as a member who has attended not less than 50% of the regular Union meetings during the twelve month period, April 2019 to March 2020, inclusive. Fortunately, we were able to finalize these numbers prior to covid closures.

Each accepted nominee will have the opportunity to provide a brief personal message and picture to include with the election platform. Members will be able to access the information when logging into the Voting System, when it is available.

Further information will be coming out via Email and Intra-District mailbags regarding the voting.

FAQ's

Q. What happens if I am nominated for 3 vacant positions?

A. You can only put your name forward for 2 vacant positions.

Q. What if I am #1 for both of the vacant positions my name is put forward for?

A. You will be contacted and asked to choose which position you will accept.

Q. How will we vote for Senior Shop Stewart?

A. There will be a follow up voting session for any vacancies that were not filled in the first round of voting.

Q. What if I don't use a computer?

A. You need to notify the Union Office so that your voting information can be mailed by Simply Voting to your home for your telephone voting log in and passcode.

All bargaining units have the right to vote for Executive & Trustee positions.

School District Shop Stewards will be elected by the School District Members Only.

The other Bargaining Units have already completed their shop steward elections.