



## **CUPE BC 2022 CONVENTION CUPE BC PINK TRIANGLE COMMITTEE**

CUPE BC continues to support two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer members. The Pink Triangle Committee works for all CUPE members through lobbying on issues like gender identity and gender expression, as well as standing up to individuals or groups who spout hatred towards 2SLGBTQ+ persons. We look forward to the day when true inclusion, understanding, and acceptance in our societies all around the world is reached.

Our committee met virtually on three occasions since our last report in May 2021. The first was at the virtual One Big Committee meeting on October 19, 2021. We next met two times virtually on Zoom – November 2, 2021 and January 11, 2022. The new committee is quite enthusiastic and we are all excited about the work we are doing. Although it has also been difficult for our committee members to connect with other 2SLGBTQ+ members within their regions to act as mentors due to COVID-19 restrictions, we look forward to the easing and one day lifting of restrictions so we can meet face to face, and eventually without masks!!!

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a significant impact on the 2SLGBTQ+ community here in BC, Canada, and worldwide. Again, events such as the Pride Parades and Dyke & Trans Marches were cancelled and reimagined via virtual events. Organizations, businesses, bars and communities where our members used to get support had limited capacities, closed and in some cases were sold, causing 2SLGBTQ+ individuals to feel even more isolated than they did a year ago. Canadian health professionals and researchers noted that 2SLGBTQ+ people in Canada were uniquely vulnerable to contracting COVID-19 as they were more likely to be immuno-compromised and/or suffer trauma during quarantine from isolation from community or proximity to unaccepting family members.

In an attempt to reach and support our 2SLGBTQ+ members, our committee created a Pink Triangle Facebook page, where members can share valuable news regarding the 2SLGBTQ+

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community as well as any upcoming events. We encourage you to share this information with your members.

In an attempt to educate our members, we are working on de-mystifying the acronyms associated with Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation by creating a 2SLGBTQ+ glossary as well as a Pronouns Power Point. Once completed we will send copies to locals, district councils and post it on our CUPE BC Pink Triangle webpage.

Lastly, we encouraged locals and district councils to participate in the All Blood is Equal Campaign and to create a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Representative or contact person to support not only members who identify as 2SLGBTQ+, but also those who identify as Indigenous, Racialized or Persons with Disabilities.

### Respectfully submitted:

Joyce Griffiths, Chair  
Hailey Fielden, Co-Chair  
Page DeWolfe  
Vicky Gerlings  
Shamus Halvorsen  
Dalton Owen  
Dayton Pollak  
Rocco Trigueros Chavez  
Leanne Yearley  
Diane Allen, Staff Advisor  
Darci Schmid, Administrative Assistant

March 2022

