



CUPE 4207 By-Laws March 2023
Approved by National June 29, 2023

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ARTICLE 1: NAME

The name of the trade union shall be “Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 4207; hereinafter, it shall be referred to as “the Local.”

ARTICLE 2: GOVERNING AUTHORITY

The Local is a chartered local of the Canadian Union of Public Employees. These bylaws shall conform in all respects with the Constitution of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE). Should an unauthorized conflict arise between these by-laws and the CUPE Constitution, the CUPE Constitution shall take precedence. The activities of the Local shall be in conformity with the Constitution and bylaws of the Canadian Union of Public Employees and the Local. The Canadian Union of Public Employees shall hereinafter be referred to as “the Union.”

ARTICLE 3: OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Local are as follows:

- (a) to protect, maintain, and advance the interests of the members of the Local
- (b) to take such actions as are necessary and/or appropriate to advance the labour movement as a whole

ARTICLE 4: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

4.1 The governing bodies of the Local shall consist of the following:

- (a) The Membership
- (b) The Executive Committee
- (c) The Stewards Council
- (d) Committees: Committees of the executive may be formed to make specific recommendations to the executive on any given issue. Committees of the general membership may also be formed, open to all members in good standing. Committee decisions and actions cannot contravene the Constitution of the Canadian Union of Public of Employees or decisions of the Local including the Local’s bylaws or policies, unless the committee is seeking to propose amendments to the Local’s bylaws or policies.

4.2 The plenary authority of the Local shall rest with the membership of the Local. Such authority shall be exercised in properly constituted membership meetings and referenda, in accordance with these bylaws.

4.3 All meetings of the Local Union will be conducted in accordance with the basic principles of Canadian parliamentary procedure. Some of the more important rules to ensure free and fair debate are appended to these bylaws as Appendix A. These rules shall be considered as an integral part of the bylaws and may be amended only by the same procedure used to amend the bylaws.

In situations not covered by Appendix A to these bylaws, the CUPE National Constitution may provide guidance, but, if the situation is not dealt with there, *Bourinot's Rules of Order* shall be consulted and applied.

ARTICLE 5: MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 The membership of the Local shall consist of all persons employed at Brock University who are covered by the CUPE Local 4207 Collective Agreements. Unit 1 of the local shall consist of all persons employed as Course Coordinators, Instructors, Teaching Assistants, Demonstrators, and Marker/Graders, save and except persons employed as Instructors, Program Coordinators and On-Site Facilitators in the Faculty of Education. Unit 2 of the Local shall consist of all full-time coordinators employed in ESL Services at Brock University. Unit 3 of the Local shall consist of all instructors employed in ESL services at Brock University. Unit 4 of the shall consist of all Clinical Instructors in Nursing.
- 5.2 Any member whose employment terminates may retain their membership until eighteen (18) months after the expiry of their contract.
- 5.3 No person otherwise eligible for membership in the Local shall be admitted to membership if they have been fined, suspended, or expelled by the Union or any Local of the Union until they have complied with the terms of such fine, suspension or expulsion.
- 5.4 Membership in the Local shall obligate the member to abide by the provisions of the Constitution of the Union and these by-laws, as well as any legal agreement entered into by the Union or the Local on their behalf.

ARTICLE 6: GENERAL MEETINGS

- 6.1 (a) General membership meetings shall be held at least two (2) times between September 1st and December 31st, and at least two (2) times between January 1st and April 30th.
 - (b) Members shall be adequately informed of General Membership Meetings fourteen (14) days prior to a meeting, by means of an e-mail notice and/or social media notices, notice of posted on the website, or any other method the Executive Committee deems effective.
 - (c) Special general membership meetings may be ordered by the Executive Committee or requested in writing by no fewer than twenty (20) members. The President shall immediately call a special meeting when so ordered or requested and shall see that all members receive at least five (5) full working days notice of the special meeting and the subject(s) to be discussed (except meetings called by the Executive Committee with regards to strike actions, which shall require just twenty-four (24) hours notice). No business shall be transacted at the special meeting other than that for which the meeting has been called and notice given.
 - (d) Written notice of special membership meetings shall be posted in accordance with article 6 (b) and setting out the purpose of the special meeting.
 - (e) Ten (10) members in good standing, at least two (2) of whom are executive members, shall constitute a general quorum for all membership meetings for the legal transaction of business.
 - (f) The Executive shall call an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in April of each year for the purposes of reporting to the membership on the business transacted during the year and for the election of Executive Officers. At the AGM, the Treasurer shall submit to

the membership a full financial report of the year and submit to the membership a proposed budget for the coming year for approval.

- (g) General Membership Meeting Agenda Meetings will follow this order of business:
- 1) Call to Order
 - 2) Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory
 - 3) Roll Call of Officers
 - 4) Reading of the Equality Statement
 - 5) Approval of the Agenda
 - 6) Voting on new members and initiation
 - 7) Acceptance of the Minutes
 - 8) Matters Arising from the Minutes
 - 9) Treasurer's Report
 - 10) Communications
 - 11) Executive Committee Reports
 - 12) Reports of Committees and Delegates
 - 13) Nominations, elections, or installations
 - 14) Unfinished Business
 - 15) New Business
 - 16) Good of the Union
 - 17) Adjournment

ARTICLE 7: OFFICERS

7.1 Executive Committee

- (a) The Executive Committee of the Local shall consist of the President, three Vice-Presidents from Unit 1 ("Vice-President Graduate Students," "Vice-President Instructors," "Vice-President Unit 1"), one Vice-President from Unit 2 and Unit 3 ("Vice-President Unit 2 & 3") and one Vice-President from Unit 4 ("Vice-President Unit 4), the Recording Secretary, the Treasurer, the Lead Steward Unit 1, the Lead Steward Units 2 & 3, the Lead Steward Unit 4, the Equity Officer, Health and Safety Officer, and the Outreach Officer.
- (b) The term of office for all members of the executive committee is May 1 of the year in which their election takes place to April 30 of the following year. Where such election does not take place before April 30, all members of the Executive Committee shall continue in office until such time as an election is held. In such an event, an election shall be held at a special general membership meeting between May 1 and August 31 of that year. Where a position on the Executive Committee is vacant, an election shall be held at the general meeting subsequent to the position's being vacated.
- (c) Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be open to all members in good standing of the Local and have the right to speak, but not to vote.
- (d) All charges against officers or members shall be made in writing and dealt with in accordance with Article B.11.1 of the National Constitution.

7.2 Duties of the Executive Committee

- (a) The Executive Committee shall take such actions and render such decisions as may be necessary to carry out the decisions and instructions of the membership of the Local. The Executive Committee shall enforce the Constitution of the Union and the by-laws of

the Local and the provisions of all agreements between the Employer and the Employees, and shall coordinate Union-Local affairs.

- (b) The Executive Committee shall have the authority to set the dues charged to the members, upon approval by a majority of the votes cast at a meeting of the membership conducted in accordance with Article B.4.3.
- (c) A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute quorum for the legal transaction of business at Executive Committee meetings.
- (d) The Executive Committee shall meet, at a minimum, once every month. Except in the case of collective bargaining or strike necessities, or bona fide emergency, a minimum of five days notice shall be given for all Executive Committee meetings.
- (e) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the handling and processing of all grievances and for the administration of the collective agreement.
- (f) The Executive Committee shall make recommendations to the membership regarding the timing of strike votes, the commencement of strike action, and the nature of strike action.
- (g) Each member of the Executive Committee shall be responsible to, and shall conform to the deliberations of the Executive Committee in the carrying out of their duties. Each member shall submit a monthly report detailing their work and activities associated with their position to the Executive and to the membership. Should members of the Executive Committee fail to carry out their responsibilities, the member must provide reasons to the Executive Committee. Should the Executive Committee not accept the reasons, or the member not provide reasons, then the Executive Committee is empowered to suspend the member with a 2/3rds vote of those present. The member would not be entitled to Executive expenses and the matter will be taken to the next scheduled General Membership Meeting where the membership will determine whether to reinstate the suspended member or to order the Executive Committee to declare the position vacant.
- (h) The President, Treasurer and two Vice-Presidents shall be the official signing officers for the Local. The two Vice-Presidents who will serve as signing officers shall be selected by the Executive Committee at the first meeting of the Executive Committee immediately following the AGM. All signing Officers of Local 4207 shall be bonded through the master bond held by CUPE National. Any Officer who cannot qualify for the bond shall be disqualified from having signing authority. A signing officer shall not sign their own cheque.
- (i) The Executive Committee shall negotiate and ratify all employment contracts and/or collective agreements between the Local and its employees.
- (j) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the calling of all Local meetings, except for meetings of the Stewards Council, and for provision of the required notice for such meetings.
- (k) The Executive Committee shall oversee and coordinate the Local's orientation and membership campaign.
- (l) The Executive Committee shall have the authority to authorize expenditures of up to \$650 for any item of business discussed at a meeting of the Executive Committee. Expenditures greater than \$650 shall be brought to the membership for approval at a properly constituted general membership meeting. These office hours may be done through scheduled virtual hours with the agreement of the Executive Committee.

- (m) To the extent possible, each member of the Executive Committee shall hold reoccurring office hours of at least three (3) hours per week, September – April. These office hours may be done through scheduled virtual hours with the agreement of the Executive Committee.
- (n) Ensure that all committees and councils of the local meet on a regular basis, and ensure that at least one member of the executive attends meetings of the committees and council of the local, in order to report back to the whole executive on the activities of committees and councils.
- (o) All Officers must give all properties, assets, fund and all records of the Local Union to their successors at the end of their term of office.
- (p) The Executive Committee shall hold title to any real estate of the Local Union as Trustees for the Union. They shall have no right to sell, convey, or encumber any real estate without first giving notice and submitting the proposal to a membership meeting and having it approved.
- (q) Members of the Executive are required to attend Anti-Oppression training to be arranged by the Equity Officer with four months of taking office. The Executive Committee will aim to offer Anti-Oppression training at least once per year and to arrange to provide the training to members elected as a result of a by-election. This training shall be open to all members of the local.

7.3 Duties of the President

- (a) The President shall be responsible, in conjunction with the Executive Committee, for the smooth and efficient operation of the Local.
 - (b) The President shall sign all authorizations, contracts, and other official documents of the Local. In conjunction with the Treasurer, they shall be responsible for accounting for all funds of the Local.
 - (c) The President shall report to the membership at each general membership meeting regarding the actions of the Executive Committee.
 - (d) The President shall chair all meetings of the local union.
- The President shall:
- (e) Act as a member of the Bargaining Committee.
 - (f) Work with all members of the executive to ensure that executive members have enough support to fulfill their duties as described within these by-laws.
 - (g) Attend all Stage 2 grievance meetings, grievance mediations and arbitrations.
 - (h) Act as the spokesperson for the Local.
 - (i) Be given preference to serve as a delegate to the following conventions: CUPE National, CUPE Ontario Division, CLC, and OFL.
 - (j) The President, Executive Committee, or the General Membership may assign a designate from the Executive Committee to complete functions due to absence or unavailability.
 - (k) Take necessary action to ensure that all Officers are accountable and to ensure that all Officers perform their assigned duties for the proper functioning of the Local.
 - (l) Interpret these bylaws as required.
 - (m) Enforce the CUPE National Constitution, these bylaws, and the Equality Statement.
 - (n) Alongside the Outreach Officer, oversee the work of the Media Relations Coordinator.

7.4 Duties of the Vice-President

- (a) The position of The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President in the administration of the Local.
- (b) In the absence by either a temporary leave, or the resignation or death of the President one of the Vice-Presidents shall assume the duties of the President until such time as the President is able to resume their duties. The executive shall determine which Vice-President shall assume the duties.
- (c) In the event of vacant seats on the Executive Committee, the Vice-Presidents shall assist in the performance of those duties until a replacement is found.
- (d) The Vice Presidents shall be responsible for reporting to the executive on all matters of concern or interest within their respective bargaining units.

Additionally, they shall:

- i) In the absence of an elected representative to attend senate meetings or meetings of the board of governors, the executive will select one of the vice presidents to attend these meetings.
- (e) The Vice-Presidents shall be responsible for reporting to the Executive on all matters of concern or interest of their respective units, all governance issues at Brock University, and all broader political and labour-related issues external to Brock University.

They shall:

- i) Liaise with other unions, university, student and other organizations within the university.
- ii) Inform on developments at the Senate and Board of Trustees at Brock University;
- iii) Inform of strikes and lockouts in Ontario and in the Canadian university sector.
- (f) In addition to the duties and responsibilities above, the Vice Presidents shall be responsible for organizing and mobilizing members of their units in conjunction with their Unit Lead Steward.
- (g) The Vice Presidents will have preference to serve as delegate to the CUPE Ontario Division convention.

7.5 Duties of the Recording Secretary

- (a) The Recording Secretary shall be the recording officer of the Local.
- (b) The Recording Secretary shall:
 - i) Keep full, accurate, and impartial account of the proceedings of all regular or special membership and Executive meetings. These records must also include a copy of the full financial report (Executive Meetings) and the written financial report (membership meetings) presented by the treasurer. The record will also include Trustees' report. These records will be kept in the office and digitized for proper record keeping.
 - ii) prepare the agenda for each meeting of the Executive Committee, and for each General Meeting, and shall ensure the production and transportation of adequate supplies of relevant supporting documentation for each such meeting, and the ordering of any other provisions designated by the Executive Committee.
 - iii) maintain accurate records of the membership of the Local, including applications for membership, membership lists, be responsible for the Member Contact Information Report and the Employment Information report and to update

Labourware or any other grievance software that the local use, and all other records which the Executive Committee or membership deem to be necessary. All such records shall be kept in the Local office or safety-deposit box.

- iv) maintain proper records of all correspondence (including e-mail) of the Local
- v) Collect records of actions and campaigns of the local and file them for future reference and historical research.
- vi) Procure necessary office supplies to maintain operational continuity.
- vii) Record all amendments and/or additions in the bylaws, and make certain that these are sent to the National President for approval prior to implementing.
- viii) Book meeting rooms for Executive Committee Meetings, the Annual General Membership Meeting, and the General Membership Meetings, and purchase refreshments for the General Membership and Annual General Membership Meetings.

7.6 Duties of the Treasurer

(a) The Treasurer shall be the lead financial officer of the Local.

(b) The Treasurer shall:

- i) maintain the financial records of the Local, and shall ensure proper accounting for all receipts and disbursements;
- ii) keep a continuous record of all dues payments and any other assessments, and shall ensure that all dues and assessments due to the Union are paid promptly. The Treasurer shall forward to the National Secretary-Treasurer, on the official monthly report forms provided, not later than the last day of each month, all financial obligations for the previous month owing to CUPE National;
- iii) promptly deposit all revenues in the form in which they are received in an appropriate account at a credit union or other chartered, government-insured financial institution, as the Executive may direct, in the name of the Local;
- iv) cause all bills authorized for payment by the Executive Committee and/or membership to be paid;
- v) report, in written form on the finances of the Local to the Executive Committee at each meeting of the executive, and to the membership at all general membership meetings and at the Annual General Meeting;
- vi) upon approval of the draft documents by the Executive Committee, and at the Annual General Meeting present a financial statement for the current fiscal year and a budget for the next fiscal year for adoption by the membership;
- vii) upon request by either the President or the Executive Committee, submit within seven (7) days all record books and vouchers; all receipts, cheques, and bank statements issued and receive; and a detailed written report of all expenditures and disbursements of the funds of the Local;
- viii) ensure that the financial affairs of the Local are conducted in conformity with generally accepted accounting practices;
- ix) make all books available for inspection by the Trustees and/or auditors on reasonable notice. Ensure that the books are audited at least once each calendar year and within a reasonable time, respond in writing to any recommendations and concerns raised by the Trustees;

- x) co-sign all cheques and ensure that the Local Union's funds are used only as authorized or directed by the CUPE Constitution, Local Union bylaws, or vote of the membership.
- xi) The Treasurer, and all other Officers authorized to sign on behalf of the Local shall be properly bonded with a faithful performance of duty bond. Bonding amounts shall conform to the minimum guidelines as established by the National Secretary Treasurer and distributed to all chartered organizations annually.
- xii) Any Treasurer who cannot qualify for a bond shall immediately be disqualified from office and the Local shall proceed with the election of another Treasurer.
- xiii) On behalf of the local union membership, be responsible for maintaining, organizing, safeguarding and keeping on file all supporting documents, authorization, invoices and/or vouchers for every disbursement made, receipts for all money sent to CUPE headquarters as well as records and supporting documents for all income received by the local union.
- xiv) co-chair the Bylaw, Policy, and Finance Committee.
- xv) Be given preference to serve as a delegate to the Secretary-Treasurer's Conference.

7.7 Duties of the Lead Steward

- (a) The Lead Steward shall oversee the handling and processing of all grievances in their unit and other related actions undertaken by the Local and/or its members to enforce the Collective Agreement. The Unit Lead Stewards and the President shall work together to ensure consistency in the filing of grievances.
- (b) The Lead Steward shall cause adequate records of all grievances conducted by the Local to be maintained in the Local office.
- (c) The Lead Steward shall be the chair of the Stewards Council.
- (d) The Lead Steward shall coordinate the training and activities of the Stewards.
- (e) The Lead Steward shall appoint a member of the Stewards Council to serve as Secretary thereto, ensuring that:
 - i) proper notice for all meetings of the Stewards Council is given;
 - ii) in consultation with the Recording Secretary of the Local, proper records of the deliberations of the Stewards Council are maintained, and;
- (f) The Lead Steward shall be the representative of the Executive to the Stewards Council, and shall:
 - i) report to the Executive Committee on all business conducted by the Stewards Council
 - ii) report to the Stewards Council the activities of the Executive Committee relevant to the mandate of the Stewards Council

7.8 Duties of the Outreach Officer

- (a) The Outreach Officer shall be responsible for assisting the Media Relations Officer with the maintenance of the local's website, and for the compilation and publication of the Local newsletter, and other materials for the purpose of membership outreach.
- (b) Maintain an accurate contact list for all three units, including ensuring that members are in good standing and have signed a union card. Ensure that the Local is monitoring the demographics of the membership through data collection and

outreach.

- (c) Assist in the organizing and ordering of promotional items.
- (d) Create and/or schedule Education for members to help build skill-sets, including in promoting educational opportunities arranged by other organizations as approved by the Executive Committee or General Membership.
- (e) Create and/or facilitate social events for members and to engage in community building.
- (f) Update and maintain the campus bulletin boards.
- (g) Create, organize, and/or deliver union orientation sessions with the assistance of the Executive Committee and the Stewards' Council.
- (h) The Membership Outreach Officer shall co-chair the Communications Committee and the Social Committee.
- (i) Work with the Lead Stewards, the Stewards' Council, and the Vice Presidents, to mobilize members of all units.
- (j) Sit on the equity committee and assist the equity officer with promoting equity issues within the local.
- (k) Alongside the President, oversee the work of the Media Relations Coordinator.

7.9 Duties of the Equity Officer

- (a) Ensure the work of the union is performed through an equity lens;
- (b) Assist members in understanding their human rights under the Ontario Human Rights Code, Brock University's Respectful Work and Learning Environment Policy, the Collective Agreement, and any other relevant laws and policies;
- (c) Attend grievance meetings and assist with grievances that relate to equity;
- (d) Sit on the Equity Committee as a Co-chair, attend Equity Committee meetings, promote the Equity Committee's issues at the Executive Committee, and generally promote the Equity Committee and its work to the membership;
- (e) Be given preference to attend as a delegate to the CUPE Ontario Human Rights and Racial Justice Conference;
- (f) Arrange training on equity issues including providing anti-oppression training to the Executive Committee and the Stewards' Council;
- (g) Assist members and the Executive Committee with all cases that go to Brock University's Office of Human Rights & Equity Services;
- (h) Sit on the committees dealing with equity issues;
- (i) Adhere to confidentiality standards. Delete?
- (j) Work with the Bargaining Research Committee to collect data about membership demographics in order to better understand the membership's equity seeking groups.
- (k) Arrange, set up, and co-facilitate Equity Sub-Committees as needed and/or necessary including the Disability Committee, Pink Triangle Committee, Racialized Workers Committee, Women's Committee, Young Workers Committee, and Indigenous Committee so that all equity seeking workers are represented.

7.10 Duties of the Health and Safety Officers

- (a) The membership shall elect one Health and Safety Officer to sit on the Executive Committee as a voting member, and one Deputy Health and Safety Officer. They shall attend all meetings of the executive and vote on Executive Committee decisions. The

Deputy Health and Safety Officer may attend all meetings of the executive, and shall have the right to speak, but not to vote.

- (b) The Health and Safety Officers shall act as a liaison between the Local and the University on health and safety issues, including recommendations.
- (c) The Health and Safety Officers shall attend relevant training and development meetings and/or workshops to maintain competence in the event of changes to provincial legislation.
- (d) The Health and Safety Officers shall perform such other duties as may be required by the Local and/or Executive Committee.
- (e) The Health and Safety Officer shall attend health and safety-related grievances.
- (f) The Health and Safety Officer and Deputy Health and Safety Officer shall sit on the university's joint Health and Safety Committee, and report to the Executive Committee and membership on the proceedings of these meetings, and any other health and safety concerns relevant to the membership. The Health and Safety Officers are appointed to the Joint Health and Safety Committee and serve at the pleasure of the Local Executive.
- (g) In the event that the Local is entitled to greater representation on the employer's joint health and safety committee, the Local shall elect as many Health and Safety Officers to which it is entitled. Any additional Health and Safety Officers elected by the membership shall be appointed to the Joint Health and Safety Committee and serve at the pleasure of the Local Executive. Any new officer shall also become a Deputy Health and Safety Officer.
- (h) The Health and Safety Officers shall co-chair the Local Health, Safety, and Wellness Committee and arrange for Health, Safety, and Wellness incentives, training, and education for the membership.
- (i) The Health and Safety Officer shall be given preference to serve as a delegate at the Injured Workers Conference and any Health and Safety Conferences.

7.11 Duties of Trustees

- (a) The Local shall have three (3) Trustees, who shall be elected by the membership.
- (b) Any member in good standing of the Local at the time of election may be elected to the office of Trustee, so long as the member does not hold any executive position in the local.
- (c) The term of office for all Trustees is May 1 of the year in which their election takes place to April 30 of the third year following. There shall be one trustee elected each year. Where such election does not take place before April 30, a Trustee shall continue in office until such time as an election is held. Where a Trustee's position is vacant, an election shall be held at the general meeting subsequent to the position's being vacated. A trustee elected in a by-election shall serve the remainder of the term of the trustee whom they are replacing. The terms of office for Trustees shall be as laid down in Article B.2.4 of the CUPE National Constitution. No member who has been a signing officer for the Local Union is eligible to run for Trustee, until at least one full term of office has elapsed.
- (d) The Trustees shall perform at least one audit of the Local's books per year, and shall supervise the audit of the books of the Treasurer by the Local's auditors and shall exercise general supervision over the property of the Local. Audits should be performed before September 1st for the preceding year being audited.

- (e) The Trustees shall report, in writing, to the next regular meeting of the Local on the condition of the funds and accounts, the number of members in good standing, the number initiated, expelled or suspended, admitted or withdrawn, together with such other information they may deem necessary to the efficient and honest administration of the Local. They shall transmit a copy of such report to the National Secretary-Treasurer of CUPE.

The Trustees shall:

- i) act as an auditing committee on behalf of the members and audit the book and accounts of the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and the Standing Committees at least once every calendar year
- ii) make a written report of their findings to the first membership meeting following the completion of each audit
- iii) submit in writing to the President and Treasurer any recommendations and/or concerns they feel should be reviewed in order to ensure that the Local's funds, records and accounts are being maintained by the Treasurer in an organized, correct and proper manner
- iv) be responsible to ensure that monies are not paid out without proper constitutional or membership authorization
- v) ensure that proper financial reports are made to the membership
- vi) audit the record of attendance
- vii) inspect at least once a year any stocks, bonds, securities, office furniture and equipment, and titles or deeds to property that may at any time be owned by the Local, and report their findings to the membership
- viii) send a copy of the completed audit report (on the prescribed form provided by the National Secretary-Treasurer), as well as a copy of their report to the Local membership along with a copy of their recommendations and/or concerns to the President and Treasurer and the Treasurer's response, to the National Secretary Treasurer of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, with a copy to the assigned servicing representative.

7.12 Election of the Officers

- (a) Election of the Executive Committee, Health and Safety Officer and Trustees shall take place at the Annual General Meeting, and as otherwise provided herein.
- (b) Nominations for positions on the Executive Committee and for the Trustees shall be open as of at the March General Membership meeting. Any member in good standing shall have the right to nominate any member in good standing for any position. Nominations may be submitted to the Recording Secretary in writing, provided that the nomination is clearly signed by a nominator, and by the nominee in acceptance of the nomination. Members not in attendance at a meeting where nominations are open may be nominated for a position, provided that their acceptance of the nomination is submitted in writing to the Recording Secretary prior to the March General Meeting. Byelections for vacant positions shall be held in General Membership Meetings.
- (c) Any member in good standing of the Local at the time of election may be elected to any position on the Executive Committee, except for the Vice-President positions and the Equity Officer. In order to be nominated for election to the position of Vice President,

the candidate must be a member of the unit they seek to represent. For Unit 1, candidates for the position of Vice-President Graduate Students must be enrolled in Graduate Studies at Brock University at the time of the election/appointment. Only members from the equity- seeking groups enumerated in Appendix B may be elected as the Equity Officer. For the position of Lead Steward Unit 1, only members of Unit 1 may be nominated for election. For the position of Lead Steward Units 2 & 3, only members of Units 2 & 3 may be nominated for election. The election for Lead Steward Units 2 & 3 will be open to members of the opposite unit of the member elected for the Vice-President Units 2 & 3. Should no member of the opposite Unit be nominated, then all members of Units 2 & 3 may be nominated for election. Should a member be employed in both Units 2 and 3, that member may be able to stand as a member of both units. For the positions of Lead Steward Unit 4, only members of Unit 4 may be nominated for election.

- (d) At the March General Meeting, the Chair of the meeting shall advise the members present of the positions to be filled, the members already nominated (if any) for those positions, and shall call for further nominations. The Chair shall call three times for nominations for each position. After third call, and hearing no further nominations, the Chair shall declare nominations closed for that position. Upon the closing of nominations, the Chair shall ask each of the nominees if they will stand for election.
- (e) Where only one nomination is received for a position, and the member accepts nomination, they shall be declared elected by acclamation. Where more than one nomination is received, an election for that position shall be conducted.
- (f) Where an election is to be conducted, the membership shall elect three returning officers to conduct it, of which a chair must be selected amongst the three elected returning officers. No candidate for a contested position may serve as returning officer. Members serving as returning officers will receive \$250 to cover out-of-pocket expenses.
- (g) Should an election be held, candidates will be given two minutes to speak to the membership at an Elections Forum to be held no later than seven days following the March General Membership meeting. The Elections Forum will be facilitated by the returning officers. Members may also be able to provide written material to be posted on the Union's website, provided that the material does not violate existing bylaws and policies, including the Equality Statement and the Code of Conduct. The returning officers with the assistance of the National Servicing Representative will determine whether material is suitable to be posted.
- (h) Voting shall take place through a mail-in ranked ballot with the results to be announced and ratified at the Annual General Meeting. The returning officers shall conduct the election in such a way as to conform to good electoral practice; in particular, no member's ballot should be identifiable, all ballots should be properly accounted for, and adequate care must be taken for the security of all election materials. All members in good standing will be eligible to receive a ballot. Should a ballot be mailed to a member, no further ballot will be issued should the ballot be lost in the mail. The timelines of when requests for ballots are to be made and for when ballots must be received will be made by the returning officers.
- (i) A majority of votes cast shall be required before any candidate can be declared elected. A ranked ballot will be used. All candidates for each contested position must be ranked

on every ballot. Should a ballot fail to rank all candidates, that ballot will be declared to be spoiled. If there is an election that does not result in a majority, the candidate receiving the lowest number of first place votes in the previous ballot shall be dropped and the second place votes on those ballots will be counted towards the votes received by the other candidates. This will follow until a member has a majority of legal ballots cast. In the event the tie vote persists, subsequent ballots may be deferred to the next membership meeting.

- (j) The date and time of the counting of the ballots will be communicated to each candidate, and they shall be entitled to one (1) scrutineer to observe the counting of the ballots.
- (k) No candidate may be elected to any more than one (1) executive position at one time.
- (l) Where positions remain unfilled subsequent to the Annual General Meeting, they shall be filled when possible in accordance with Article 7.12.
- (m) Voting to fill one office shall be conducted and completed, and recounts dealt with before balloting may be counted to fill another office. The ballots will be counted as follows:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice-President, Unit 1
 - c. Vice-President, Graduate Students
 - d. Vice-President, Instructors
 - e. Vice-President, Units 2 & 3
 - f. Vice -President, Unit 4
 - g. Treasurer
 - h. Lead Steward, Unit 1
 - i. Lead Steward, Units 2 & 3
 - j. Lead Steward, Unit 4
 - k. Recording Secretary
 - l. Outreach Officer
 - m. Equity Officer
 - n. Health & Safety Officer
 - o. Deputy Health & Safety Officer
 - p. Trustee (s)
 - q. Delegates to Councils, Conferences, and Conventions
- (n) Only members of the unit may participate in the election of the Vice Presidents and Lead Steward(s) for said unit.
- (o) When two or more nominees are to be elected to any office by ballot, each member voting will be required to vote for the full number of candidates to be elected or the member's ballot will be declared spoiled.

7.13 Vacancies

- (a) Should any member of the Executive Committee, or any Steward or Trustee resign the Executive Committee shall declare their position to be vacant, and it shall be filled at the next membership meeting, in the manner outlined in this Article. Should a member resign their position, it cannot be retracted once submitted.
- (b) Should any member of the Executive Committee fail to attend three consecutive Executive meetings or three consecutive Membership Meetings without a good and sufficient reason for their absence, the Executive Committee may declare their position to be vacant, and it shall be filled at the next membership meeting, in the

- manner outlined in the Vacancy provisions.
- (c) Should any elected member of the bargaining committee miss three consecutive bargaining committee meetings without a good and sufficient reason, the Executive Committee, on the advice of the Bargaining Committee Chair, may declare their position to be vacant, and it shall be filled at the next membership meeting, in the manner outlined in the Vacancy provisions.
 - (d) The Executive Committee may appoint one of its members or another member in good standing to fill vacant positions *pro tem* until such time as a membership meeting can be called.
 - i) For the purposes of 7.13 (b), *pro tem* appointments do not include Departmental Stewards or Trustees.
 - (e) Should any Steward miss three consecutive Stewards Council meetings, or three consecutive membership meetings without a good and sufficient reason for their absence, the Executive Committee, on the advice of the Lead Steward, may declare their position to be vacant, and it shall be filled at the next membership meeting, in the manner outlined in this article.
 - (f) A Departmental Steward position shall be declared vacant if a petition signed by two-thirds (2/3) of the membership of the department is presented to the Lead Steward.
 - (g) Should any Additional Steward miss three consecutive Stewards Council meetings without a good and sufficient reason for their absence, the Executive Committee, on the advice of the Lead Steward, may declare their position to be vacant, and it shall be filled at the next membership meeting, in the manner outlined in this article.
 - (h) Should any Trustee resign or otherwise leave office, the Executive Committee shall declare their position to be vacant, and it shall be filled at the next membership meeting, in the manner outlined in this Article.

7.14 Executive and Steward Expenses

- (a) The positions of President, Vice Presidents, Chief Stewards, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Equity Officer, Health and Safety Officer and Outreach Officer shall be provided \$500 per month to cover out-of-pocket expenses associated with their positions.
- (b) Each Steward shall be provided \$100 per month to cover out-of-pocket expenses associated with their positions. Each Departmental Steward shall be provided \$50 per month to cover out-of-pocket expenses associated with their positions.

ARTICLE 8: STEWARDS

8.1 Election of Stewards

- (a) The members shall be entitled to elect stewards as follows:
 - i. Faculty Stewards (Unit 1): one (1) steward for the following faculties: Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, Applied Health Sciences, Business, and Math and Sciences and other new faculties as added from time to time.
 - ii. Departmental Stewards (Unit 1): up to two (2) stewards for each Academic Department in which Unit 1 members typically work.
 - iii. Additional Stewards (Unit 1): one (1) instructor steward and one (1) international steward.

- iv. Unit Stewards (Unit 2 and Unit 3): one steward to represent members of Unit 2 and 3.
 - v. Unit Steward (Unit 4): one steward to represent members of Unit 4.
- (b) The election process in 8.1.1 shall apply to Faculty Stewards, Additional Stewards, and Unit Stewards only.
- (c) The election process in 8.1.2 shall apply to Departmental Stewards.

Election of Stewards

- (a) Stewards shall be elected at the General Membership Meeting in September and shall serve a term beginning October 1 in the year of the election, and ending on September 30 the following year.
- (b) Elections of Stewards shall be done in the same manner as for the Executive Council and Trustees as laid out in Article 7.
- (c) A separate election shall be held for each steward position.
- i. For faculty stewards, in the first set of calls for nominations, only members employed in the faculty or have held a contract in the previous twelve months in the faculty for which the vote is being conducted may stand for election. Where only one nomination is received and the nominee has agreed to stand for a position, the member nominated shall be declared elected by acclamation. Where more than one nomination is received and accepted, an election for that position shall be conducted.
 - ii. For the Unit 2 and 3 steward, only members from Unit 2 Unit 3 shall be eligible to be elected. Where only nomination is received and the nominee has agreed to stand for the position, the member nominated shall be declared elected by acclamation. Where more than one nomination is received and accepted, an election for that position shall be conducted. Where, for any reason, the members fail to elect a Steward, the Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint the Steward.
 - iii. For the Unit 4 steward, only members from Unit 4 shall be eligible to be elected. Where only nomination is received and the nominee has agreed to stand for the position, the member nominated shall be declared elected by acclamation. Where more than one nomination is received and accepted, an election for that position shall be conducted.

8.1.1 Election of Departmental Stewards

- (a) Departmental Stewards must work in a department or have held a contract in that department in the previous 12 months. They are appointed by the Executive Committee as they express interest. Any member in good standing may become a Departmental Steward, and Faculty Stewards in Unit 1 must identify as a Departmental Steward. Departmental Stewards are also open to members of the Executive Committee.

8.2 Duties of Stewards

- (a) Departmental Stewards shall:
- i. Recruit and organize members in their departments and encourage them to become active in the Local.
 - ii. Act as representatives of the Local to the employees in their departments.

- iii. Serve as the liaison between the members they represent and the Lead Steward, and, where applicable, the Faculty Steward and Vice-Presidents.
 - iv. Advise the members of the departments with regard to matters involving the Collective Agreement.
 - v. Organize the members to attend GMMs and other Local events.
 - vi. Distribute information of the Local.
 - vii. Attend, once per term, a Stewards Council meeting to report on any issues and findings from their work in the departments.
 - viii. Where appropriate, process the grievances of the members in their departments and represent their members in grievance meetings.
 - ix. Submit monthly written reports to the Stewards' Council to report on their activities since the previous meeting. Stewards must submit reports to at least 50% of the Stewards' Council meetings called to receive out of pocket expenses.
- (b) Faculty and Unit Stewards shall:
- i) Perform all duties of Departmental Stewards as set out in 8.2 (a) except (vii).
 - ii) Attend all Stewards Council and Grievance Committee meetings.
 - iii) Where applicable, liaise with Departmental Stewards to ensure they have the training and supports to perform their duties.
 - iv) Report on their work to the Lead Steward and, as appropriate, their respective Vice Presidents.
 - v) Perform notetaking duties for Grievances, Disciplinary Hearings, and Arbitrations as requested.
- (c) Additional Stewards shall:
- i) Act as representatives of the Local on issues pertaining to the group that they represent.
 - ii) Collect information and report to the Stewards Council regarding issues facing the groups that they represent.
 - iii) Maintain contact and inform members of groups that they represent of Collective Agreement and workplace issues.
 - iv) Attend Stewards Council and Grievance Committee meetings at least once per term.

8.3 The Stewards Council

There shall be a Stewards Council, the voting membership of which shall consist of all Stewards, including the Lead Steward, who shall prepare the agenda for and preside over all meetings of the Stewards Council, and the Membership Outreach Officer.

- (a) The Stewards Council shall meet at least once each month. The Executive may direct the Lead Steward to call a meeting of the Council at any time. Each Steward is entitled to at least five (5) working days notice of the date, time and location of any meeting of the Council.
- (b) Quorum for the Stewards' Council shall be 50% of Faculty and Unit stewards, and at least two Lead Stewards.

8.4 Grievance Committee

- (a) The Stewards Council shall be the Grievance Committee of the Local; as such, it shall be responsible for ensuring that the Employer complies with the collective agreement, advise and assist the Lead Steward in matters involving grievances and grievance policy, coordinate the processing of grievances, and make recommendations to the Executive regarding arbitration of grievances and/or continued carriage of grievances.
- (b) Discussion of grievance-related matters in the Stewards Council shall be in camera. For good and just reason, the Council may request the participation of others, such as appropriate Local staff, legal counsel, witnesses, etc.
- (c) Each Steward shall hold in strict confidence all information pertaining to any complaint or grievance. They shall reveal such information only to the Lead Steward, the Staff Representative and/or Business Agent, Local legal counsel, or to the Stewards' Council when the Council is in session.
- (d) Grievance reports shall be presented to the Executive, the membership, and the National Representative.

8.5 Organization and Communication

The Stewards' Council shall ensure continuous organizing within departments and shall ensure open communication between and among the Executive and members.

ARTICLE 9: COMMITTEES

9.1 In addition to any Committees established by these by-laws, the Executive, Stewards' Council, and/or membership may strike such committees as are considered appropriate for the needs and purposes of the Local.

9.2 At the time any committee is struck, the body striking the committee shall determine the mandate, the requirements for membership, and the duration of activity of the committee. Committees shall act in accordance with Article 4.1(d) of these by-laws.

9.3 Unless otherwise set out at the time a committee is struck, the committee shall make its report and recommendations to the body which strikes it.

9.4 All committees of the Local excluding the Health and Safety committee shall be responsible for electing a co-chair and maintaining adequate records of their deliberations. Such records shall be kept on file at the Local office and stored electronically.

9.5 The following shall be considered Standing Committees of the Local. A general description of the committees can be found in the Appendix C to these bylaws:

- a) Stewards' Council
- b) Equity
- c) Bylaw, Policy, and Finance
- d) Communications
- e) Social
- f) Education
- g) Political Action and International Solidarity
- h) Organizing
- i) Health, Safety, and Wellness
- j) Environmental Justice Committee

9.6 Each committee aside from the Stewards' Council and the Health, Safety, and Wellness Committee, shall consist of three permanent members. These members shall consist of two co-chairs and a third member at large. Unless stipulated in Article 7, the co-chairs and the member at large shall be elected at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the committee after May 1st, and the members shall serve until April 30th of the following year. If there is a vacancy, a by-election shall be done at the first scheduled meeting, provided that notice of the election is given with at least seven (7) days notice. For the purpose of quorum, a majority of the permanent members will constitute quorum. All committees may be attended by any member in good standing with voice and vote. Meetings of the committees need to be provided with 14 days notice.

9.7 It shall be understood that all bargaining unit-specific meetings that are not otherwise identified in these bylaws shall be deemed a meeting of an ad-hoc committee of the membership struck for the sole purpose of addressing a bargaining unit-specific issue or issues.

- a) This ad-hoc committee of the membership must be open to all members; however, only bargaining unit members of the unit-specific issue(s) covered shall have the right to vote on the decisions of the committee.
- b) The decision to hold a bargaining unit-specific meeting shall be made by the Executive or General Membership, and scheduling of the meeting shall be advised by the Unit Vice-President and/or members of the bargaining unit in attendance at the meeting.
- c) 7 days notice of the meeting must be provided in writing.

9.8 The Executive Committee, the General Membership, or Standing Committees may also strike ad-hoc committees that are only open to particular members, provided that the reason is not meant to exclude individuals that are not from that particular group. For example, a Unit 1 Instructors meeting will only be open to Unit 1 Instructors or a meeting of members in a particular unit or department are only open to members that are employed in that unit or department.

ARTICLE 10: DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

10.1 Union Dues: Each member of the Local shall pay union due of two point five percent (2.5%) or as are determined from time to time by the Executive, and approved by the membership in a properly constituted meeting. When the per capita dues are increased by a National Convention vote then the above dues amount shall be increased by the same amount. The regular monthly dues shall be established or altered by the Local only at regular or special membership meetings, provided that at least seven (7) days notice at a previous meeting, or at least sixty (60) days written notice has been given.

10.2 Special Assessments:

- (a) Each member shall pay, in addition to dues, any special assessment as determined by the Local from time to time when special circumstances warrant as provided for in the Union Constitution.
- (b) Where the Executive believes a special assessment is required, it shall give its reasons to, and obtain approval from, a general meeting called for that purpose.

- (c) The monies obtained from such assessment shall be used only for the purpose(s) of the assessment, except that any surplus shall be allocated to the Local Defence and Strike Fund.
- (d) No assessment of any kind shall be imposed on the members of the Local unless such assessment has been approved by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at a membership meeting called for that purpose in the manner herein prescribed, and has been approved by the National President.
- (e) Notice in writing shall be given to each member in good standing of such a meeting not later than five (5) days in advance of such a meeting.
- (f) Special assessments may be levied in accordance with Article B.4.2 of the CUPE Constitution.

10.3 Initiation Fees

Each member shall pay a two dollars (\$2) initiation fee upon taking employment in the Bargaining Unit.

This fee shall be deducted from the member's first pay. If their membership in the Local lapses (as per Article 5.2), a readmission fee in the amount of two dollars (\$2) shall be paid upon re-entry into the bargaining unit.

10.4 Any member in arrears for a period of three months or more shall be automatically suspended and their suspension shall be reported to the Executive by the Treasurer. The Executive shall report to the next membership meeting with a recommendation. Any member under suspension wishing to be reinstated shall, upon application, pay the readmittance fee, plus any dues and assessments in arrears. This money will be returned if the application is rejected. If a member has been unemployed or unable to work because of sickness, they shall pay the readmittance fee but may not be required to pay their arrears.

10.5 Local Defense and Strike Fund

(a) It shall be understood that at least \$500 000 of Term Deposits shall be allocated to the Local Defense and Strike Fund. In the budget presented at the AGM, the membership shall approve the exact amount of the strike fund.

(b) In the event that the funds available for the Local Defense and Strike Fund are less than the \$500 000, the Union shall be empowered to use Special Assessments in accordance with these bylaws.

(c) It is understood that the Local Defense and Strike Fund shall be available for use when any bargaining unit has a mandate to strike following a Strike Vote.

ARTICLE 11: NEGOTIATION OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS

11.1 Bargaining Committee

- (a) The Bargaining Committee for Unit 1 shall consist of six members elected at a General Membership Meeting, as well as the President of the Local. The CUPE Representative assigned to the Local shall be a non-voting member of the Committee and shall be consulted at all stages from formulating proposals, through negotiations, to contract ratification by the membership.

- (b) The Bargaining Committee for Unit 2 shall consist of two members elected at a General Membership Meeting, as well as the President of the Local. The CUPE Representative assigned to the Local shall be a non-voting member of the Committee and shall be consulted at all stages from formulating proposals, through negotiations, to contract ratification by the membership. Only members in good standing of Unit 2 shall be eligible to run for these positions.
- (c) The Bargaining Committee for Unit 3 shall consist of three members elected a General Membership Meeting, as well as the President of the Local. The CUPE Representative assigned to the Local shall be a non-voting member of the Committee and shall be consulted at all stages from formulating proposals, through negotiations, to contract ratification by the membership. Only members in good standing of Unit 3 shall be eligible to run for these positions.
- (d) The Bargaining Committee for Unit 4 shall consist of three members elected a General Membership Meeting, as well as the President of the Local. The CUPE Representative assigned to the Local shall be a non-voting member of the Committee and shall be consulted at all stages from formulating proposals, through negotiations, to contract ratification by the membership. Only members in good standing of Unit 4 shall be eligible to run for these positions.
- (e) The elected members shall be elected at a general meeting not later than nine (9) calendar months previous to the expiration of any Collective Agreement.
- (f) Only members of the unit may participate in the election of bargaining members for said unit. For the purpose of clarity, only members of Unit 1 are eligible to vote for members of the Unit 1 bargaining committee.
- (g) There shall be a member of the Unit 1 bargaining committee who is both a graduate student of Brock University and member of CUPE 4207. If there is no graduate student bargaining committee member and there is no alternate to replace them who can become a graduate student bargaining committee member, then an election shall be called pursuant to the bylaws.
- (h) There shall be a member of the Unit 1 bargaining committee who is an Instructor at Brock University. If there is no Instructor bargaining committee member and there is no alternate to replace them who can become an Instructor bargaining committee member, then an election shall be called pursuant to the bylaws.

11.2 Development and Approval of Proposals: The Bargaining Committee shall develop and present bargaining proposals to the membership for approval.

11.3 Responsibilities of the Bargaining Committee: The Bargaining Committee is responsible for bargaining with representatives of the Employer. The Bargaining Committee will also make recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding application for conciliation and mediation, the timing of strike votes, and the nature of strike action. The Bargaining Committee will report regularly to the membership, Stewards' Council and to the Executive.

11.4 Ratification: In the event that the Bargaining Committee tentatively accepts a Collective Agreement, it shall be presented to the membership for ratification at a special membership meeting to be held with at least 24 hours notice. Only members of Unit 1 shall be eligible to vote in a ratification vote for the Unit 1 collective agreement. Only members of Unit 2 shall be eligible to vote in a ratification vote for the Unit 2 collective agreement. Only members of Unit 3 shall be

eligible to vote in a ratification vote for the Unit 3 collective agreement. Only members of Unit 4 shall be eligible to vote in a ratification vote for the Unit 4 collective agreement.

11.5 Signing Authority: Any Collective Agreement entered into on behalf of the Local shall be signed by the Bargaining Committee.

11.6 Bargaining Support Committee

(a) At least three (3) months before the Local is undertaking bargaining for the renewal of a Collective Agreement, the Executive shall strike a Bargaining Support Committee and shall appoint an Executive member to Chair that committee. In the event that a successful strike vote is held per Article 13, the the Bargaining Support Committee shall become the Strike Committee.

(b) In addition to the chair, the Bargaining Support Committee shall consist of four (4) Elected members of the membership, and all units that are to be in bargaining must have the opportunity to have at least one (1) member elected to the position. The election shall occur at a General Membership Meeting. All members are welcome to participate in the Bargaining Support Committee, though only members who are elected shall be deemed to have voting rights. The Bargaining Support Committee may opt to use other democratic decision-making models at their meetings with the consensus of all Bargaining Support Committee members.

(c) The Bargaining Support Committee shall be responsible for:

(i) Holding regular meetings (at least once per month) to discuss bargaining mobilization-related concerns;

(ii) Organizing among the membership, the University, and the community in support of the Local's aims in bargaining;

(iii) Producing resource guides, forms, protocols, and procurement strategies that may be referred to by a Strike Committee, and;

(iv) Coordinating the production of communiques and releases with the Membership Outreach Officer, Bargaining Committee(s), and Executive Committee.

(d) The Bargaining Support Committee members shall receive book-off when requested in order to perform the duties of the Bargaining Support Committee.

11.7 Bargaining Committee Expenses:

(a) Each member of the Bargaining Committee shall be paid \$200 each month to cover out-of-pocket expenses, beginning in the month in which the committee is elected and ending in the month in which bargaining ends.

11.8 Bargaining Committee Training: Following the election of the bargaining committee, but before notice to bargain is provided, the union shall arrange for in-house CUPE Education on "preparing to bargain," "bargaining skills," and "note-taking." All members of the bargaining committee shall be required to attend this training session.

ARTICLE 12: STRIKE VOTES

12.1 Where the Executive decides to conduct a strike vote, a membership meeting shall be called and notice shall be sent in accordance with Article 6. Such notice shall include a statement from the Executive explaining the reasons for the recommendation for a strike vote. Only members of Unit 1 shall be entitled to cast a ballot in a vote involving bargaining for the Unit 1 collective agreement. Only members of Unit 2 shall be entitled to cast a ballot in a vote involving bargaining for the Unit 2 collective agreement. Only members of Unit 3 shall be entitled to cast a ballot in a vote involving bargaining for the Unit 3 collective agreement. Only members of Unit 4 shall be entitled to cast a ballot in a vote involving bargaining for the Unit 4 collective agreement.

12.2 The membership meeting shall deal only with issues surrounding the strike vote, and no other business shall be conducted.

12.3 Two scrutineers shall be elected at the meeting to assist the Chair in counting the ballots.

12.4 Upon adjournment of the meeting, the polls shall open and voting shall begin by secret ballot. Polls shall remain open until every member present has had a chance to vote. The polls shall open again the following day, and shall remain open from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. In the event that all members of a Unit of this local who are eligible to cast a ballot have done so, the polls shall close upon the casting of the final ballot and the ballots shall be counted immediately as per Article 13.5.

12.5 The Chair and scrutineers shall count the ballots. A majority of votes cast shall decide the strike vote.

12.6 The decision shall be communicated to the membership within one working day of the ballots being counted.

12.7 The conduct of any strike vote shall conform to all relevant legislation.

ARTICLE 13: STRIKES

- (a) A strike vote shall be carried out in the manner prescribed in Article 13 of these bylaws.
- (b) In the event of a successful strike vote, a Strike Committee shall be struck consisting of members of the Bargaining Support Committee, members of the Executive, members of the Bargaining Committee(s), Stewards, and any interested General Members.

Subcommittees of the Strike Committee shall include but not limited to the Strike Policy, Finance, Food and Acquisitions, Strike Headquarters/Off-Campus Space, Transportation, and Ways and Means/Childcare.

- (c) Book-off shall be available to all members of the Strike Committee to execute the functions of the committee.
- (d) Where a decision to strike has been decided by the membership, and so ordered, every member shall make efforts to support the strike in a sincere and conscientious manner.
- (e) The Local's strike policy as approved by the general membership shall be available at all times in the union office and shall be distributed to all members before the commencement of a strike.
- (f) Such policy can only be amended in accordance with Article 20: Policies of these Bylaws.
- (g) Every member shall conform with the strike policy of the Local.

- (h) Every member shall comply with the directions and/or instruction issued by the Executive Committee during the period of the strike.
- (i) Strike Headquarters shall be wheelchair accessible. All subcommittees of the Strike Committee shall be allowed to use the Strike Headquarters.

ARTICLE 14: EXPENSES

14.1 Members of the Local delegated to attend overnight seminars, conferences, conventions, or any other approved business shall receive a per diem of seventy-five dollars (\$75) per day, greater than three hours, including travel time, for expenses; members shall receive a per diem of thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$37.50) per day for meetings and travel time less than three hours in one day. The rates above will be reduced as follow when meals are provided at a meeting: breakfast provided, deduct fifteen dollars (\$15); lunch provided, deduct twenty dollars (\$20); supper provided, deduct thirty-five dollars (\$35). Members with special dietary considerations may opt to receive a full per diem, in order to accommodate their needs. Where feasible and amenable, double room accommodations for two or more delegated members from the Local sharing a room together or, where not feasible nor amenable, single room accommodations; plus cost of designated travel – including cab or bus fare to and from airport or train station to hotel accommodation or, when driving, reimbursement for kilometres travelled paid at the Canada Revenue Agency rate, and on site parking charges; plus lost wages and benefits if any.

14.2 Gas allowance on Union business is to be reimbursed at the Canada Revenue Agency rate in kilometers travelled.

14.3 Any member presenting a bill for out-of-pocket expenses, while conducting Union business, shall present in writing an itemized account and receipts of such expenses to the Treasurer of the Local. Their submission of expenses for reimbursement must be reviewed by a member of the Executive Committee made before any reimbursement can be paid.

14.4 Delegates to conventions of CUPE National and The Ontario Division of CUPE shall be empowered to spend up to \$2000 for the purpose of support to striking locals, personal appeals recognized by the convention, and other bona fide emergencies recognized by the convention, so long as at least one signing authority of the local is present at said convention and agrees to the expenditure.

ARTICLE 15: AFFILIATIONS

15.1 In addition to the Canadian Labour Congress, the Local shall be affiliated to the Ontario Division of CUPE, the Niagara District CUPE Council, the Hamilton and District Labour Council, and the Niagara District Labour Council.

15.2 Election of Delegates to conventions/ conferences shall be held at a regular General Membership Meeting. A plurality of votes shall determine the election results. If a member in good standing of the Local holds an elected position on the executive of CUPE National, The Ontario Division of CUPE, The Ontario Federation of Labour, or The Canadian Labour Congress, they shall act as delegate to the convention or conference without having to run for election.

15.3 In the event that a full slate of delegates is not elected, the Executive shall appoint members to serve as delegates. This shall be communicated to the members on all convention notices.

15.4 Elections for delegates to the Niagara District CUPE Council, and the Niagara District Labour Council will be held at the Annual General Meeting. If a member in good standing of the Local holds an elected position on the executive of either of these councils, he or she shall continue as the Local's delegate until such time as he or she no longer holds such position.

15.5 The OUWCC Campus Representative shall be elected in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the OUWCC. Should the Campus Representative come from this local, the Campus Representative shall attend all meetings of the OUWCC and regularly report on the Committee's activities to the Local.

15.6 Should a delegate to the Niagara Regional CUPE Council or the Niagara Regional Labour Council fail to attend three of the last five meetings of the Council without a reason acceptable to the Executive Committee for her or his absence, the executive Committee may declare their position to be vacant, and it shall be filled at the next membership meeting, in the manner outlined in this Article.

ARTICLE 16: AMENDMENTS TO THESE BY-LAWS

- (a) These by-laws are always subordinate to the CUPE Constitution. In the event of any conflict between these by-laws and the CUPE Constitution the latter shall govern. Constitutional interpretation, including determination of conflict, is the prerogative of the National President.
- (b) Amendments, changes to these by-laws must be given either at a previous meeting (with at least seven (7) days in advance of the vote on the amendments) or if notice is in written form, sixty (60) days written notice.
- (c) These by-laws shall not be amended, added to, or suspended except upon a 2/3 majority of those present.
- (d) No change in these by-laws shall be valid and take effect until approved by the National President of CUPE. The validity shall date from the letter of approval of the National President.

ARTICLE 17: BENEFITS COMMITTEE

- a) The Benefits Committee shall be deemed the Trustee the responsible party for any health benefit program(s) belonging to CUPE 4207.
- b) The Benefits Committee shall be responsible for all administrative functions of any health benefit program of CUPE 4207 from moneys received directly from the Employer to CUPE 4207.
- c) The Committee shall consist of ex-officio members (President or Designate from the Executive, Treasurer or Designate from the Executive), the Chair (as determined in (d) and (f)), and members who are elected at the Annual Meeting.
- d) At the first meeting held during the fiscal year (May 1-April 30), which shall be called by an ex-officio member, the Committee shall choose a chair whose responsibilities include
 - i. liaising with the benefits provider on all matters;
 - ii. calling all subsequent meetings of the Benefits Committee;

- iii. ensuring all proper invoicing is received to the Treasurer and remitted to the benefits provider
- iv. oversee the balancing of membership requests with financial resources available as defined in (b) for health benefits.
- e) The Chair shall receive two stipends to be distributed semi-annually at the sum of \$150 (October 31 and April 30);
- f) The Chair may be any member in good standing of CUPE 4207.
- g) If the membership chooses to recall the Chair, a petition shall be made to the Executive with 10 signatures, and the Executive or General Membership shall be empowered to motion to declare the Chair position vacant.
- h) Should any decision of the General Membership be made regarding a health benefit program within the scope of the Benefits Committee's mandate, the Benefits Committee must determine whether there are available funds to administer this request without putting the future of the benefit program in question at risk. If it is determined that there are financial risks that may occur from a decision of the General Membership, any moneys used to enact that decision must come from CUPE 4207 accounts that are not related to the health benefits.

ARTICLE 18: POLICIES

- a) Policies may be created for the purpose of instructing elected members on the organizational practices of the local but remain subject to these bylaws.
- b) Policies created by the Executive may be amended, removed, suspended, or added at Executive Committee Meetings or General Membership Meetings;
- c) Policies created by the General Membership may be amended, removed, suspended, or added at General Membership Meetings.
- d) Policies of Committees of the Local may be created within the committees and used for their operations, but are subordinate to other policies and the CUPE 4207 bylaws and the CUPE Constitution.
- e) The threshold for amending, removing, suspending, or adding policies shall be a 2/3 majority from a motion to reconsider, which may be brought forward by any member, no notice of motion shall be required.

ARTICLE 19: ENACTMENT

These by-laws shall supersede any previous by-laws, and shall remain in effect until revisions are authorized by the National President of CUPE.

19.1 On March 16, 2023 these by-laws were presented to and adopted by the membership of the Local at a properly constituted membership meeting, and were submitted to the National President of the Union for approval.

19.2 Upon approval, these by-laws were enacted and replaced any previous by-laws.

APPENDIX "A" RULES OF ORDER

- 1) The President or, in their absence, the Vice-President, shall take the chair at all membership meetings. In the absence of both the President and Vice-President, the Recording Secretary shall act as President, and in their absence a President pro-tem shall be chosen by the local.
- 2) No member, except the Chairperson of a committee making a report or the mover of a resolution, shall speak more than ~~five~~ two minutes, or more than once on the same question without the consent of the meeting or until all who wish to speak have had an opportunity. Chairpersons and movers of a resolution shall be limited to five minutes, except with the consent of the meeting.
- 3) The President shall state every question coming before the Local, and before allowing debate thereon, and again immediately before putting it to a vote, shall ask: "Is the Local ready for the question?" Should no member request to speak, the question shall then be put.
- 4) A motion to be entertained by the presiding officer must be moved and seconded; both mover and seconder must ~~rise~~ indicate and be recognized by the chair.
- 5) A motion to amend, or to amend an amendment, shall be in order, but no motion to amend an amendment to an amendment shall be permitted. No amendment, or amendment to an amendment, which is a direct negative of the resolution shall be in order.
- 6) On motion, the regular order of business may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of those present, to deal with any urgent business.
- 7) All resolutions and motions other than those named in Rule 17, or those to accept or adopt the report of a committee, shall, if requested by the presiding officer, be presented in writing before being put to the Local.
- 8) At the request of any member, and upon a majority vote of those present, a question may be divided when the sense will admit of it.
- 9) Any member having made a motion can withdraw it with the consent of the seconder, except that any motion, once debated, cannot be withdrawn except by a majority vote of those present.
- 10) When a member wishes to speak on a question or to make a motion, they shall request to speak and respectfully address the presiding officer, but, except to state that they are making a point of order or on a question of privilege, they shall not proceed further until recognized by the chair.
- 11) When two or more members request to speak at the same time, the presiding officer shall decide which one is entitled to the floor.
- 12) Every member, while speaking, shall adhere to the question under debate and avoid all personal, indecorous, or offensive language, as well as any poor reflection on the Local or member thereof.
- 13) If a member, while speaking, is called to order, they shall cease speaking until the point is determined; if it is decided they are in order, they may again proceed.
- 14) No religious discussion shall be permitted.
- 15) The President shall take no part in debate while presiding, but may yield the chair to the Vice President in order to speak on any question before the Local, or to introduce a new question.
- 16) The presiding officer shall have the same rights as other members to vote on any question.

- 17) When a motion is before the Local, no other motion shall be in order except (1) to adjourn (2) to put the previous question (3) to lay on the table (4) to postpone for a definite time (5) to refer (6) to divide or amend, which motions shall have precedence in the order named. The first three of these shall be decided without debate.
- 18) A motion for the previous question, when regularly moved and seconded, shall be put in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" If it is adopted, the President shall proceed to take the vote on the resolution and amendments thereto (if any) according to their priority. If an amendment or an amendment to an amendment is adopted, the original resolution, as amended, shall be put to the Local.
- 19) A motion to adjourn is in order except (1) when a member has the floor, and (2) when members are voting.
- 20) A motion to adjourn, having been put and lost, shall not be in order again, if there is further business before the Local, until fifteen minutes have elapsed.
- 21) After the presiding officer declares the vote on a question, and before the Local proceeds to another order of business, any member may ask for a division. A standing vote shall then be taken and the Secretary shall count same.
- 22) If any member wishes to challenge (appeal) a decision of the chair, she or he must do so at the time the decision is made. If the challenge is seconded, the member shall be asked to state briefly the basis for their challenge. The Chairperson may then state briefly the basis for their decision, following which the Chairperson shall immediately and without debate put the question: "Shall the decision of the chair be sustained?" A majority vote shall decide except that in the event of a tie the chair is sustained.
- 23) After a question has been decided, any two members who have voted in the majority may, at the same or next meeting, move reconsideration thereof.
- 24) No member shall enter or leave a meeting during the taking of a vote.
- 25) The Local's business, and proceedings of meeting, are not to be divulged to any persons outside the Local or the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

APPENDIX "B" – ENUMERATED EQUITY-SEEKING GROUPS

- 1) The following groups are recognized as "equity-seeking" (in no particular order):
 - (a) Racialized Workers;
 - (b) Women;
 - (c) Indigenous, Aboriginals, First Nations, Métis, Inuit;
 - (d) Two-Spirited, Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Trans folks, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual Folks (2SLGBTQQIA);
 - (e) Workers with Disabilities.
- 2) Only members who self-identify as belonging to one (1) or more of these enumerated groups shall be eligible to stand for election to the position of Equity Officer. In the event that the position is vacated or otherwise unfilled, the Executive Committee may appoint any member in good standing to fill the position *pro tem* until such time as a membership meeting can be called and a by-election held.

APPENDIX “C” – COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

Stewards Council

The Stewards’ Council shall be comprised of the Stewards and Departmental Stewards. The committee is responsible for mobilizing and organizing members, bringing member issues forward, engaging in union campaigns and initiatives, formally supporting the bargaining committees, and, with the assistance of the Chief Stewards and the Grievance Committee, ensure that grievances are researched and filed.

Equity Committee

The Equity Committee is responsible for ensuring that the work of the local is done through an equity lens. The committee is tasked with organizing education, planning equity-related events, working with allies on and off campus, and to assist in creating content for the local’s social media platforms, website, and emails to members.

Bylaw, Policy, and Finance Committee

The Bylaw, Policy, and Finance Committee is responsible for holding discussions on new bylaw and policy initiatives, as well as assisting the Treasurer in carrying out their duties. The committee will also be called on from either the General Membership or the Executive Committee to draft bylaw amendments or policies.

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is responsible for ensuring the work of communications with members is done, and to provide support for outreach initiatives.

Social Committee

The Social Committee is responsible for organizing socials of the local, including planning and advertising the events.

Education Committee

The Education Committee is responsible for organizing and/or connecting members with educational opportunities.

Political Action and International Solidarity Committee

The Political Action committee meets to discuss political issues that impact our members and proposing campaigns to the local. The committee is also responsible for holding education opportunities for members.

Organizing Committee

The Organizing Committee is called to assist in organizing non-unionized workers at Brock, in conjunction with the Union’s Organizing Department.

Health, Safety, and Wellness Committee

The Health, Safety, and Wellness Committee seeks to advance issues of Health and Safety amongst members through raising awareness, launching campaigns, engaging with members, and holding educational talks.

Environmental Justice Committee

The Environmental Justice Committee is responsible for raising issues related to climate change and environmental justice to the membership, including working with other committees to assist in advancing the work of the local through the lens of environmental justice.

APPENDIX “D” – CODE OF CONDUCT

The mandate of our union, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), is to organize and defend workers and to promote economic and social justice for our members and for all workers. In carrying out our work, we in CUPE strive to promote our core values which include the principles of solidarity, equality, democracy, integrity, and respect. We are committed to mobilizing our energy and skills to work together to promote these values and to attain these goals in our union, our communities, and globally.

CUPE is committed at all levels to creating a union which is inclusive, welcoming, and free from harassment, discrimination, and all types of bullying and intimidation. CUPE needs to ensure that we provide a safe environment for members, staff, and elected officers to carry out our work. CUPE’s expectation is that mutual respect, understanding, and co-operation will be the basis of all our interaction.

This Code of Conduct sets out standards of behaviour for participants at national convention, conferences, schools, meetings, and any other union events organized by CUPE National, Local 4207, or any other CUPE chartered body. It is consistent with the expectations outlined in the Equality Statement and the CUPE National Constitution.

This Code of Conduct is intended to deal with complaints of inappropriate behaviour at events organized by CUPE National and at events, meetings, and activities by other CUPE bodies. It does not apply to complaints arising in the workplace, as those are dealt with through the grievance procedure and/or the applicable workplace harassment policy.

As CUPE members, staff, and elected officers, we commit to one another and to the union to be governed by the principles of the Code of Conduct and agree to:

- Abide by the provisions of the Equality Statement.
- Respect the views of others, even when we disagree.
- Recognize and value individual differences.
- Communicate openly.
- Support and encourage each other.
- Make sure that we do not harass or discriminate against each other.
- Commit to not engaging in offensive comment or conduct.
- Make sure that we do not act in ways that are aggressive, bullying, or intimidating.
- Take responsibility for not engaging in inappropriate behaviour due to use of alcohol or other drugs while participating in union activities, including social events.

Harassment is objectionable behaviour which may include actions, language, gestures, and/or written material, and which the harasser knows or ought reasonably to know is abusive and unwelcome. Bullying is a form of harassment which is serious ongoing behaviour which targets an individual or group and which threatens that person or persons’ mental and/or physical well-being.

A complaint regarding the Code of Conduct will be handled as follows:

1. If possible, a member may attempt to deal directly with the person alleged to have engaged in behaviour contrary to the Code by asking them to stop such behaviour. If that is not possible, or if it does not resolve the problem, a member may bring forward a complaint.
2. A complaint shall be brought to the attention of an ombudsperson when there is one available. Should an ombudsperson not be available, a person properly appointed and designated to be in charge shall receive the complaint.
3. The ombudsperson or the person in charge will work to seek a resolution. If this fails to resolve the matter, the ombudsperson shall report the matter to the person in charge. The person in charge has the authority to expel members from the event for serious or persistent offenses.
4. If the complaint involves a national staff member, it shall be referred to the appropriate director for investigation and the complaint shall be dealt with in accordance with the applicable staff collective agreement. If the complaint involves a staff member employed by another CUPE chartered organization, the complaint shall be referred to the person responsible for their employment.
5. If the person in charge is a party to the complaint, an alternate will be designated to assume the role.
6. In a case where a member has been expelled from a National event, the National President shall receive a report on the matter. For other events, the presiding officer shall receive a report on the matter.
7. For events organized by CUPE National, the National President shall determine if further remedial action is appropriate, including restricting a member's participation in future events organized by CUPE National. For other events, the presiding officer shall consult the National President.

This Code of Conduct is designed to create a safe, respectful, and supportive environment within CUPE. It is meant to enhance the rights and obligations outlined in the CUPE National Constitution, the Equality Statement, and applicable human rights legislation, not replace them.

This Code of Conduct does not replace a member's right to access the trial provisions under Appendix F of the CUPE National Constitution