



Date: July 9, 2009
To: CUPE 15 Members-Vancouver Coastal Health - HSPBA
Re: Education Fund available for CUPE 15 members in the HSPBA Agreement

(This information applies to CUPE 15 members of the Health Science Professionals Bargaining Association employed by Vancouver Coastal Health)

We are writing you to advise you about an Education Fund available for CUPE 15 members covered by the Health Science Professionals Bargaining Association Collective Agreement.

In January of 2008 the Health Science Professionals Bargaining Association successfully negotiated an agreement to resolve issues flowing from the Supreme Court of Canada decision that certain sections of Bill 29 were unconstitutional. The final agreement included a fund for professional development education for all HSPBA members.

CUPE 15 is now accepting applications for funding for professional development education.

Professional development that could be considered for funding includes:

- upgrading (e.g. diploma to baccalaureate, baccalaureate to masters)
- changing from a current area of practice to a different specialty
- specialty training
- training in a different health science discipline
- upgrading language or writing skills
- upgrading computer skills
- professional development education conferences
- leadership/management courses relevant to a particular discipline
- courses designed to enhance personal/professional skills within an area of practice

If training you are planning to take is not specified on this list, you are still encouraged to apply. CUPE 15's objective is to support your professional development.

CUPE 15 wants to see as many members benefit from this opportunity as possible. That means that the priority will be to provide bursaries that cover all or part of tuition, program fees, and educational materials. The bursaries will not cover wage replacement.

If you are interested in obtaining these special education funds please fill out and submit the application form to CUPE 15 prior to the start date of your program. **The application form is available on the CUPE 15 website at www.cupe15.org or at the CUPE Local 15 office.**

Education funds will be distributed on a first come first serve basis until all available funds have been distributed. The CUPE 15 Executive Board will administer the Education Fund.

If you have any questions, please contact Caroline Mewis (CUPE 15 Health Sector Representative) at 604-278-3361 or caroline.mewis@vch.ca.

Yours truly,

Paul Faoro
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