Restorative justice caseworkers, members of CUPE 4764, voted unanimously in favour of a new collective agreement with their employer, the Community Justice Society (CJS).

The agreement was reached in negotiations held Friday, August 31, 2018. Effective immediately, the caseworkers received an almost 20% wage increase. Other improvements include parking, meal allowances, and an adjustment to the retirement savings plan.

Wage increases are as follows:

• 1% effective April 23, 2017
• 19.4% effective September 1, 2018
• 2% increase effective April 1, 2019
• 2% effective April 1, 2020


After five weeks of striking, the caseworkers returned to work on, September 5th.

“Throughout this process, we learned a lot about the importance of workers standing together,” says Denise Russell, president of CUPE 4764. “We are very grateful for the outpouring of support from other union members, our clients, and members of the restorative justice community,” adds Russell. “It was a difficult decision for us to go on strike and we’re looking forward to getting back to our clients and the work we love.”
We love Posties!

“Three of our caseworkers popped by the picket lines over lunch today to show our support and solidarity to the postal workers on strike. While on strike, the postal workers made it a point to not cross our picket line in solidarity and so today we stand with them in unity.

#solidarity #standstrong #chilly

👏 stand strong C.U.P.W.” - CUPE Local 4764 Caseworkers of CJS

CUPE members CUPE Members Patricia Perry (4459), Alan Linkletter (8920) and CUPE NS President Nan McFadgen stop by New Glasgow CUPW Local 087 picket line on their way home from the National Sector Conference, November 2018.

2018 All Committee’s Conference

October 18 to October 21, 2018
Truro, NS

We had a very successful Conference with affiliated filling the registration just days before the conference kicked off. We offered many great workshops, including ‘Global Justice - The Big Picture, Psychologically Healthy and Safe Workplaces, Taking on Privatization, Equality in Health & Safety, and Conflict Ready Executives. CUPE Nova Scotia also made history with their very own Domestic Violence Workshop this year, facilitated by Patricia Perry and Lori Miller members of CUPE 4459 Transition House workers.

I ❤️ Posties!
PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The year 2018 was busy for CUPE NS hosting our annual convention in the HRM for the first time in many years. It was a productive convention with all constitutional amendments and resolutions being debated by delegates. Our guest speaker Jagmeet Singh brought to the delegates his message of hope for Canadians.

New CUPE NS Executive Members

I want to welcome the new executive members elected at our last convention for a two year term:

Pauline Chicarella (5373)  Sydney and Area VP
Dwayne Tattrie (108) Diversity VP
Kelsie Croft (5033) Communications Editor

This is a reminder that there will be an election this coming convention in Sydney Cape Breton for the newly created position of Young Worker VP

PRIDE

During the summer months CUPE NS participated in PRIDE from Yarmouth to Sydney, with the participation of the CUPE NS Human Rights Committee Members Marlene Quarmby Co-Chair (1028), Donna McCarthy Co-Chair (5047), Ashley Rhodes (1137). We will be there again in 2019,

Labour Day

CUPE NS participated in labour day events in Halifax, South Shore, the Valley and Yarmouth where we enjoyed celebrations with community. Sadly there was no labour day event in Sydney this year, the first time in as long as I can remember. After the celebrations of our work the fight for labour continues in 2019 against those who legislate away our hard won rights.

Myself, Dianne Frittenburg (8920) and Denise Lewis (5050) continue to be your representative voice at the NS Federation of Labour, please feel free to reach out to us with any concern you may have.

Protest in CB

CUPE NS participated in the demonstration at the causeway protesting the provincial government’s lack of consultation on the impending closure of community hospitals in North Sydney and New Waterford. One of the organizers of this event is our very own Ronald Crowther (1183).

Public Service

The new year brings a fresh start to an old struggle as we continue to try to work with a government whose direction of privatizing our highways and hospitals we cannot agree with. We will always support public infrastructure and a public service owned and accountable the public it serves.

Our very best wishes to you and yours in the new year,

In Solidarity,

Nan McFadden
CUPE NS President

NSFL

Myself, Dianne Frittenburg (8920) and Denise Lewis (5050) continue to be your representative voice at the NS Federation of Labour, please feel free to reach out to us with any concern you may have.

All Committees

In the fall of 2018 we hosted our All Committees conference in Truro, NS. A course on Domestic Violence and the Workplace was offered for the first time at our all committees in partnership with Tearmann House, New Glasgow with CUPE members Lori Miller (4459) and Patricia Perry (4459) presenting the class.

National Sector Conference

CUPE National hosted the National Sector Conference this past fall in Ottawa. This was an opportunity for CUPE members across Canada to meet and hear what’s happening across the country in their sector.
Halifax Water employees approve strike mandate

After 12 days of bargaining, workers at Halifax Water, members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 227, have voted overwhelming in favour of strike action. CUPE National Representative Karen MacKenzie says there were 13 concessions on the table at the start of bargaining, most of which will negatively affect work-life balance.

We asked the employer at the outset to remove anything that wasn’t going to facilitate a deal,” MacKenzie says. “They refused to remove the concessions, and we can’t bargain with nine concessions still on the table.”

Bargaining broke off October 30, and CUPE applied for conciliation on October 31. Local 227 President Dave Dort says “We are disappointed, considering the previous labour disruption three years ago, that the employer came to the table with an extensive list of concessions. It’s disrespectful to the employees and contrary to what they led us to believe going into bargaining.”

The 230 employees provide clean drinking water and treat wastewater and storm-water for the citizens of the Halifax Regional Municipality. The last time the local experienced a labour disruption was in 2015, in an effort to protect pensions. That labour disruption lasted 53 days.

Collective Agreements signed in 2018:

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<th>281</th>
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<td>Town of Middleton</td>
<td>Halifax Student Housing Society</td>
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<td>Halifax Regional Municipality (Crossing Guards)</td>
<td>First Lake Early Learning Centre</td>
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<td>Cape Breton University (support staff)</td>
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Successful Applicants to our Committee Vacancies:

Contracting Out & Privatization Committee:
Ryan Barry | Local 1472

Women’s Committee:
Patricia Perry | Local 4459

Education Committee:
Natalie Dempsey | Local 8920

Human Right’s Committee:
Tony MacKenzie | Local 1867

Political Action Committee:
Ray Smith | Local 933
Jason Langille | Local 1472

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