National Global Justice Committee 2024/2025

The National Global Justice Committee met in Ottawa from October 2-4 2024 and again from January 28-30, 2025.

October 2024

Here are some of the highlights from this meeting.

• We had a presentation from committee member Jennifer Leblanc from CUPE 1779 Prince Edward Island. Jen was part of the Breaking the Silence Delegation to Guatemala in May 2024 and discussed her visit and had a slide show presentation as well.

• Presentation and discussion on temporary foreign workers by Kelti Cameron who is part of the International Solidarity staff. You can download of copy of the solidarity and action guide here: <https://cupe.ca/temporary-foreign-workers-our-union-solidarity-and-action-guide>.

• Presentations were also made by committee members Charlene Armstrong, CUPE 2440, on her visit to the Tavoyan Women’s Center in Thailand in June 2024 and Nadia Revelo, CUPE 1004, on Global Justice projects in Colombia.

• We had a special guest visit from Indigenous women leaders from Ecuador who were with a delegation visiting Canadian government and law makers to bring attention to their concerns over mining abuses and free trade agreements.

• We also took part in a workshop for the Global People Power course which “explains the role that capitalism plays in workers’ lives and examines the links between local and global issues”.

January 2025

In our third meeting of this term for the committee we did some work in the following areas.

• We participated in a workshop pilot for Workers in Solidarity with Palestine.

• We had a discussion with CUPE communications staff concerning ideas for our poster for May 1st. May 1st is recognized as International Workers Day and “is an opportunity to celebrate the union movement’s victories and recognize the importance of continuing our global fight for labor rights, equity and economic justice”. You can order copies for your workplaces here <https://cupe.ca/orders/international-workers-day-poster>.

• Independent Jewish Voices Canada did a zoom call with us and talked with us about their Canadian Handbook on the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism.

• We also had a presentation by Alia Karim on The Color of Privatization.

• We also talked about 2025 National Convention and resolutions we might want to consider.

Our next and final meeting before National Convention will take place from June 3-5 in Ottawa.

In Solidarity,

Lisa MacKenzie

CUPE Local 8920