



March 2024

# CUPE SK EDUCATION WORKERS' STEERING COMMITTEE

## EWSC Executive Team Members

### Chairperson

Omar Murray  
[omar.murray13@outlook.com](mailto:omar.murray13@outlook.com)

### Vice-Chairperson

Teresa Hitchings  
[thitchings.ewsc@gmail.com](mailto:thitchings.ewsc@gmail.com)

### Recording-Secretary

Dianne Rasmussen  
[ewscsecsec@hotmail.com](mailto:ewscsecsec@hotmail.com)

### Secretary-Treasurer

Carole-Anne Wilson  
[ewsc treasurer@hotmail.com](mailto:ewsc treasurer@hotmail.com)

### Members-At-Large

Brandy Kabay  
[brandyewsc@gmail.com](mailto:brandyewsc@gmail.com)

Jason Schrader  
[jasonschrader54@gmail.com](mailto:jasonschrader54@gmail.com)

Bonnie Kuppenbender  
[kuppen7@sasktel.net](mailto:kuppen7@sasktel.net)

Karla Sastaunik  
[cupe4784@sasktel.com](mailto:cupe4784@sasktel.com)

### Staff Advisor

Janice Janzen

### A Message from the EWSC Chairperson - Omar Murray

Hello everyone. This has been a very interesting time for Education. The STF has been getting a lot of attention in the news lately and your EWSC executive have been busy as well. Unfortunately, the Provincial government continues to disregard the concept of actual bargaining and instead continues to hold it original position. At least that is what has been happening when they actually show up to the table.

One of our primary goals has been supporting the STF in their efforts to achieve better working conditions in the schools. We have been fielding a lot of calls from our members with “what if” scenarios and how we are to deal with them. Some of us were even able to walk the line with various STF members.

Your executive has also been busy in other areas. We have met with the Saskatchewan School Board Association executive, to discuss our common goals to improve the Education system within our province. We have worked on and submitted several resolutions to CUPE SK with the end goal to organize a campaign to increase awareness of CUPE education support staff within the general Saskatchewan public as well as about the need for a properly funded education system. Along with the other “regular” business, we have also been planning our annual conference.

Speaking of our conference. As you know, we have been trying to move the conference to various places around the province, so it will be in Humbolt this year. As at time of writing this, we are finalizing the agenda and lining up speakers and guests. We are excited to be able to bring this to you and hope you will be as well. I hope to see you all there.



# EWSC Executive



## Teresa Hitchings, Vice-Chairperson

Teresa Hitchings began working as an educational assistant with the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division in 2003. Four years ago, she became a library technician within the division. In 2018, she became the president of Local 2268.

She joined the Education Workers' Steering Committee as a member at large in 2021. In 2022, Teresa became acting vice-chairperson and elected to the position in 2023. She continues to advocate for improvements in Saskatchewan education. One of her goals is to increase public awareness of how important education support workers are to Saskatchewan schools. One of her favorite quotes is from author A.J. Juliani, "Our job is not to prepare students for something. Our job is to help students prepare themselves for anything."

When she is not working or being a union activist, she likes to travel and spend quality time with her loved ones. She loves crafting, reading, and playing board games. She also enjoys taking her dog Flynn for long walks in the great outdoors. As a cancer survivor, Teresa supports leukemia/lymphoma research, and participates in the Light the Night Saskatoon event whenever possible.



## Carole-Anne Wilson, Secretary-Treasurer

Carole-Anne is a member of Local 8443 as Recording Secretary - Saskatoon Public School Board. She has been a Library Technician since 1986. She was elected as Secretary-Treasurer in October 2021, then in May 2023.

Part of her duties are to book accommodations, setting up Zoom meetings, and day-to-day accounting duties. She is excited to hear from members about possible venues throughout the province for our annual conference. Since being elected to the EWSC, we have had our annual conferences in Moose Jaw, Manitou Beach, and this year we will be in Humboldt.



## Brandy Kabay, Member-At-Large

Brandy Kabay and is a member-at-large with the EWSC. She is also the treasurer for Local 650 Regina Public Schools maintenance and trades department.

Her goal with the EWSC is to continue representing education workers while advocating for the changes needed within Saskatchewan's education system.

When I'm not busy with the Ed workers, my local or at my full-time job you will find me hanging out with my partner and our dogs.



## Jason Schrader, Member-At-Large

Jason Schrader is a member-at-large with the EWSC. In this role he shares ideas with the rest of the executive advocating for a better state of education in Saskatchewan. He checks on affiliated locals to see the successes and/or problems they are experiencing, reporting back to the executive at our scheduled meetings. He has been employed with The Greater Saskatoon School Division since 2015 and is currently the Head Caretaker at École St. Paul. He has twenty-seven years of caretaking experience both in the private and public sector.

When he's not elbows deep in union and political activism you will find him watching some Nascar racing while playing in his custom Lego room that he shares with his son. He's a lover of animals, puzzles, coffee, and being outside when the sun is shining. He is especially known to be living the dream!!!



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**Save the Date!**

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# EWSC 2024 Annual Conference

May 1 (1:00 p.m. start) to  
May 3 (concludes at end of business)

**Bylaw amendments or Resolutions must be submitted to  
Dianne Rasmussen ([ewscsec@hotmail.com](mailto:ewscsec@hotmail.com)) by March 2, 2024.**

**LOCATION**  
Humboldt Uniplex  
619 – 17 Street, Humboldt

**HOTEL INFO**  
Rooms at the following hotels have been block-booked:

- ❖ Canalta Humboldt (1-306-682-4731)
- ❖ Bella Vista Inn (1-306-682-2686)
- ❖ Pioneer Hotel & Motel (1-866-682-2638)

(The deadline to reserve at the block-booked rate is **March 28, 2024** – **note change of date**)

***Plan now to attend!***

dlr:cope491

## Dates To Remember

- **EWSC/All Presidents Zoom Meeting**  
Monday, March 4 | 6:30 p.m.
- **CUPE Saskatchewan Convention**  
Wednesday, March 13 - 15 | 9:00 a.m. @ Delta Hotels Saskatoon Downtown
- **EWSC Annual Conference**  
May 1 - 3 | 1:00 p.m. @ Humboldt Uniplex