



Canadian Union of Public Employees • Local 1281
25 Wood Street, Suite 102, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 2P9
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www.1281.cupe.ca

June 4, 2024

RE: CUPE 1281 Supports Amalgamated Transit Union 113 In Their Fight For Good Jobs and Fair Wages

In friendship and solidarity to our labour siblings at ATU 113,

CUPE Local 1281 writes to you to express our solidarity with your position as you continue to negotiate a fair deal for TTC workers with your Employer.

As fellow public service workers, we understand that you are not standing against the people of Tkaronto (Toronto) . Rather, you are taking a stand against the folks on the TTC management team who are not coming to the bargaining table in good faith.

CUPE Local 1281's membership recognizes that we benefit every day from the hard work, skill, compassion and dedication of ATU 113 members who get us to where we need to go, and then home again. With the unaffordable cost of living here, many of us would not be able to afford to work to serve the public if we weren't able to rely on the transit system that your work creates.

Housing is unaffordable. Food is unaffordable. Personal vehicles are not only unaffordable, and unfeasible in view of climate change and the ongoing destruction of our ecosystems. We need public transit. From this standpoint, we understand that your work is invaluable to our society's present and our collective futures.

At the same time, we have all seen how the chronic defunding of mental health care by the Ford government has caused many TTC workers to end up doing double duty as transit workers and front-line mental health care providers.

And we have also seen employers across the public sector in Ontario try to break unions by reassigning work to folks who take on temporary contracts or otherwise non-unionized positions while performing bargaining unit work.

Therefore we will echo ATU 113's demands for:



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- Wage increases that reflect the increase in cost of living, so that TTC workers can afford to live in the city they serve
- Enhanced mental health supports to prevent long-term harm caused to TTC workers by having to provide front-line mental health interventions without training or appropriate care
- A fair deal that prevents the City from contracting out any TTC jobs or creating a two-tier system of have- and have-nots within ATU 113

We will continue to amplify your calls for a fair deal to our membership. We will stand by to receive any requests for solidarity that you may make as you fight to defend one of the most crucial public services left in our City.

Standing together as the organized labour that provides public services to the people of our City, for Ontario, on this land called Canada, and with the international community that believes in decency and the inherent dignity of all workers and all humans, we will prevail.

In solidarity,

The Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1281