



PickUp

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF AUPE LOCAL 52

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AUPE Local 52

Science A 117

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aupelocal052.ca

Member Resource Centre

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Photos

Left: Showing our Pride!

Centre: The 2021 Drive Thru Kids Christmas Party was a blast...

Right: ...Santa even showed up!



Once Upon A Time...

Before a little thing called COVID came into town, the support staff union on campus, AUPE Local 52, published a regular newsletter called the 52 PickUp. This newsletter used to share all union-related news and kept us all engaged, informed, and connected. In a campus of over 4000 members, the newsletter was a way to disseminate important information about your collective agreement, learn about your rights and responsibilities

in your workplace, and hear a story or two about your coworkers.

We are picking the 52PickUp back up (excuse us for the pun). We hope that you'll use this newsletter as an opportunity to learn more about your union, stay updated on the latest news and events on campus, and stay in touch with one another. You can also keep up-to-date by checking out the [Local 52 website](#).

Kudos to the Caretakers

BIG kudos to the caretaking staff who have been on campus throughout this entire pandemic, ensuring our facilities are clean and sanitized. We are truly grateful and appreciative of your efforts to keep our campus clean.

Caretakers need your support! Please read about the [campaign against recent shift changes](#) that has led to a loss in wages to the lowest paid staff on campus.

Call for Volunteers!

Are you looking to get involved? Do you want to meet your coworkers across campus and make friends? Do you want to have your voice heard in your Local? Join a committee!

The Local 052 Committees play an important role in your union's activities. You will share your thoughts, help out in events, and play a role in the governance of your union. We are looking for volunteers for the following committees and roles:

- Anti-Privatization
- Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity
- Young Activist Liaison
- Communications and Engagement

If you'd like to volunteer for one-off events, please make sure you sign up for the [AUPE-I mailing list](#) — we regularly do call outs for volunteers via email!

For more information about committees, contact Barb at secretary-local052@aupe.ca

Our Collective Agreement (CA)

A very big thank-you to the Bargaining Team — Justin Huseby, Barb McCutcheon, Marla Halstad and Frank Snow. They worked hard to negotiate our current Collective Agreement! Did you know that as part of the collective agreement you get...

...3 Personal Leave Days a year.

These are best taken before holidays because if you don't use them, you lose them.

...10 paid days a year for union business. This can be used towards courses, attending convention, volunteering for events, and more!

...\$850 a year for Wellness. You have to indicate if you want this money to go through Health or Wellness; HR will send out an email reminder at the beginning of every year. Health helps to cover what Blue Cross does not pay on massages, acupuncture, chiropractor visits. Wellness can be used to purchase laptops, headphones, fitness classes.

FELLOW MEMBERS

This issue's *Fellow Members* section focuses on Justin Huseby, the Chair of our Local. Justin has led our local through all of the chaos on campus in the past three years. He is passionate about our causes, to name a few: helped save our bookstore from privatization, working with caretakers to get better working conditions and pay, planning rallies, town halls, getting bursaries and scholarships funded for our members and their families. You'll see Justin volunteering at every Local 052 event and spending many hours after work helping members with their issues. Additionally, he is our Provincial Executive representative, sits on the pension committee,



Justin Huseby, Chair of Local 52

and chairs the Membership Benefits Committee. Justin is a husband to his beautiful wife Heather and father to four year-old Charlotte. Thank you Justin for everything you do!

Calgary Area Council

This is the social arm of AUPE where we meet fellow Calgary members from other Locals and have fun, exciting experiences. Come for fellowship and to have a say on future events. The next meeting is on Oct. 19th — doors open at 5:30 p.m. with a meeting following at 6 pm. (Calgary Union Office, 2116 - 27 Ave NE)

Upcoming October ticket sales:

- Cineplex \$10 each with a limit of 10 tickets per AUPE member

[Check out the webpage and the CAC facebook page for upcoming events](#)

Safety

AUPE members must all look out for one another and remember our four rights to safety:

1. Right to know about the hazards we face
2. Right to feel safe at work and return home each day healthy
3. Right to participate in Occupational Health and Safety activities and decisions
4. Right to refuse dangerous work

If you feel that your rights are not being addressed, please [contact your Membership Services Officer or our](#)

[Chief Steward](#) (Login to see their contact info... not signed up? Register for your MyAUPE account.

AUPE members are also part of the [Joint Worksite Safety Committee](#) that can help you with safety concerns.

AUPE Mailing List

To get the latest updates on bargaining, educational opportunities, events, and more, [sign up for the AUPE mailing list!](#)

The Safe Space

By Christina Rai

As everything must have a beginning, it all started with an “open door” attitude, a set of ears willing to listen and a colleague who resigned, never to be replaced, leaving behind an empty office space. This is how Stephanie's “Safe Space” was born. I learnt about Stephanie Hawes, AUPE member, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, venture into students and staff Wellness, Inclusion, Diversity and

Continued on next page...

The Safe Space (continued)

Equity or IDE/EDI, last December, when several faculty students put together Stephanie's nomination for the University of Calgary 2022 EDI awards. The IDE of that we hear so much of these days, three letters, with a lot of heart felt, heart hurts or happy hearts stories around them, were given meaning, a comfortable chair to ease into and a stand of goodies to munch on in Stephanie's "Safe Space". Reading about her IDE work, draw me into the "Safe Space" as if I was part of it and made her nomination one of the most sincere, warmest, and impactful that I've come across.

In the beginning, Stephanie recalls, one student came by and shyly took a seat in the "Safe Space" comfortable chair. He didn't do much. Just sat there in peace and quiet. The next day, another buddy tagged along and opened up about his life in general. Then another one followed, looking for a shoulder to lean on and vent a little. Soon enough, the "Safe Space" that Stephanie had put together in her office, started to look like it needed more sitting. IT Jesse, heard about it, called Stephanie late evening, and said: "I have this couch in my office which I no longer need. Do you want it? You would have to check it for sweets as my kiddo used to sit on it and eat candies waiting for me, when it was up stairs on the Dean's floor", Jessie added with a smile in his voice. A resounding "Sure!" sealed changing hands and the couch made its way to the "Safe Space". It was as if the entire Universe had brought together these jigsaw pieces: the chemistry of Stephanie's personality, the goodies, the chairs,



Stephanie Hawes (right) sitting with Veterinary Medicine student Niles Sharma (left) in the "Safe Space".

and the couch to create the "Safe Space". Later on, during our chat about her work, Stephanie told me about the resources that she had made available to students and that she had built over time in this space: wellness and mental health information, relevant contacts from Foothills Campus and UofC and fun activities with and for students. Stephanie was all in: took courses / workshops to better her understanding of mental health issues and be able to provide qualified advice: "You know, it is hard enough for someone to open up about their feelings, and if they felt safe to do so, I wanted to be able to help them the best that I can". Steph-

anie is a dynamo, an extraordinary story of grass roots IDE & Wellness capacity building in her faculty. She has forged the way, persuaded faculty leadership of the importance of IDE, initiated and sits on the IDE/EDI Faculty of Vet Med Committee. Stephanie is changing attitudes, because she believes in what she is doing and most importantly, because the "Safe Space" is and has always been in Stephanie's heart.

From a July 27, 2022 interview with Stephanie Hawes (shawes@ucalgary.ca). Stephanie Hawes is an Administrative Assistant to the Department Head, Comparative Biology and Experimental Medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.