

Public Libraries Serve Winnipeg



Public libraries today are a basic essential service for citizens needing information. Your library staff are the information experts, helping ensure this free service meets public need.

Your Library – a Community Service

- Numerous information sources - books, magazines, databases and DVDs.
- Experienced library staff who can help you get what you need.
- Creative early childhood literacy programs.
- Access to the Internet and computer training for all ages.
- Large print and audio for patrons with visual and hearing impairments.
- Supports for new immigrants and adult literacy.
- Free concerts, workshops, book clubs and more!

Dedicated Library Staff

- We provide services at Winnipeg's 20 public libraries and 21 mobile service sites.
- We serve you as librarians, library assistants, library technicians, and pages.
- We helped you borrow over five million items in 2008.
- We answer your questions – about 280,000 each year.
- We provided free, quality programs for all ages – over 60,000 people attended a Library program in 2008.

Libraries are the centre of our community.

They are an important public service that deserve adequate funding and administrative support.

Canadian Union of Public Employees

CUPE is Canada's largest union, with about 590,000 members – a majority of whom are women. In Winnipeg, library support staff are members of CUPE local 500.

- We believe libraries are social, cultural and educational hubs.
- Union leaders work with city officials to secure funding for libraries.
- CUPE ensures that library workers receive fair wages, the benefits of pay equity legislation and protection from harassment.
- CUPE creates staff commitment and helps attract new workers through good salaries and benefits.
- CUPE members are a part of your community.

When budgets are Cut – You Lose

- Staff reductions mean special services suffer – there are no children's librarians outside of downtown.
- Contracting out of services to private companies reduce our ability to ensure efficient personal services.
- Cuts in workers' hours lead to short staffing, longer waits for service and fewer programs.

Help Keep Our Libraries Public!

- Contact your City Councilor - tell them you support more funding for your library.
- Talk to your friends and neighbours about the importance of keeping our libraries publicly owned and operated.

- Go to the CUPE Local 500 web site for more information on what is happening to your libraries.
- Support your libraries and the dedicated, qualified and experienced workers who provide you the services you need and want.

Our Libraries are important!

We need your help to keep them public. Talk to the staff at your library – find out what you can do to help!

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CUPE / Canadian Union
Local 500 / of Public Employees



Our *Positively Public Campaign* is focused on expanding and improving the public services that are important to you, the citizens of Winnipeg.