CUPE 716 RICHMOND K-12

Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 716
Syndicat canadien de la function publique Local 716

128-6033 London Road
Richmond, BC V7E 0A7
Tel. 604-273-1651 716.cupe.ca

November 5, 2026

ANNOUNCEMENT ON LOCAL ELECTIONS

Local 716 Election Committee consists of **Barbara Buchsbaum, Ning Hum and Shannon Tilton** * as approved by the membership at the General Membership Meeting on November 4, 2026 as per Article 9, Section 1 of the Bylaws.

Section 1

When an election is held the Executive shall appoint an Election committee, subject to approval of the membership, of at least three (3) members. Members of the Election committee shall not be eligible to run for any office nor will they currently hold any Executive Board or Trustee position.

The Committee has elected **Barbara Buchsbaum** to serve as the Election Officer.

Elections shall be conducted electronically, as per Article 9, Section 4 and 11 of the Local Bylaws:

Section 4

When more than one member is to be elected to an office, the member voting shall be required to vote for the full number of candidates to be elected or else the electronic vote will be declared spoiled.

Section 11

Election shall be conducted electronically by secret ballot. The Executive Board shall arrange for one or more voting stations including a Union Hall, and polls shall be open at least five (5) working days. The online polls will open at least seven (7) days prior to the General Meeting and remain open until midnight on the day preceding the Annual General Meeting. The Executive shall arrange adequate notice to the membership at least seven (7) days prior to the voting day, with all pertinent information pertaining to the election.

The election timelines and details are established through the Local Bylaws:

General Meeting December - Voting Closes Midnight Day Prior	**Wednesday, December 2, 2026**
Voter Registration Closes (5pm)	**Monday, November 30th, 2026**
In Person Voting - Union Office (1:00pm-4:00pm)	**Monday, November 30th, 2026**
7 Days Prior - Voting Opens	**Monday, November 23rd, 2026**
Notice to the Membership	**Monday, November 9, 2026**
Voter Registration opens	**Monday, November 16, 2026**
Election Package sent to Candidates/Acclamation Notice	**Monday, November 9, 2026**
Nominations Close at General Meeting (November)	**Wednesday, November 4, 2026**
Nominations Open at General Meeting (November)	**Wednesday, November 4, 2026**

Greater detail on the stages, timelines, events, and registration for elections are provided in the following pages of this notice.

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* As per Article 9, Sec 1 of the Bylaws - "Members of the Election committee shall not be eligible to run for any office nor will they currently hold any Executive Board or Trustee position."

1. Dates of Election

Electronic: The election is hereby set to begin electronically on **November 23rd, 2026 at 9:00 am** when ballots will be sent to all members who register to vote electronically. Voting will be open until **November 30th, 2026 at midnight** and the results will be reported by the Election Committee at the General Membership Meeting on **December 2, 2026.**

2. Nominations

1. Nominations shall be received at the regular membership meeting held in the month of April.
2. No nominations shall be accepted unless the member is in attendance at the April meeting or if absent, the nomination committee was provided with the member's consent to stand via writing or via email to the **Recording Secretary** and **copied to the Elections Committee prior to the April Meeting.**
3. All Executive Board members and Trustees shall be elected by the membership.
4. No members shall be eligible for nomination if he/she is in arrears of dues and /or assessments.

You should state your name and the name of the person you are nominating and the position for which they are being nominated. A member may accept nomination for one (1) office only. (Article 9, Section 7).

3. Voter Registration

Link to Voter Registration will be sent out to the membership on **NOVEMBER 16th, 2026**

NOTE: VOTER REGISTRATION WILL BE OPEN ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 2026 AND WILL CLOSE ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 2026 at 5:00 PM.

NOTE: WHEN REGISTERING YOU MUST USE YOUR PERSONAL EMAIL - <u>DO NOT USE YOUR DISTRICT EMAIL.</u>

All initiated members of Local 716 in good standing are eligible to vote, nominate someone other than themselves for an elected position, and stand for election for any of the advertised positions.

Pursuant provisions of the local bylaws, a member in good standing has signed a union card, and was initiated in-person at a membership meeting by swearing or affirming an oath that states:

"I promise to support and obey the Constitution of this Union, to work to improve the economic and social conditions of other members and other workers, to defend and work to improve the democratic rights and liberties of workers and that I will not purposely or knowingly harm or assist in harming another member of the Union."

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Given that it will not be possible to initiate members who were recently hired or not yet initiated, the act of registering to vote will serve to fulfill the requirements of membership and initiation as required in the bylaws.

4. Positions Up for Election:

Union Table Officers (until April 2028)

- 2nd Vice President

Duties and description of each of this position listed above can be found in the appendix of the bylaws available online or by requesting it from the Union Office.

5. Get to know the Candidates

The three candidates running are:

- Elizabeth Rutsch
- Loreen Wanlin
- Ken Wright

The period between **November 16th, 2026 and the close of the election on November 30th, 2026** will be an opportunity for candidates to campaign and for the members to get to know them.
All candidates may submit a digital photo and a write-up about themselves in PDF format, as an election poster to the Elections Officer at electioncupe716@gmail.com

Candidate posters will be posted on the local's website on a first-come, first-serve basis.

6. Run-offs

As the bylaws call for election by simple majority which requires one candidate to receive 50%+1 of the votes before they are elected, it may be necessary to have run-offs. In the event of run-offs being necessary, the run-off information, dates and times for voting shall be announced in accordance with Article 9, Section 13 of the Local Bylaws:

Section 13

In the event runoff votes are required the online polls will re-open at 10:00 a.m. on the Monday following the Annual General Meeting and remain open until 10:00 a.m. the following Friday. The results will then be posted on the union's website and sent via email to all members who have provided personal email addresses. Should a subsequent run off vote be required, the online polls will reopen the following Monday(s) at 10:00 a.m. and remain open until 10:00 a.m. of the following Friday(s). In the event of a tie vote, a second and subsequent ballot(s) will be taken, if necessary, until a candidate receives a majority of votes cast and can be declared elected.

Once winners are known in each of the categories, the Election Officer will notify all the candidates and the National Representative, and the results will be posted online.

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7. Scrutineers

Candidates may appoint scrutineers by notifying the Election Officer.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Buchsbaum,
Election Officer
Electioncupe716@gmail.com