

November 2008

TO ALL CUPE CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS – 1948-2008

International Human Rights Day 2008 on December 10 marks the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Since its adoption in 1948, the declaration has been and continues to be a source of inspiration for national and international efforts to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Declaration is an important victory for activists throughout the world who struggled for decades to achieve human rights.

In celebrating this anniversary, CUPE will continue these efforts to promote basic rights, freedoms and the dignity of life; and toward the elimination of racism and all forms of discrimination in Canada and in the global community.

In commemoration of this anniversary, we have produced four beautiful postcards. They depict different articles from the declaration including article 23 protecting freedom of association and the right to form and join a trade union. We urge you to use these postcards and mail them to your friends, colleagues and family around the globe. This action provides us all with a unique opportunity to rededicate ourselves to the fight for the principles of dignity and the worth of human beings.

A "Quiz" on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has also been developed and we urge you to go on our website at www.cupe.ca/dec10 and challenge yourself to take it. This activity can be a lot of fun when you engage yourself in this quiz with your family and friends. A full copy of the Declaration is also posted on our website.

The Declaration belongs to each and every one of us. Please read it, promote it and claim it as your own.

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