

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 4, 2008

Locked out library workers invite public to Oak Bay town hall meeting "Understanding Pay Equity in the 21st Century"

VICTORIA—Local library workers are sponsoring a town hall meeting in Oak Bay this Thursday, March 6th, 2008 at 7 p.m. at Windsor Park Pavilion "Sports Room", 2451 Windsor Road. This town hall meeting is the first in a series of public discussions about pay equity – the issue over which the Greater Victoria Public Library board closed all nine branches and locked out library workers.

"We decided to sponsor these town hall meetings so folks could find out what pay equity is all about and how it affects communities," said Ed Seedhouse, President of CUPE 410. "It's unacceptable that in this day and age we're still fighting for equal pay for work of equal value."

John Fryer, Adjunct Professor at the University of Victoria's School of Public Administration, will moderate the discussion. Three panel speakers have been confirmed to date. **Lynne Marks**, History professor at the University of Victoria will briefly discuss the historical and societal background of equal pay for work of equal value. The other two panelists are **Carole Cameron**, an expert in job evaluation and pay equity who was involved in the Greater Victoria Public Library's job evaluation project as a CUPE representative; and **Andrea Brimmel** representing CUPE 410.

The public is invited to this free Town Hall meeting to hear from experts on both sides of the debate, and to share their own views on the issue. Local politicians have also been invited to participate.

-30-

Contact: Ed Seedhouse, CUPE 410 president: 250.588.9565
Justin Schmid, CUPE representative: 250.889.5709
Janet Szliske, CUPE Communications: 604.454.7293

