

February 2008

## TO ALL CUPE CHARTERED ORGANIZATIONS

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY STATEMENT – MARCH 8

As International Women's Day draws closer, CUPE members are preparing to participate in activities to raise awareness about the discriminatory wage gap experienced by women. Although the Harper government insists that Canadian women have achieved equality, the fact is, that women still earn only about 71 cents compared to every dollar earned by men. In Teach-Ins across the country the facts about the wage gap will be presented along with strategies to reduce and eliminate economic discrimination.

CUPE is participating in the CLC Campaign on women's economic equality. The campaign slogan is "Equality! Once and For All!" It will be launched at the Teach-Ins on March 8, International Women's Day, and run for an entire year with activities throughout the year designed to raise awareness and promote strategies to address women's economic equality.

Despite messages that women have achieved equality, the truth is that the gap between the average wages of men and women is now growing again after several years of progress. For Aboriginal women, women workers of colour and women with disabilities economic discrimination is even greater.

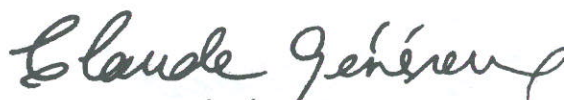
We invite you to get involved in this campaign by linking your website to the campaign website, hosting events, distributing information, and mobilizing members to demand equality. In addition to the 30 or more Teach-Ins on March 8, the campaign website [www.onceandforall.ca](http://www.onceandforall.ca) will be launched. Check the site regularly for news, updates, valuable educational tools, and planned activities.

In solidarity,



PAUL MOIST  
National President

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CLAUDE GÉNÉREUX  
National Secretary-Treasurer

PAUL MOIST – National President / Président national CLAUDE GÉNÉREUX – National Secretary-Treasurer / Secrétaire-trésorier national

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