

CUPE NB Women's Committee Report 2026

The CUPE NB Women's Committee is committed to representing women across the province. We believe it's essential to empower women to speak up, even though this process can be challenging—especially during tough periods like the pandemic.

The Committee held one meeting in Fredericton. Although meetings were limited, the enthusiasm and engagement from the committee members was truly inspiring.

Our short-term goals included presenting donations to two non-profits in Greater Moncton and encouraging women's toiletry drives at the CUPE New Brunswick convention, where we create our new logo.

Mid-term initiatives involved creating a new logo and slogan for the Women's Committee and launching an official call to action through the CUPE New Brunswick Women's Committee.

For long-term plans, we aim to advocate for forward-thinking language on women's issues and encourage CUPE National to integrate this into bargaining policies.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Dany Hansen for her dedication and commitment to women's issues throughout her time on the committee; your positive outlook will certainly be missed.

Looking ahead to 2026, we intend to inspire locals to form active women's committees focused on improving economic, social, and political opportunities for women in New Brunswick.

We will continue lobbying to keep national childcare at the forefront of discussions and push federal and provincial governments to strengthen the childcare system. While more childcare spaces have been created, "In just five years, Canada's \$10-a-day child-care program has yielded far-reaching economic benefits," said Morna Ballantyne, executive director of Child Care Now, at a news conference in Ottawa. Most provinces and territories now average \$10 daily fees, but not everywhere, and the targets for new spaces are lagging as waitlists grow. The federal government reports about 154,000 new spaces since 2021—below the 250,000 goal for March.

Child Care Now and others advocate for a system that is affordable, accessible, and primarily non-profit and emphasize the importance of staying committed to these objectives. As Canada works to strengthen its economy amid global trade challenges, accessible childcare remains vital.

"We all recognize that the economy relies on people—particularly mothers—earning incomes and contributing taxes."

In Solidarity,

Rachel Comeau – Local 2745

Dany Hansen – Local 2745

Shelby Dodge – National Women's Committee

Kim Copp – National Child Care Group

Sharon Teare – CUPE NB Liaison

Tamara Elliseou – CUPE Staff Advisor