



## Vote Vim Sharma for President

Request a link to vote by e-mailing

[cupe386@shaw.ca](mailto:cupe386@shaw.ca)

Subject: Election

Must register by 8:30 am on November 18, 2021

*“There is no vigor without the Vim”*

Hello,

My name is Vim Sharma. I’m currently running for the upcoming CUPE Presidential Election, Local 386. I’ve taken the time to outline details about my current campaign, goals I have for the future and a few facts about myself.

I was born and raised in the United Kingdom and moved to Canada in 1994. I settled down in the City of Coquitlam, where I currently still reside. I have been employed by the City for 22 years. Throughout my career I’ve held positions such as Auxiliary Firefighter Captain and Equipment Operator. I’ve been involved with the Union for several years. I started on the Health and Safety Committee and have been able to advance my experience as a Shop Steward, Trustee, Chief Shop Steward and currently the Vice President.

If elected as President of our union, I’d like to address some important issues.

1. **Communication and Follow Up;** Communication is extremely important. I will make it a goal to return all calls, emails and communications within a 24-48 hour time period. The exception will be weekends, in which case follow up will be provided the following business day. Ongoing communication will be updated as new information is found.
2. **Education and Outreach;** we currently have union members who have not been educated about the union or why they’re a part of it. I plan to ensure the union is part of the new hire orientation. All new members will be sworn in upon hiring and provide welcome packages with relevant information such as Union Hall location, phone numbers, social events, who the Shop Stewards are and how to contact them if required. Furthermore, I plan to reintroduce the monthly newsletter and will look into setting up a social committee for events and gatherings.

3. **Budget and Finance;** if elected, I will look at utilizing resources that are available to us such as BC and Canadian Labour Laws, Employees Standard Act, BC Human Rights Commission, Work Safe BC, and the Labour Board etc. These are all free services and should be looked at as a resource for the Union to explore. Using these resources will save money for the union and reduce the amount of money spent on Lawyers' fees. I'd like to tighten our spending and ensure any unnecessary associations are removed from the budget if they are no longer valuable to our union. If the union is able to save money, I'd like to look into reducing union dues.
4. **Multi-Purpose Room and Training Centre;** I'd like to set up a multi-purpose room for union members to use. The room will provide training for members such as Assistance with resumes, cover letters and interview prep. The room could be used for zoom meetings if members do not have access to a computer or office space. The union will supply office equipment and laptops in the multi-purpose room and will look at in-house training opportunities for members in the future.
5. **Auxiliary and Temporary Employees;** currently there is no consistency across the City with Auxiliary and Temporary Employees. I'd like to utilize our resources and am ready to tackle many of the issues. Though changes will not occur overnight, I'd like to hear the concerns of our members and bring forth new bargaining proposals in the future.
6. **Social Media;** our world is evolving and social media is a big part of it. I plan to use social media as a form of communication with our members. I'd like to update our website and create social media accounts such as Facebook or Instagram to engage with our younger members. Social media will assist as another form of Education and Outreach.
7. **Hiring Practices;** I've been approached many times with concerns about hiring practices. If elected, I will research these concerns to determine the best method of hiring. I will also look into policies regarding unsuccessful candidates.

Thank you for taking the time to review my campaign. I look forward to our upcoming election and a new future ahead.

Kind Regards,

**Vim Sharma**