



Canadian  
University  
Employees

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February 3, 1988

Dear Member:

I want to express concern about the covers of the February and December newsletters because I believe the February cover is insulting to our membership. It represents women as depressed, downtrodden and unhappy, which is not the way that I view the women who make up the majority of our membership. It is also insulting to the Executive and Contract Committees, who worked so hard on our behalf to get the best possible Collective Agreement.

The Communications Committee say that this (and earlier) covers reflect their sense of humour, and that the Executive has no right to censor them. It should be pointed out that no other Union gives unbridled freedom to its Communications Committee to decide content and format.

This does not mean that opinions should be muzzled. Letters to the Editor are ways differing opinions can be expressed. Our newsletter should be used to inform us about CUE's activities and about important issues relevant to the trade union movement. I also believe that the Communications Committee must be accountable to the membership for what it prints. We therefore welcome your comments about the cover.

Further, as the Executive is responsible for making decisions between Membership Meetings, then the Communications Committee should be accountable (as should every committee) to you the membership through the Executive. A motion to this effect has been placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

I want to apologize to the Membership and the Contract Committee for the cover. This does not reflect the Executive's viewpoint nor sense of humour. We hope that a careful decision with respect to the CUE newsletter can be made by all of you.

Yours sincerely,

Adrien Kiernan  
President

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