

THE HALIFAX WORKERS' ACTION CENTRE NEWSLETTER



FUNDRAISER SUCCESS

The funds raised

Our open mic night and silent auction raised nearly **\$3,000!** Among the silent auction items, generously donated by local businesses throughout HRM, were yoga passes from Shanti Yoga and Halifax yoga, books from Fernwood Press, a custom gift bag from Venus Envy, and a weekend cottage getaway!

All funds raised will help us continue to support vulnerable, non-unionized workers in Nova Scotia.

On October 7th, the Halifax Workers' Action Centre hosted our first ever fundraiser at the Bus Stop Theatre Co-Op. The event was **sold out** and brought together a large group of labour-minded musicians and audience members.

Musical styles varied but talent was consistent across the board! We enjoyed Irish folk, rap, spoken word, a choral performance of Dolly Parton's '9 to 5', some socialist-yiddish tunes and more.

We'd like to thank everyone who made this memorable night possible - particularly the volunteers, performers, audience members, and the hard-working folks at the Bus Stop Theatre.

We hope you all had as much fun as we did!



THE KEITH'S BREWERY MUSICIANS UNIONIZED!

The Keith's Brewery musicians kicked off the event. "We were excited," said Vincent McMackin, the band's tenor banjo player. "It was wonderful to see workers and musicians show their commitment to the labour movement."

Discussions about unionizing at the brewery began in Spring, 2021. "At first, it didn't seem possible," said McMackin. "Seeing brewery workers stand together for their rights has been really inspiring."

"We all deserve liveable wages, positive work environments and control over our labour. We love that the Halifax WAC helps non-unionized workers fight back."



PUTTING HUMOUR TO WORK

John Wimberly and Matt Whiston sang some original work-related tunes including a hilarious - and completely unexpected - Halifax WAC jingle!

"It was wonderful to have the chance to perform for the WAC fundraiser," said Wimberly. "Playing music is easy, especially if you are playing music designed to cheer people up. Workers work together and fight together, so goddamn it, we should also sing together!"





CUPE NOVA SCOTIA DONATES \$5,000!

Nan McFadgen, President of CUPE Nova Scotia, could not attend the event in-person but was able to share her thoughts with us on screen.

"When workers win, families, communities, provinces, and countries win," said McFadgen. "CUPE is the largest union in the country with 715,000 members from coast to coast. This creates privilege among CUPE members relative to non-unionized workers. With that privilege comes the responsibility to bring others along with us. CUPE Nova Scotia will stand by your side by continuing to empower the Halifax Workers' Action Centre to empower workers."

Thank you CUPE Nova Scotia!





A STATEMENT FROM DEBBIE RICHARDSON

President of the Halifax-Dartmouth and District Labour Council, Debbie Richardson, also shared a few words. "We in the union movement come from a position of privilege where we can help give back to the community and support people who aren't unionized," she said.

"The Halifax-Dartmouth and District Labour Council are proud to have been the original financial support to the Halifax WAC - and we are pleased to carry that on."

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

The fundraiser was successful in several ways. Not only did it bring in needed funds, it gave us a chance to reflect on our work and connect with the talented and generous community that supports us.

Thank you to the people and organizations that donate! We couldn't do it without you.



Want to become a one-time or monthly supporter of the Halifax Workers' Action Centre?

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