

Jan 10, 2024

CUPE 4816 stands in solidarity with Frédérique Martineau and the United Steelworkers (USW) in their struggle for Union recognition and rights at various Starbucks locations across Canada, including in Vancouver, BC. We wholeheartedly condemn the decision by Starbucks to fire Frédérique for her outspoken support for Unionization among Starbucks workers. Freedom of association is a fundamental right of all Canadians. It is unacceptable that workers are being fired for lawful activities related to Unionization and we call on other labour and community organizations to stand in solidarity with Frédérique and the USW.

This fight is of profound significance to all Canadians and workers around the world, who rely on the protection and provisions of a collective agreement, bargained in good faith, to ensure their livelihoods. We must stand together in the face of well-funded corporate assaults on Canadians' freedom of association and the right to collectively bargain.

We applaud Frédérique and the USW for standing strong in the face of Starbucks' aggressive and unfair union-busting strategy, and we add our voice to the call for dignity and respect in this struggle.

At CUPE 4816 (community healthcare workers in Burnaby, New Westminster, and Vancouver, BC), we know the strength of the labour movement lies in in the depth of our solidarity and our commitment to supporting each other when we need it most. We urge Starbucks to reinstate Frédérique and to adopt a good faith approach to negotiations with workers at any of its locations that wish to exercise rights and freedoms that the labour movement has fought to uphold throughout its history.

In Solidarity,

The CUPE 4816 Executive Board

Angelina Greig, Vice President Brent Nixon, Secretary Joanne Lalli, Treasurer Natasha Cvitkovich, HSPBA Member at Large Dylan Webb, President