

## Biography

Hassan Husseini knows the power that workers have when they are truly united with a common goal. Hassan wants to re-ignite the energy and strength of the labour movement, uniting workers to fight for economic and social justice. He believes in grassroots, democratic leadership where workers are in control of the CLC, and affiliates, federations and labour councils can fully participate. A grassroots, democratic leadership means listening to members' concerns, learning from their experiences and leading them in collective actions to protect and advance their interests. Hassan applied this style of leadership over years of activism in numerous organizations.

An experienced organizer, facilitator and leader, Hassan can build the solidarity we need to stand up to unprecedented attacks on working people. He has the skills and commitment to bring us all together, breaking down barriers between affiliates. Hassan represents the next generation of leaders. He knows young workers, marginalized workers and seasoned activists need to work together to take back our workplaces, our communities and our country.

Hassan believes that to win, we must work differently. The CLC's plan to reach out and connect with members is a vital first step. We must listen to our members, and use their experiences to inspire our campaigns. And we must go beyond those first conversations, building capacity and empowering all workers to take a stand in their workplaces and communities.

Hassan has more than 20 years of activism in the student, labour, social justice, community and international solidarity movements. He brings passion, integrity, vision, and genuine commitment to workers' rights. A proud long-time member of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), he is now privileged to be a member of UNIFOR local 2025. Hassan has experience as a local president, human rights vice-president, health and safety representative, negotiating team member, and labour council delegate.

A national negotiator with the PSAC, Hassan has extensive experience in organizing, political action and campaigns, as well as communications skills learned through years of activism and employment in labour, teaching as well as community organizations. As a national negotiator Hassan understands that making advances at the bargaining table can only be achieved if members are organized, engaged and mobilized. He believes lobbying has its place, but knows the one thing the Harper government fears is an organized, united and worker-driven labour movement that is not afraid to stand up to right-wing governments and their corporate backers.

As a CLC national representative in the Department of Political Action and Campaigns, Hassan worked closely with staff and elected leaders of CLC, affiliates, federations of labour and labour councils. Working at the CLC broadened Hassan's knowledge of our diverse movement and deepened his conviction in the power of working people to transform their lives for the better.

In the mid 1990s, Hassan was an organizer for the Ottawa-Carleton CUPE District Council, playing a lead role in mobilizing for the Ontario Days of Action and the fightback against Mike Harris's anti-worker government. He also coordinated Ottawa's walk for peace, the environment and social justice.

Hassan has been active in electoral politics as a candidate and a campaigner at all levels of government. He has served on the boards of a number of non-profit organizations including: the Cooperative Daycare Centre; the Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG); and Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East (CJPME).

Hassan was born in Beirut, Lebanon to a large working class family of 10 siblings. His father was active in the labour and national liberation struggle from an early age. Hassan immigrated to Canada in the mid-1980s and has lived mainly in Ottawa. He holds a Masters degree in legal studies from Carleton University and is completing his doctorate in international relations. He is the proud father of two budding activists who challenge the world around them (including their dad) every day.