

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
August 26, 2019**

CUPE / *Canadian Union
of Public Employees*
Local 500

TO: All Central Council Delegates

RE: PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings:

The following is my monthly report of the activities and issues facing the Local since our last Central Council meeting:

HEALTH CARE REPRESENTATION VOTES

We are pleased to announce that CUPE gained almost 9,000 health care workers in Manitoba, by winning the community and facility support votes in the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Shared Health, and the southern and northern regional health authorities. CUPE now represents over 35,000 workers in Manitoba, becoming Manitoba's largest union.

Unfortunately, the votes also resulted in some changes to CUPE members working in the Professional Technical and Nursing categories, who will now be represented by the Manitoba Association of Health Care Professionals (MAHCP) and Manitoba Nurses Union (MNU). We want to wish our Riverview and WRHA members and activists well, and we will miss them, but we look forward to working in solidarity with MAHCP and MNU and helping them transition into their new unions.

Our most sincere thanks and appreciation to all members, staff, and supporters who worked tirelessly on the health care campaign. It was a very long and hard-fought campaign and we thank you for your passion, energy and commitment.

Moving forward, there will be a period of transition for all unions and employees. This period is to ensure a smooth transition for members, unions, grievances, arbitrations, and bargaining rights between unions and employers.

The Local will keep you updated on the transition process as more information becomes available.

MANITOBA PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL ELECTION

The Manitoba Provincial and Federal Elections are fast approaching!

On September 10, we will have the chance to get rid of Brian Pallister and his anti-labour government, whose cuts and policies have been a disaster for working families in Manitoba.

On October 21, we will have the opportunity to break the pattern of electing Liberal and Conservative governments that attack our pensions, privatize our public resources, and stand in the way of a cleaner economy and environment.

As such, it's important that we elect leaders who stand by the values and ideals that we fight for as union members, each and every day. We want Leaders who: fight for workers' rights, protect and improve pension plans, believe in public services, and stand for fairness and dignity for all.

That's why we all need to do our part! Get involved by giving up a few hours of your time to be part of a campaign team. By being active in provincial and federal politics, CUPE can achieve positive change for our members and all Canadians.

And most importantly get out and vote!

AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION (ATU) 1505 NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

The City of Winnipeg and Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 1505 (ATU) remain at an impasse on negotiations. The City has rejected the counterproposal provided by ATU on August 16th.

ATU 1505, which represents about 1,400 drivers, mechanics and other Winnipeg Transit workers, have been without a contract since January. Recently the City of Winnipeg moved to take away sections of the ATU collective agreement and continues to raise the threat of a lockout, in an effort to try and scare ATU members and the public.

ATU members have been strong supporters of CUPE and the Local stands in solidarity and support in their fight for a fair contract.

We encourage Local 500 members to call or write your City Councillor and the Mayor to let them know that transit matters to you. For more information, contact the ATU office at 204-943-5064 or communications@atu1505.ca

FALL/WINTER LEISURE GUIDE

The City's Fall Leisure Guide was recently made available to the public. This publication highlights the many recreation and leisure opportunities that contribute to the overall wellbeing of our community. We're very proud that many of the city's programs and services are coordinated and delivered by members of Local 500.

For the past number of years, the Local has continued to profile the work of our members through advertisements in the Leisure Guide. You'll find us in the front inside cover of the fall/winter edition – be sure to check it out!

GOOD OF THE UNION

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Local 500 member, Chris Edmonds. Chris worked for Fleet Management. We extend our deepest sympathies to Brother Edmond's family, friends and co-workers. On behalf of the Local, we will observe a moment of silence.

Labour Day March: Monday, September 2, 11:30 am – start at Pantages Playhouse Theatre, Market Ave (at the Streetcar) and will end at 1:30 pm – at the Manitoba Legislature with speakers.

Conclusion:

Please share this current issues document with your co-workers.

In solidarity,



Gord Delbridge

/kb LSU

cc: L. McLeod