

July 21, 2005

LABOUR AND COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS RALLY TO KEEP TRASH COLLECTION PUBLIC

About 100 CUPE Local 500 members and other union and community members attended the “Don’t Trash Us” rally on July 20 in an overwhelming show of support for the Solid Waste workers. The rally, held at City Hall was part of the Local’s campaign to fight the City’s proposal to contract out all garbage collection.

Speakers at the rally included CUPE Local 500 President Mike Davidson, former MLA Marianne Cerilli and Kate Sjoberg, President of the University of Winnipeg’s Student Association.

“Our members have provided this service for 100 years,” said CUPE Local 500 President Mike Davidson. “To throw them out of their jobs now would be a shame.”

One of the highlights of the event was CUPE Local 500 member Sallie Caufield who led the crowd in a shout: “What do we want? Public Service! When do we want it? Now!”

The rally received media coverage from both the papers and local news television.

EPC Approves Recommendation

On July 20, the City’s Executive Policy Committee voted in favour of the recommendation to contract out and is due to be voted on by City Council on July 27. The results of the vote were:

For: Mayor Katz, Clement, Eadie, De Smedt, Pagtakhan, Steeves.

Against: Thomas



CUPE Local 500 Member Sally Caufield leads the crowd at the “Don’t Trash Rally”

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The recommendation to contract out initially came from the Water and Waste Department. It was then forwarded to the City's Alternative Service Delivery Committee (ASD) for consideration. The results of the vote at the ASD Committee were:

For: Eadie, Magnifico, Pagtakhan

The recommendation was also forwarded and discussed at the Joint Council CUPE Committee. The union again spoke against the city's recommendation to contract out and asked that the work stay in-house. The results of the vote at the Joint Council CUPE were:

For: Maginifco

Against: Lubosch, Benham

City Council to Vote July 27

On July 27 City Council will vote on the recommendation to contract out all garbage collection. Local 500 believes that we must continue to fight hard to beat back this recommendation. If we do not, it will give the City a ticket to contract out more work – not just garbage collection.

All Local 500 members who are able to attend the meeting of City Council are encouraged to do so. Please remember that you are attending on your own time.

We thank you for your continued support.

