

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
December 18, 2017**

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:

MULTI-FAMILY BIN COLLECTION SERVICES

Local 500 and the City of Winnipeg have tentatively agreed to bring back a portion of multi-family bin collection back in-house. The City is already moving forward with the purchase of trucks for this service. It is estimated that about 10 – 15 positions will be needed for this work.

This is good news for the Local and the citizens of Winnipeg. We know that when services are delivered publicly, it means lower costs, higher quality and more accountability to the public.

The Local will update the membership as more information becomes available.

CITY COUNCIL PASSES 2018 BUDGET

On December 12, Winnipeg City Council voted 11-5 in favour of adopting the 2018 budget.

Throughout the budget process, the Local made presentations in opposition at various standing committees of council and to the Executive Policy Committee.

We are disappointed and remain concerned about the millions of dollars in vacancy management approved in this budget. Balancing the books at the expense of a strong civic workforce is going to harm our city, and reduce our ability to deliver needed services.

The budget also includes a reduction to the city's business tax rate, a 25-cent transit fare increase, and an extra \$1.50 to on-street parking.

The bus fare increase will hurt low-income families and seniors. It makes no sense that the City can find money to cut the business tax, but can't find money for basic transportation needs.

Here's how council voted:

Voting in **favour of the budget**: Mayor Bowman, Councillors Gerbasi, Orlikow, Gillingham, Pagtakhan, Lukes, Mayes, Allard, Gilroy, Morantz and Sharma.

Voting **Against the budget**: **Councilors** Browaty, Eadie, Dobson, Schreyer and Wyatt.

The Local will continue to call on the City to end the vacancy management program and ensure adequate staffing levels in city services.

LOCAL 500'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY ADS

Local 500 has launched its annual holiday TV, radio and print ad campaign to extend season's greetings to the public.

We are also pleased to be broadcasting versions of one of our ads in Punjabi and Tagalog.

If you would like to hear or see the ads, they are available on the Local 500 website.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

International Human Rights Day is observed every year on December 10. On this day in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the declaration, outlining the basic and fundamental rights and freedoms to which all human beings are entitled.

CUPE has a long-standing legacy of advancing human rights through legislative and social change. With rising incidents of hate crimes and violence, we are reminded that every day must be a day to uphold human rights.

This year, International Human Rights Day kicked off a year-long UN campaign to mark the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

CUPE will continue to build awareness of human rights issues, and strive to ensure that all people enjoy human rights equally.

FORMER CUPE NATIONAL SECRETARY-TREASURER KEALEY CUMMINGS PASSES AWAY

On December 9, 2017, a former CUPE National Secretary-Treasurer Brother Charles Kealey Cummings, passed away.

From 1955 to 1963, Brother Kealey served as General Vice-President of the National Union of Public Service Employees (NUPSE) and he is considered one of the founding fathers of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), which was formed in 1963 following the merger of the NUPSE and the National Union of Public Employees (NUPE). He served as a General Vice-President of CUPE and was elected as National Secretary-Treasurer from 1975 to 1985. He retired on April 1, 1986.

A Celebration of Life for Brother Kealey will be held in Ottawa in the spring.

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND ACTION ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Every year on December 6, we commemorate the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women in Canada.

Established in 1991 by the Parliament of Canada, this day marks the anniversary of the murders in 1989 of 14 young women at l'École Polytechnique de Montréal. They were singled out and murdered because of their gender.

It is also an opportunity to consider the women and girls for whom violence is a daily reality, and to remember those who have died as a result of gender-based violence.

In Manitoba, candlelight vigils, memorial services, and other events were held on December 6 throughout the province.

CUPE NATIONAL'S LIBRARY WORKERS' SURVEY ON PRECARIOUS EMPLOYMENT - DEADLINE EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 31!

CUPE has launched Phase 2 of the National Survey of Precarious Employment in the Library Sector, and is inviting library workers to participate in the online survey.

In Phase 2, CUPE is inviting library workers who work specifically in the following sectors:

- school or school board
- university
- municipality
- provincial library system
- public library
- or other (i.e. special library).

The online survey can be found at <https://cupe.ca/library-workers-survey> or on the Local 500 website. **The deadline to participate is December 31, 2017.**

Responses to the survey are anonymous and confidential.

GOOD OF THE UNION:

I would like to thank all the members, staff and executive for your hard work and dedication to the Local throughout the year.

It is a pleasure and honor for me to be president of a well-respected Local at all levels in our city, province and country!

Best wishes for the holiday season and all the very best in the New Year!

CONCLUSION:

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

In solidarity,



GORD DELBRIDGE
President
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