

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
January 28, 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 UPDATE

Last week the provincial government enacted a new regulation under The Health Sector Bargaining Unit Review Act that confirms some significant rules regarding the health care representation votes.

This new regulation now clarifies the definition of the Community Sector and Facility Sector for the purposes of bargaining. The Community Sector will include anyone who does “hands on direct patient/resident/client care or psycho-social care”. This will include classifications like health care aide, home care attendant, support worker, and rehabilitation assistant.

The Facility Sector has been defined as anyone who “provides operational support services – such as clerical, trades, laundry, and dietary staff.

MGEU has publicly said that under this new arrangement, it will “give employers the ability to move workers around the health care system — to force them to work in different jobs than they signed up for”. We want to assure our members that CUPE’s Collective Agreement would protect our members - with CUPE, the job that you were hired into, is your job.

CUPE has opposed the health care representation votes from the get go. We know this has and continues to be a stressful process for our health care members, and we’re working hard to ensure we keep our members updated and informed about the process.

Attached to this report is a copy of the most recent health care update. For more information, please visit cupehealthcare.ca.

BARGAINING UPDATES

The Local is busy with contract negotiations at the Assiniboine Park Conservancy (APC), Varsity View Community Centre, Canlan (Highlander Ice Sports) and the St. Boniface Museum. Please watch for further bargaining updates as more information becomes available.

ATU WINS MAJOR VICTORY FOR IMPROVED DRIVER SAFETY

ATU Local 1505 has won a major victory in their fight for improved safety for drivers.

On January 22, Council's executive policy committee (EPC) voted unanimously to spend \$3.15 million installing shields on all 630 Winnipeg Transit buses — and have all the work done by the end of January 2020. The safety shields will help reduce a majority of the assaults on Winnipeg bus drivers.

Earlier this month, transit officials suggested a three-year timeline to conduct the work, however Council's public works committee, voted to amend the plan to require the work to be completed in 18 months.

The motion will still need to be voted on at City Council on January 31.

WOMEN'S MARCH CANADA - WINNIPEG

The third annual Women's March Canada – Winnipeg was held on January 19, despite the extremely cold weather. Dozens of people from labour and the community attended the rally and marched around the Legislative Building.

Speakers at the event included Samantha Rayburn-Trubyk and two CUPE members - Charlotte Nolin and Vivienne Ho.

Marches were organized across the world in solidarity with those marching in Washington, D.C. The movement started in the U.S. following President Donald Trump's inauguration in 2017. The Women's March network has grown into a resistance movement that seeks policy change for the betterment of women and their families.

CUPE opposes all forms of gender discrimination and strives every day to fight for equality for women in the workplace, and across society.

GOOD OF THE UNION

- February is Black History Month. CUPE urges all its members to acknowledge and celebrate Black History Month by attending some of the many wonderful events taking place during the month of February. We'll be posting these celebrations on our website and our Facebook page.

- A huge thanks to our Local 500 members who are out working in some extreme temperatures to help keep our city up and running.

CONCLUSION:

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

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gord Delbridge". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

GORD DELBRIDGE
President

GD/ng
cope 342