

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES  
LOCAL 500**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Central Council  
May 27, 2019**

***CUPE*** / *Canadian Union  
of Public Employees*  
***Local 500***

TO: All Central Council Delegates

**RE: *PRESIDENT'S REPORT***

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Greetings:

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

### **BARGAINING UPDATES**

Local 500 has recently completed bargaining at Varsity View Community Centre, Canlan (Highlander Ice Sports) and at the Commissionaires RCMP "D" Division. Notice to bargain has been served at the St. Boniface Museum, St. James Museum and at Assiniboine Park Conservancy.

Please watch for further bargaining updates as more information becomes available.

### **INTERNATIONAL WORKER'S DAY**

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Local 500 took part in the march to celebrate International Worker's Day also known as May Day. It's a day to reaffirm our solidarity with workers around the world in our fight for workers' rights. In commemoration of the universal struggle for all working people, we recognize the historic struggles of workers who have gone before us and their hard-fought gains that we benefit from today.

Thanks to all who made this year's march a success.

### **1919 WINNIPEG GENERAL STRIKE**

At 11:00 a.m. on May 15, one hundred years ago, over thirty thousand workers left their jobs and marched into the streets of Winnipeg, leading to one of the biggest labour actions Canada has ever seen. Strikers included both the private and public sectors and ranged from garment workers to police officers. On June 21, 1919 the Royal North-West Mounted Police and hired union busters, rode on horseback and fired into a crowd of thousands of workers, killing two and injuring countless others.

The 1919 strike means a lot to us as a union movement. It shows us the sacrifices working people are willing to make in order to better the working and living conditions for everyone.

As part of 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the strike, a number of events have or are taking place to help commemorate this historic event.

### ***SOLIDARITY FOREVER PARADE AND CONCERT***

This past Saturday (May 25), about 100 CUPE members, staff and activists joined with hundreds from other unions and associations in the Solidarity Forever Parade. Thanks to everyone who participated in the march. The message was very clear - Solidarity Forever, for the Union makes us strong!

Please watch for other upcoming events as the centennial celebrations continue.

### **SECURITY SCREENING MEASURES – MILLENNIUM LIBRARY**

On May 16, I attended a workplace meeting at Millennium Library to provide our members with an opportunity to express their views on the new security screening measures. I would like to thank to Phil Dembicki, Acting President of Community Services, for organizing and attending this meeting with me. The Local also received a number of emails from members who could not attend – and I would like to thank each and every one of you for your feedback on this important issue.

It is very clear to the union that many of our members are in favour of the new security screening measures and are feeling safer at work. As I stated at the meeting – the health and safety of our members remains a priority for CUPE.

On May 22, I made a verbal presentation to the city's Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks to echo many of the comments and views expressed by our members - i.e. positive impact on the safety of library staff and patrons; drastic reduction in number of violent incidents; and the urgent need by the provincial government to adequately fund and resource the underlying social issues on a broader scale. .

Others presenting at the standing committee, including the Manager of Library Services and Winnipeg Police Service, also commented on the positive difference the new measures have made. Next steps by city administration will include a survey to all library staff, exploring improvements to front lobby, outreach to libraries across the country and working with contract security staff on improving customer service skills.

A more detailed written report from city administration is due to be presented to the standing committee in September. The Local will also be presenting with a written submission.

Please watch for more updates as more information becomes available.

### **2019 SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY PROGRAM**

The Local 500 Les Butterworth Scholarship Fund is inviting applications for its scholarship and bursary awards. This year the fund is offering:

**One scholarship of \$1,500.00**  
**Three bursaries of \$1,000.00 each**

The Les Butterworth Scholarship and Bursary Program is open to Local 500 members and their families who are in good standing.

The deadline to submit your applications is Friday, June 28, 2019. Application forms are available on the Local's website.

For more information, please contact the Local 500 office at 204-942-1001 or email: [union@cupe500.mb.ca](mailto:union@cupe500.mb.ca).

### **GOOD OF THE UNION**

- **First Call has been issued for the 56th Annual Convention of CUPE Manitoba** to be held from September 10 – 13, 2019 at the Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre in Brandon Manitoba.
- **Save the Seven Oaks Rally** – Please come out and support our health care workers at a rally this Wednesday, May 29, 12 pm at the Seven Oaks General Hospital, 2300 McPhillips Street.

- **Pride Winnipeg Rally/Parade:** Join with CUPE members and thousands of others at the Pride Rally/Parade on Sunday, June 2, Rally 10:00 a.m. (steps of the Manitoba Legislature Building) – Parade starts 11:00 a.m. (Memorial Boulevard and York Ave.)
- **JUNE 21 is NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY –** We hope you will participate in some of the events happening in our community to learn more about the history, cultures and traditions of Indigenous Peoples.

***Conclusion:***

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

In solidarity,



GORD DELBRIDGE  
President

KB/ng  
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cc: L. McLeod