

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES  
LOCAL 500**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Central Council  
November 27, 2023**

TO: All Central Council Delegates

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

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**SPECIAL WAGE ADJUSTMENT/ ESSENTIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

We last met with the employer on November 15<sup>th</sup>. We have made a lot of progress and are now waiting for the response from the employer. We want all the classifications in the SWA-1 to get something. When this is complete, we will be moving onto the SWA-2.

Our next scheduled meeting is November 29, 2023.

We followed with a meeting regarding and ESA, which we are much further apart on. The employer presented us with an agreement that would undermine our bargaining position. We gave them a proposal package with what may be viewed as critical positions, whereas the employer had previously opened with grass cutters.

Just as a reminder, The SWA-1 was an arbitration award won by the Local wherein we decided that the monies awarded should go to the members in classifications that were falling behind, including trades, forepersons, wastewater treatment operators. The SWA-2 is a bargained wage adjustment for certain classifications that are mutually decided upon between the Local and the City.

**LIBRARY REPORT**

I presented at the EPC meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup> regarding the library services improvement report. Though we are please there is a proposed increase rather than years of cuts we have seen in the past, we don't feel like it goes far enough.

We know there is a correlation between well funded libraries and other public services, and the rate of crime. Well-funded libraries offer a wide range of educational resources that are more than just books. Increased

education leads to a more informed and engaged community and is linked to lower crime rates as it provides people with better opportunities for personal and professional development.

As I previously stated, I will continue to lobby council for well funded city services.

### **FLEXIBLE WORKPLACE PROGRAM**

I also presented to EPC regarding the flexible workplace program on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Nearly every public sector employer in MB has a working from home policy. We know this plays a part in recruitment and retention. CUPE along with the city's administration, pushed to have this program continue as we all believe it is a key component in recruitment and retention.

EPC has now moved this as information and the program will stay in place for the foreseeable future.

### **GARBAGE COLLECTION**

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, I went to speak to the Water, Waste and Environmental Committee regarding bringing a part of garbage collection back in-house.

Being able to evolve, adapt and make changes on the fly can't be done when collection is 100% contracted out. Most major cities have a mixed model garbage collection.

Awarding million-dollar contracts to corporations outside of our province, only helps those CEO's but \$350-million-dollar yachts. Keeping good jobs in our city contributes to OUR local economy.

Councillor Brian Mayes made a motion calling for the city to designate parts of the inner-city wards of Mynarski, Daniel McIntyre and Point Douglas, as well as the West Broadway neighbourhood, as areas where city workers would perform garbage collection. It was passed unanimously by the committee. It will go to council next.

**GOOD OF THE UNION:**

Brother Ron Actimichuk passed away on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Ron worked for the City of Winnipeg for 29 years, until his retirement in 2017. Ron was dedicated to his work and could always be counted on for supporting the union in various ways. He was one of three members featured in a video the Local did regarding the contracting out of cleaning services. Ron will be missed by many.

In solidarity,

Gord Delbridge  
President

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gord Delbridge".