

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
February 28, 2011**

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:

1. Bargaining Update with the City of Winnipeg

Local 500 held two information sessions at the Winnipeg Convention Centre to review the City's offer and also to hear the Local's negotiating committee's recommendation. While the City's package did contain some benefit improvements, the Local's negotiating committee did not recommend accepting it and believe the members deserve better.

The committee met with the employer on February 24th and 25th, in an attempt to negotiate a collective agreement. Throughout the bargaining process, the Local's committee has kept the members' priorities front and centre; job security, wages, pension plan and no concessions.

The Local has sent out 2 phone blasts, mass emails, 9 bulletin updates and information on the Local's website to inform the membership as much as possible.

2. Bargaining at Assiniboine Park Conservancy

On January 25th, the Union's negotiating committee met to begin preparations for the upcoming round of bargaining with the Assiniboine Park Conservancy.

The Union's negotiating committee is in the process of finalizing our proposals that we will be presenting to the employer at the bargaining table. Both sides will meet face-to-face beginning February 9 – 11, 2011.

3. President's 2010 Annual Report

My annual report is made available to Central Council delegates for this meeting. The purpose of this report is to review the events of the previous year and to anticipate and prepare for the challenges we will face in the upcoming year.

The Local had a very busy year in 2010. Apart from the day to day servicing of our members, the Local dealt with a number of key priorities that are listed in the report.

4. State of the City Address

The annual speech by the Mayor, hosted by the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce was held at the Convention Centre, February 4, 2011.

The Mayor did touch on the infrastructure deficit and the challenge to meet the provincial standards for sewage treatment.

Also mentioned in the Mayor's speech were the Police helicopter, IKEA, the Zoo and future construction of a water park.

It has been 13 years since the City last raised property taxes.

5. City of Winnipeg Capital Budget

The City of Winnipeg unveiled its 2011 Capital Budget this past month and plans to send about \$370 million on roads, bridges, buildings and other infrastructure projects this year, down from \$439 million in 2010.

Winnipeg faces a \$3.9 billion infrastructure deficit and it continues to grow each year.

6. City of Winnipeg Operating Budget

The process of developing the City of Winnipeg's 2011 Operating Budget is underway and the City of Winnipeg held two open houses in the month of January for public input. The Operating Budget should maintain front line services for the citizens of Winnipeg. The City has had property taxes frozen for the last 13 years and this has strained many City departments.

Conclusion:

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

In solidarity,

M Davidson

Mike Davidson

MD/ng
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