

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
June 28, 2010**

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. Positively Public Campaign

Once again, we are distributing information to the public about our municipal golf courses. Our golf courses are an important asset to the citizens of Winnipeg. They are publicly owned and operated for the enjoyment of everyone in our city.

We are also continuing with our advertising campaign to promote public services and to highlight the work of our members.

Please remember to go to the Local's website and sign-up to receive email alerts and stay informed about the latest news and updates about issues important to you.

2. Local 500 Seeks Legal Advice

Earlier this year, the Local was advised that the Public Works Department intended to increase the level of concrete cut restorations contracted out to the private sector. Despite meeting with the Department in an effort to find alternative solutions, this proposal went ahead. The Union has now engaged a law firm to assist us in our fight to keep this work within the bargaining unit.

3. Assiniboine Park Conservancy (APC)

Over the past few years, the City of Winnipeg has been working towards a new governance model for the management and operation of Assiniboine Park.

The City and the Union have begun preliminary discussions about the transition process to the new Assiniboine Park Conservancy (APC). A Joint Union/City/Conservancy Management Committee

has been established to work on all aspects of the Employee Transition Agreement. The committee is made up of members from the Zoo, Assiniboine Park and Conservatory.

To date, a number of workplace bulletin updates have been sent out and employee information sessions held. These meetings were intended to provide more information and give members an opportunity to ask specific questions.

The Union wants to assure our members that Local 500 has successor rights and the Collective Agreement and its terms and conditions will transfer to APC and remain in place until such time as it is renegotiated.

We want our members to know that they have all 5,000 Local 500 members standing behind them in solidarity.

The Local will continue to provide more information as it becomes available. Please watch your bulletin boards for further announcements and updates.

4. Water & Waste Labour Management Meeting

This past month, the Executive of the Water & Waste Unit held a labour management meeting with the employer. These types of meetings provide a good opportunity to raise relevant issues and work with the employer on matters of mutual concern.

Thank you to all the Water & Waste executive members who participated in the joint meeting.

5. Western Municipal Conference - Regina

More than 140 workers from cities and towns in western Canada met in Regina on June 10-12 to share strategies for negotiating in the current economic climate, expanding public pensions and protecting public services.

Local's provided reports and delegates heard from a number of guest speakers. The delegates also took time out to walk the picket line with striking workers at Casino Regina. Nearly \$10,000 was raised through a combination of local pledges and delegate

donations on the conference floor and \$10,000 was matched by CUPE National.

6. Public Services Week

This year, the Province of Manitoba proclaimed the week of June 13 - 19 as Public Services Week. Public Services Week is a time set aside to honor the men and women who serve as public servants in our City and Province.

CUPE Local 500 members provide vital public services that make Winnipeg a great place to live and work. Their work makes life better for all of us.

In recognition of Public Services Week, the Local placed an advertisement in the community newspapers (June 17th edition).

I'm very proud of our members who provide valuable public services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

7. Big Bike Event

CUPE Local 500 members and their families raised over \$1,800 at this year's Heart and Stroke Big Bike event. The event took place on June 15 at the Forks.

All riders on the team wore "Positively Public" t-shirts to highlight our ongoing campaign.

This is one example of the many community events our members' participate in. Many thanks to Sister Cathy Williams-Stewart and Brother Dave Gaudreau for their hard work in making this a fun and successful event!

8. Union Centre

The Union Centre celebrated its 20th anniversary this past month. The Union Centre is also known as "the house of labour" in our city.

Thank you to all those who helped give organized labour a permanent home in Winnipeg.

Conclusion:

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

In solidarity,

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Mike Davidson

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