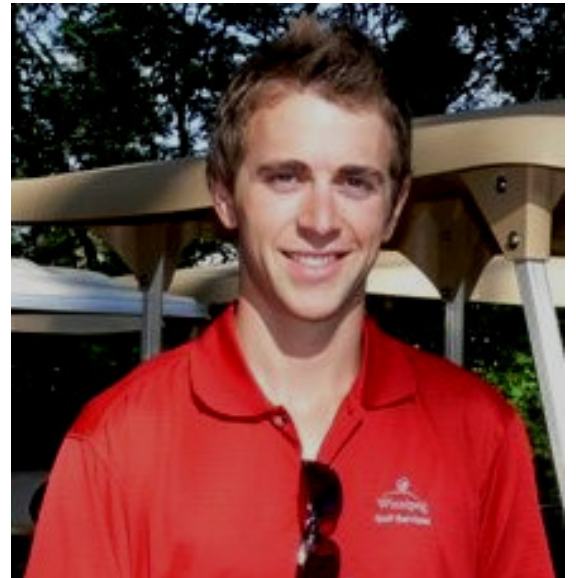




CUPE / Canadian Union
of Public Employees
Local 500

PRESIDENT'S 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented to: CUPE Local 500 Central Council
February 27, 2012



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**The most important word in the
language of the working class is
"solidarity."**

-- Harry Bridges

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Local 500 Member:

The last 12 months have been exceptionally busy and we've enjoyed many accomplishments and gains. Our members continue to fight for better working conditions and stronger collective agreements. Our Local is proud, strong and active in our communities. We stand up for issues that affect us in the workplace, on the shop floor and support actions that affect our members, allies and our city.

We've come through many challenges this year and also had many accomplishments, both big and small to celebrate.

We can all be proud of all the extra efforts during the flood and our members commitment to the citizens of Winnipeg.

I would like to thank all the members, executive, shop stewards, staff and the many activists for all your hard work and support over this past year. It is an honour and a privilege to work full-time for CUPE Local 500 and I look forward to our meeting whatever challenges we may face over the year.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Davidson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mike Davidson
President

MD/ng

INTRODUCTION

The President's Annual Report is a review of the Local's activities and events of the previous year. It also serves as a plan to help us prepare for the many challenges the Local will face in the upcoming year.

In addition to the day to day business of the Local, servicing our members remains a top priority. The Local dealt with a number of key priorities which are listed below:

- ◆ The Local has started phase three of our "Positively Public" fight back campaign in connection to recommendations listed in the City's Economic Opportunity Commission (EOC) report. This report calls for a number of our public services to be contracted out, eliminated or privatized.
- ◆ The future of our City owned golf courses and arenas are uncertain at this time. The City has put out an expression of interest for both of these operations without any public consultations. The Local will continue to monitor and take the necessary steps to keep these services in public control.
- ◆ Continue to monitor the Veolia contract with respect to the City's sewage treatment plant upgrades and expansion project.
- ◆ The Local continued to work with community groups and community coalitions.
- ◆ Continued monitoring of the "Mowing Task" review in the Public Works Department.
- ◆ Monitoring of a pilot seven day operation in the Streets Maintenance Division.
- ◆ Monitoring of all P3 initiatives relative to the City of Winnipeg.
- ◆ To bargain a collective agreement for the Winnipeg Convention Centre and members at Riverview Health Centre.

In 2011, Local 500 continued to be active in the following parent labour bodies:

- ◆ CUPE National
- ◆ CUPE Manitoba
- ◆ Manitoba Federation of Labour
- ◆ Winnipeg Labour Council

In 2011, Local 500 supported:

- ◆ The CLC Kid's Summer Camp
- ◆ The MayWorks Picnic
- ◆ Rossbrook House Christmas Party
- ◆ Labour Christmas Tree
- ◆ City of Winnipeg Citizen Equity Committee
- ◆ Riverview Health Centre Foundation—Riverview Tree of Lights
- ◆ Winnipeg Folk Festival Family Area
- ◆ Manitoba Aboriginal Hockey Championships
- ◆ The Firefighters Burn Fund
- ◆ MFL—30th Annual Health & Safety Conference
- ◆ 46th Annual Civic Employees' Bonspiel
- ◆ Day of Mourning Ceremony
- ◆ 9th Annual Charity Golf Classic—Riverview Health Centre Foundation
- ◆ Winnipeg Police Association 87th Annual Charity Ball
- ◆ Manitoba Eco-Network—3rd Annual Reel Green Film Festival
- ◆ Keeping the Fires Burning
- ◆ Community Unemployed Help Centre
- ◆ Animal Services/City of Winnipeg Animal Adoption Calendar
- ◆ CCPA Manitoba Fundraising Brunch
- ◆ CUPE Members Can Food Drive for Winnipeg Harvest
- ◆ MFL Women's Committee Memorial Lunch Fundraiser

We also continued to work closely with the Council of Civic Unions made up of the Presidents of all eight (8) civic unions/associations. We firmly believe it's extremely important that all civic employees remain united and work together on all issues of mutual concern.



Pictured below: Local 500 members donate food items to Harvest during ratification vote on March 25.



(From left) Brian Barron, 1st Vice-President of Local 500; Nick Ternette, Winnipeg Harvest; Mike Davidson, CUPE Local 500 President; Winnipeg Blue Bomber, Kelly Butler.

REVIEW OF 2011 PRIORITIES

The 2010 Annual Report outlined a number of priorities for 2011. Listed below are a number of priorities and comments on actions taken and results achieved.

◆ **Collective agreement for members working at City of Winnipeg:**

Results: The Local successfully negotiated a four year agreement with the City of Winnipeg that addressed the priorities of the membership. They were: job security, wage and benefit increases and protecting the pension plan.

◆ **Work towards a first agreement for the members at Assiniboine Park Conservancy:**

Results: Members at the Assiniboine Park Conservancy ratified their first collective agreement on November 22, 2011.

◆ **Bargain collective agreements at Kirkfield-Westwood, Varsity View Community Centre:**

Results: Members were successful in achieving and ratifying a fair agreement.

◆ **Participate in the City of Winnipeg Civic By-election:**

Results: Local 500 worked with and through the Winnipeg Labour Council during the 2011 by-election for St. Vital and were successful in electing candidate Brian Mayes, who will provide a more balanced council.

◆ **Continued focus on improving internal membership communication as well as external communication:**

Results: The Local continued to promote public services and the work of our members through a variety of advertising initiatives including radio, television, magazines and newspapers. In addition, the Local aired ads throughout game broadcasts and special programming with respect to the Winnipeg Blue Bombers and Winnipeg Jets. The Local also sends out its newsletters, mass emails and has utilized phone blasts to reach our members. Workplace visits were also conducted throughout the past year at a variety of work locations.

REVIEW OF 2011 PRIORITIES (Cont'd)

◆ **Monitor all developments at all City of Winnipeg Special Operating Agencies:**

Results: The Local continues to closely monitor all activities associated with the various City of Winnipeg Special Operating Agencies. They include: Animal Services, Fleet Management Services and Golf Services.

◆ **City of Winnipeg spring clean-up/flood control operations:**

Results: I want to thank our members who were involved in last year's flood fighting preparations and operations. From sand bag production to emergency planning, our members were front and centre during this very difficult and demanding time.

◆ **Participate in the City of Winnipeg Operating Budget Debate:**

Results: The Local made presentations at various committees at City Hall.

◆ **Actively Build Community Coalitions regarding issues of common interest:**

Results: A number of meetings were attended with local coalition groups and community activists concerned with the political direction being undertaken at City Hall.

◆ **Participate in the Provincial election process last fall:**

Results: The Local worked with the Manitoba Federation of Labour, Winnipeg Labour Council and CUPE Manitoba to help the NDP win a fourth and historically important mandate to govern Manitoba over the next four years. Brother Dave Gaudreau, former Local 500 Warden, was elected as MLA for St. Norbert.

◆ **Local 500's commitment to leadership responsibility to the broader labour movement:**

Results: Local 500 activists continue to play key roles within all levels of CUPE, the Winnipeg Labour Council and the Manitoba Federation of Labour.



LOCAL 500 COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS - CURRENT STATUS

City of Winnipeg

- January 1, 2011—December 27, 2014

Riverview Health Centre

- Expires March 31, 2012

St. Boniface Museum

- Expires December 31, 2014

Canlan (Highlander Ice Sports)

- In negotiations

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

- Expires March 31, 2012

Winnipeg Convention Centre

- In negotiations

Gateway Recreation Centre

- Expires June 30, 2012

Rural Municipality of East St. Paul

- Expires in 2013

Varsity View Community Centre

- Expires December 13, 2014

Kirkfield- Westwood Community Centre

- Expires February 5, 2014

Historical Museum of St. James Assiniboia

- In negotiations

Winnipeg Humane Society

- Expires December 31, 2012

Commissionaires RCMP “D” Division

- Expires March 31, 2013

Assiniboine Park Conservancy

- Expires December 31, 2014



HIGHLIGHTS OF LOCAL 500 ACTIVITIES IN 2011

In addition to collective bargaining and contract administration, the following highlights some of the key activities of Local 500 in 2011:

◆ **Improving Our Line of Communication to our Members:**

- The Local's email contact database continues to grow. Phone blasts, the website, fast faxes, newsletters and workplace meetings are all essential to the overall plan for improving communication to our members.

◆ **The Local worked with officials from the National office, Provincial Government and Civic Government:**

- The Local met and worked with officials and political figures from both levels of government. As well, the Local submitted reports and recommendation to the two levels of government on matters of mutual concern.

◆ **Education:**

- CUPE Manitoba Winter School
- Manitoba Week Long School
- MFL Campaign Organizing Workshop

◆ **Conferences/Conventions:**

- FCM
- 48th Annual CUPE MB. Convention
- Newfoundland and Labrador Convention
- Western Canadian Municipal Workers' Conference
- CLC Convention
- Mel Myers Conference
- CUPE National Convention
- 1st CUPE National Municipal Sector Meeting

◆ **Campaigns:**

- Positively Public Campaign
- Golf Courses Campaign
- Water & Wastewater Campaign

◆ **Other Events:**

Local 500's Les Butterworth Scholarship awards were handed out for the 31st consecutive year. The award winners were:

- Scholarship Award—Adam Reisacher
- Bursary Award—Kevin Bairos-Novak
- Bursary Award—Courtney Brecht
- Bursary Award—Meaghan Welby

2011 Scholarship and Bursary Winners



Local 500 President Mike Davidson (left) is pictured with the 2011 award winners: Courtney Brecht; Adam Reisacher; Kevin Bairos-Novak (Missing: Meaghan Welby)



Local 500 2011 Honorary Life Inductees: Pierrette Boily (left) and Joan McMahon (right).

2011 Honorary Life Inductees

The Annual Local 500 Honorary Life Dinner was held and the following individuals were inducted:

- Pierrette Boily, St. Boniface Museum
- Joan McMahon, Community Services Unit

AFFILIATIONS AND SUPPORT

◆ Support to CUPE Locals and Other Unions:

- Local 7498 University of Sherbrooke
- CAW Local 3005 Bristol Aerospace Winnipeg

Local 500 remains active and affiliated with various parent labour bodies, including:

- CUPE National (615,000 members)
- CUPE Manitoba (26,000 members)
- Canadian Labour Congress (2.7 million members)
- Manitoba Federation of Labour (95,000 members)
- Winnipeg Labour Council (43,000 members)



CUPE LOCAL 500 PRIORITIES—2012

- ◆ Participate in the 2012 City of Winnipeg Operating Budget process/debate.
- ◆ Continue to educate our members and the public on the value of public services.
- ◆ Local 500's commitment to demonstrate our leadership responsibilities within CUPE, the broader labour movement and community.
- ◆ Continued focus on improving internal membership communication as well as external communication.
- ◆ Continue to advance the work of the Local's various committees.
- ◆ Continue to monitor the actions of city hall relative to our City owned golf courses and arenas.
- ◆ Continued monitoring of the Veolia contract with respect to our sewage treatment plants.
- ◆ Monitor developments at all City special operating agencies.



2012 Local 500 Table Officers and Trustee

Local 500 Table Officers and Trustee (front row, left to right) Gord Delbridge, Mike Davidson, Cathy Williams-Stewart; (back row, left to right) Brian Barron, Howard McCubbin, Rebecca St. Germaine, and Elizabeth Blair

CUPE LOCAL 500

LIST OF TABLE OFFICERS, STAFF, UNIT PRESIDENTS AND CHIEF SHOP STEWARDS

TABLE OFFICERS:

Mike Davidson , President	mdavidson@cupe500.mb.ca
Brian Barron , 1st Vice President	bbarron@winnipeg.ca
Gord Delbridge , 2nd Vice President	gord_delbridge@msn.com
Howard McCubbin , Treasurer	hmccubbin@winnipeg.ca
Rebecca St. Germaine , Recording Secretary	rscott0404@gmail.com
Cathy Williams-Stewart , Warden	nstewar@mts.net

STAFF:

Alex McClurg , SAO, Reclassifications	amccclurg@cupe500.mb.ca
Karen Byzuk , SAO, Communications	kbyzuk@cupe500.mb.ca
Bob Ripley , SAO, Benefits & Pension	bripley@cupe500.mb.ca
Shannon McAteer , CUPE Representative	smcateer@cupe.ca
Wally Skomoroh , CUPE Representative	wskomoroh@cupe.ca
Paula Raposo , CUPE Representative	praposo@cupe.ca

UNIT PRESIDENTS:

Howard McCubbin , Civic Services	hmccubbin@winnipeg.ca
Barb Verschoore , Community Services	bverschoore@winnipeg.ca
Brian Barron , Public Works	bbarron@winnipeg.ca
Walter Gretschman , Water & Waste	wgretschman@winnipeg.ca
Crystal Caron , Riverview Health Centre	crystalcaron@hotmail.com

CHIEF STEWARDS:

Elizabeth Blair , Assiniboine Park Conservancy
Donald Swanson , Canlan (Highlander Ice Sports)
Shane Bartelette , Gateway Recreation Centre
Gerrie Thornhill , Commissionaires (RCMP “D” Division)
Bonita Hunter-Eastwood , Historical Museum, Association of St. James Assiniboia
Jamie Jamieson , Kirkfield-Westwood Community Centre
Chris Pilat , Rural Municipality of East St. Paul
Pierrette Boily , St. Boniface Museum
Steve Kazubeka , Varsity View Community Centre
Gord Frost , Winnipeg Convention Centre
Ashley Tsutsumi , Winnipeg Humane Society
Eileen Perillo , Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

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CUPE Local 500

702—275 Broadway

Winnipeg, Man. R3C 4M6

(Tel) 204-942-1001 (Fax) 204-956-1439

Email: union@cupe500.mb.ca

www.cupe500.mb.ca