

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES  
LOCAL 500**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Central Council  
June 25, 2012**

**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:

**1. "Positively Public" Campaign**

The Positively Public campaign continues on a number of fronts. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Winnipeg Free Press Café the Local officially launched its animated film production around the issue of public services, city assets being sold off and our proud history of our city.

Reports relative to city councillors voting records on key issues was also mailed out in the month of June. It's important that the citizens of Winnipeg are aware of how their city councillors voted on key issues.

Radio ads were also aired around the issues of:

- 1) Traffic safety.
- 2) Community Service week.
- 3) Public services our members provide daily.

Newspaper ads were also used and at 4 events regarding "spring cleanup" and re-useable water bottles and information about water services was handed out to the public.

**2. Health Care Representation Votes**

There will be mergers of the Regional Health Authorities occurring in rural health care facilities. The Local does not know the particulars relative to this issue, but as information becomes available we will keep the Local's membership updated on this matter.

These votes were not initiated by CUPE. This matter does not affect our members at the Riverview Health Centre.

**3. FCM – Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference**

This past month, I joined hundreds of local government councillors, mayors, regional district representatives, senior staff officials and many others from across Canada at a national conference hosted by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, it was held in Saskatoon. We gathered there to share ideas, exchange experiences and get a chance to see new models, ideas and technology that could make our communities better places to live.

At this conference, I made myself available to speak with municipal leaders and the challenges we face and how we might work together to resolve them. Funding relative to the growing infrastructure deficit municipalities across the country are facing was a major topic. Canada needs a national plan to deal with the “staggering” \$123-billion infrastructure deficit.

**4. City of Winnipeg Corporate Sponsorship Plan**

City Council has handed Winnipeg's Chief Administrative Officer the power to award exclusive commercial rights to city streets, skywalks and other public spaces, without political oversight -- but not in parks, as originally planned.

On Wednesday May 30<sup>th</sup>, I attended City Council and witnessed Council approve an amended version of a plan to update the corporate-sponsorship program, which has achieved mixed results since its introduction in 2009.

Earlier in May, a University of Victoria geography professor who studied Sponsor Winnipeg described the program as lacklustre.

Councillor Havixbeck and Mayor Katz, however, said several city programs would not exist if it weren't for sponsorships from the likes of retailer Zellers and waste giant BFI. BFI is also the sole vender for the City's residential garbage pick up.

**5. Special Events**

The Local has attended a number of 25 year pin ceremonies, retirements and work place meetings. If you know of any upcoming retirements or would like a work place meeting, please contact the Local's office at 942 – 1001.

Congratulations go out to brother Ray Reeves on his retirement. The Local thanks Brother Ray for his many years of dedication to Local 500.

**6. Good of the Union**

Congratulations to Amanda Schmall from Riverview Health Centre for receiving the CUPE Manitoba education award. The young member bursary is for the 2012 Manitoba Annual Weeklong School. The bursary is sponsored by CUPE Manitoba, and awarded to a young member attending the weeklong school in Russell, Manitoba.

***Conclusion:***

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

In solidarity,



Mike Davidson

MD/ng  
cope 342

cc: J. Lepine