

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
January 23, 2012**

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

The Local continues to promote public services and highlight the work our members through a variety of TV, radio and print advertisements. The Local also continues to work with coalition partners and other like minded people to oppose contracting out of our public services and selling off of our city's assets.

Workplace meetings are ongoing and I urge all Local 500 unit executives to work through their National Staff Representative or call the Local 500 office to set up a meeting.

2. COMMUNITY GROUP FIGHTING TO SAVE CITY GOLF COURSES

A grassroots organization known as OURS (Outdoor Urban Recreational Spaces) was formed following a public meeting held by an environmental group called Save Our Seine. This new group is committed to stopping the sale or redevelopment of City of Winnipeg golf courses.

The courses in questions are: Windsor Park, Canoe Club, Tuxedo, Crescent Drive, Harbour View, Kildonan and John Blumberg.

3. AUTO BINS ARE BEING REMOVED IN THE INNER CITY

City Hall has decided to remove auto bins from the inner city and replace them with rolling garbage and recycling carts. The Local proposed this same idea 15 years ago.

The media has reported that the carts will be introduced throughout the city in 2012.

4. WATER AND WASTE UNIT EDUCATION AND PLANNING SESSION

This past month the executive of the Water and Waste Unit met for a planning and education session.

During this two-day meeting, they discussed short range plans and objectives for the unit and issues around attendance management and the grievance/discipline process. I would encourage all units to consider scheduling a similar planning session.

5. PROVINCIAL HEALTH CARE COUNCIL CONFERENCE – JANUARY 16 – 18, 2012

Members of the Provincial Health Care Council (PHCC) bargaining committee in Manitoba came together on January 16 – 18 to discuss and identify CUPE's bargaining priorities for the upcoming round of negotiations.

The current contract expires on March 31, 2012 and the PHCC has been working very hard to prepare for what they believe, will be a difficult round of bargaining.

As well, we are pleased to report that Val Sobiak was elected as the new chairperson for the PHCC. She will be replaced as a member of the committee by her alternate Barb Greengrass. Both Val and Barb are Local 500 members from Riverview Health Centre. Congratulations to both Val and Barb.

More information and updates will be provided once bargaining begins.

6. GOOD OF THE UNION

I would like to acknowledge and thank all our members who are performing their work duties in these very cold working conditions. Our members are the backbone of our communities providing top quality services to the citizens of Winnipeg, day in and day out, 24 hours a day. Thank you for your dedication to the citizens of Winnipeg.

I would also like to recognize and thank the members in our various workplaces that helped others in need over the holiday season. Many of our members organized Christmas hampers, donated gifts, money and volunteered with organizations such as Meals on Wheels. Because of these acts of thoughtfulness, many of our friends and neighbours enjoyed the festive season much more.

I want to thank those members for giving to others. Some of our communities less fortunate are children and senior citizens who greatly appreciate this generosity.

Conclusion:

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

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Davidson". The first letter "M" is large and stylized, and the last name "Davidson" is written in a cursive script.

Mike Davidson

MD/ng, cope 342

cc: J. Lepine