

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
May 26, 2014**

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:

POLICY GRIEVANCE - MANDATORY 3.5 DAYS OF UNPAID LEAVE

The Local has received a response from the employer to our policy grievance regarding the mandatory 3.5 days of unpaid leave. Please be advised that the City of Winnipeg has officially denied the policy grievance and we have begun the process of determining our next steps in the process.

Our Legal Counsel and National Servicing Representatives are strategizing on the best possible approach for a positive resolution to this issue. The Local will continue to update the membership as more information becomes available.

NEW SAFETY AD REMINDS DRIVERS TO “SLOW DOWN AND STAY ALERT IN WORK ZONES”

Local 500 is airing a new radio ad promoting road safety during spring clean up operations. The ad serves as a reminder to all motorists to slow down and stay alert in work zones.

The ad is running on CJOB and Fresh FM. You can listen to the ad on the Local's website.

CCPA'S ALTERNATIVE CITY BUDGET

On April 29, the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) launched their 2014 Alternative Municipal Budget. 2014, is an election year and this alternative budget is meant to stimulate discussion around some of the important concerns facing our city.

A municipal budget is an opportunity not only to raise revenue in a variety of new ways, but also allocate spending creatively and intelligently.

If you would like a copy of the report, please contact the Local 500 office or visit the CCPA website at www.policyalternatives.ca.

WATER & WASTE UNIT/CITY OF WINNIPEG LABOUR MANAGEMENT MEETING

The Water and Waste Unit Executive met with the employer this past month at a labour management meeting. These meetings are an important forum for the unit executives and department management to meet and discuss matters of concern.

Thank you to the unit executive for taking the time to attend and be part of this important meeting. Our members in the Water and Waste Department have gone above and beyond in providing quality services to the citizens of Winnipeg.

CITY DELAYS IN HIRING NEW CAO

In early May, the Mayor's office announced that the hiring committee — which includes Sam Katz's Executive Policy Committee and two other city councillors — has opted to postpone the recruitment process for the Chief Administrative Officer's position until after the election.

The city has been without a permanent CAO since last October, when Phil Sheegl vacated the position.

1919 WINNIPEG GENERAL STRIKE

This month marks the 95th anniversary of the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike, where over 25,000 workers walked off the job in support of fair wages, and better working conditions. Our city was built through the hard work and dedication of union members, and our collective history has been built by the labour movement's struggles.

At 11:00 am on May 15, 1919 workers left their jobs and marched into the streets of Winnipeg, leading to one of the biggest labour actions Canada has ever seen. Strikers included both the private and public sectors, and ranged from garment workers to police officers. On June 21, 1919 the Royal North-West Mounted Police and hired union busters, rode on horseback and fired into a crowd of thousands of workers, killing two and injuring countless others.

The 1919 strike means a lot to us as a union movement. It shows us the sacrifices working people are willing to make in order to better the working and living conditions for everyone.

CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS (CLC) CONVENTION

The 27th Constitutional Convention of the Canadian Labour Congress was held from, May 5 to, May 9 in Montreal. The CLC is the umbrella organization for dozens of affiliated Canadian and international unions, as well as provincial federations of labour and regional labour councils. CUPE holds a seat on the CLC Executive.

Our union supports the CLC's "Together Fairness Works" project and their ongoing campaign to defend and expand Medicare. The CLC's highly successful "Municipalities Matters" program has seen over 1,500 labour-endorsed mayors, councillors and school trustees elected over the past decade in our country.

GOOD OF THE UNION

This past month three members from the Civic Services Department passed away:

Joe Dimaggio, was a former member of the Local 500 Parks and Recreation Department and retired from the Civic Services Unit.

Larry Bars, was from the Civic Services Unit.

Duncan Barr, was an active member from the Civic Services Unit.

Our condolences go out to their families and co-workers.

Conclusion:

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

In solidarity,



Mike Davidson
MD/ng
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