

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
August 25, 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:

UPCOMING CIVIC ELECTION

This fall we have an opportunity to elect progressive city councillors and mayor for our city. As a Local, we need to elect candidates with a good social conscious who stand up for our communities and respect the work that our members provide on a daily basis.

The Local continues to work with and through the Winnipeg Labour Council. We will advise our members on which candidates have the labour endorsement. Also, it is more important than ever that you help get endorsed candidates elected. We will need members and their families to help out in certain wards to make sure that happens. Please remember – you do make a difference by getting involved.

UPCOMING BARGAINING WITH THE CITY OF WINNIPEG

The current collective agreement with the City of Winnipeg is set to expire on December 27, 2014.

There is still time for members to provide your bargaining priorities and submit proposals to the negotiating committee. The Local has extended the survey deadline to September 5. The survey can be accessed from the Local 500 website or the office can mail members out a hard copy.

Please discuss this with your fellow co-workers. This is a very important issue for our membership and we should remain front and centre. Remember, bargaining takes place subsequent to the civic elections and in many cases, who we elect, determines the atmosphere of contract negotiations.

ALTERNATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY REPORTS (ASD)

The City of Winnipeg, to our knowledge, may have up to 12 reports ready to move forward to the ASD Committee.

This is a huge concern to the Local, as we have never witnessed the ASD Committee deal with any other reports, other than those that attack the work of Local 500 members. These are the real issues that remain front and centre for our membership.

CUPE MANITOBA CELEBRATES MAJOR VICTORY FOR ASSISTED COMMUNITY LIVING WORKERS

CUPE Local 3085, representing employees at Assisted Community Living in Selkirk, has postponed a strike that was due to begin August 8, 2014. In a welcomed move to support Assisted Community Living (ACL) employees in Manitoba, the provincial government announced on August 7 that \$6 million in new funding will be earmarked to ensure ACL workers, province-wide, receive fair wages for their important work in supporting Manitobans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

I attended, along with Local 500 members and staff, information pickets held in Selkirk on July 15 and 22. This is a small group of employees and they really appreciated the Local's presence.

Thanks to everyone who gave up personal time to help out.

CUPE SEEKS INTEREST ARBITRATION IN HEALTH CARE BARGAINING

CUPE has agreed to participate in Interest Arbitration to rule on a number of outstanding issues. By taking our proposals to an arbitrator to determine, we feel we have a much greater chance of success.

What is Interest Arbitration?

The arbitration process involves both the employer and the bargaining team.

We argue our case to an arbitrator who has been agreed to by both sides. It is very similar to a court of law, but for labour issues only. The arbitrator will listen to both sides and will judge them based on their arguments and what is “reasonable”. The arbitrator then decides on the outcome of each outstanding proposal based on these arguments.

Our members at Riverview Health Care Centre are part of the committee and Health Care Council.

Good luck to our members in this process.

LABOUR DAY CELEBRATIONS

We are days away from the Winnipeg Labour Council's Labour Day march and picnic! We are hoping to have a good turnout from our Local 500 members and the affiliates to the labour council for both events. Please help out if you can and mention this event to the members. Our Labour Day celebration is in two parts:

Monday, September 1st

Labour Day March

1:00 pm - Memorial Park (across from the Legislature)

We will first hear from a few guest speakers and then march from Memorial Park to Vimy Ridge Park down Portage Avenue. Please bring your union flags and banners, and wear your union shirts to maximize our presence.

Labour Day Picnic

2:00 pm - 4:30 pm - Vimy Ridge Park (821 Preston Avenue)

The afternoon will be filled with fun for the whole family. We will have hot dogs and drinks available, as well as games and face painting. We will also be

entertained with the music of Heather Bishop. Please bring your family and friends for a great afternoon to celebrate labour's accomplishments.

Conclusion:

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

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Davidson". The letters are cursive and connected.

Mike Davidson

MD/ng
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