

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
November 24, 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:

CITY HALL UPDATE

In the mayor's inaugural speech on November, 4th, Mayor Brian Bowman said he wanted Winnipeg to have one of the most open and transparent civic governments in Canada. He appointed a six-member executive policy committee, but promised all the councillors he'll make them part of a more inclusive city hall.

After thanking outgoing mayor Sam Katz for his help during the transition period, Bowman vowed to get to work on his campaign promises: reducing EPC salaries by up to 50%, lobbying for a share of the PST and fixing roads. The hiring of a new CAO will also be a top priority for Bowman.

Members of the new Executive Policy Committee (EPC) are:

EPC:

Councillor Mike Pagtakhan — (Point Douglas) Deputy Mayor;

Councillor Jeff Browaty — (North Kildonan) Chair of Protection and Community Services;

Councillor Janice Lukes — (St. Norbert) Acting Deputy Mayor and Chair of Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works;

Councillor Brian Mayes — (St. Vital) Chair of Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management;

Councillor Marty Morantz — (Charleswood-Tuxedo) Chair of Finance;

Councillor John Orlikow — (River Heights-Fort Garry) Chair of Property and Development.

Mayor Bowman also named his office staff among them campaign manager, Jason Furth as chief of staff and Kelly McCrae, who was director of operations for his campaign, as the policy and communications officer. Jana Thorsteinson, alumni relations manager at Red River College and part of Bowman's campaign and transition team, has been named director of community engagement.

CITY OF WINNIPEG FURLOUGH PROGRAM

There is growing political will at city hall to revive the voluntary furlough program that was cancelled by the city administration earlier this year.

Finance Chairman, Marty Morantz said he wants another look at the program following a meeting where city administration said it doesn't have the bodies to spare to make the program work. We have over 14 million dollars in vacancy management and it's not practical to have a voluntary furlough program at this time. The Local has had interviews through the media regarding this issue.

HONOURARY LIFE DINNER

Two Local 500 members were welcomed into the Local 500 Honourary Life membership at a dinner held November 7, 2014. Also attending the dinner were current Honourary Life members who received their award in previous years.

Honourary Life membership is awarded to outstanding CUPE members for their services given to the Local over an extended period of time. It may also be awarded for meritorious service to the Local. Life membership can be awarded when the person is within five years of retirement, after retirement or termination of their employment.

Our congratulations and thanks go out to the new honorary life members Val Sobiak and David Penner for their dedication to our Union.

GOOD OF THE UNION

Many of our units held elections recently and a number of members are holding executive positions for the first time. Congratulations to all newly elected unit executive members.

I also want to thank the members who have left their unit executive for all their hard work and dedication to our Local.

Also, thanks go out to all our members who used a lot of their personal time to make this year's Santa parade fun and very successful. I am proud of them for giving back to our community and their dedicated volunteer service. I know the public enjoyed the floats, of course especially the children.

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 "D" is also large and loops around the "i".

Mike Davidson

MD/ng
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