

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES  
LOCAL 500**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Central Council**

**April 27, 2026**

***CUPE*** / *Canadian Union  
of Public Employees*  
***Local 500***

## **ESSENTIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT- CITY OF WINNIPEG**

Local 500 continues to work through the Essential Services Agreement (ESA), a required step under legislation before any legal strike or lockout can occur. The process is not a delay tactic but a critical part of bargaining that will shape both current and future negotiations.

The parties have now participated in voluntary mediation through the Manitoba Labour Board, with another session recently completed and a further meeting scheduled for May 8. These discussions aim to reach an agreement with the assistance of a neutral mediator.

If an agreement cannot be reached at the next meeting, the process will likely move to binding mediation, where a third party will make a final, binding decision on outstanding issues.

Given the long-term impact the ESA will have on members' rights and the union's ability to take job action, Local 500 is taking a careful and strategic approach to ensure any outcome is fair and does not limit future bargaining strength.

## **DOWNTOWN SAFETY COALITION**

Local 500 has been actively involved in building a Downtown Safety Coalition with several labour partners representing workers across Winnipeg's downtown. The coalition is advocating for safer workplaces and long-term solutions to issues like mental health, addictions, and homelessness.

Since the last update, the coalition met with the Manitoba Justice Minister, where key workplace safety concerns were raised in a constructive and positive discussion. A meeting with the Mayor is scheduled for April 29, where the coalition will continue to push for concrete commitments on workplace security.

There have also been positive steps taken to improve member safety at Sherbrook Pool, including the implementation of enhanced security measures to better protect workers and patrons.

This work remains ongoing, with the coalition continuing to monitor safety issues across public workplaces as they arise, reinforcing a united labour voice calling for meaningful action.

## **CUPE MANITOBA CONVENTION**

CUPE Manitoba Convention was held in Winnipeg from April 21-24<sup>th</sup>. Many important resolutions were brought to the floor with great discussion and debate. There were several great speakers and panel discussions as well.

Congratulations to Christie Bachynski on her re-election as CUPE Manitoba Recording Secretary!

## **WORKERS' DAY OF MOURNING CEREMONIES**

April 28 marks the National Day of Mourning for workers who have died, been injured or suffered illness because of their work.

The Workers' Day of Mourning was created by CUPE members over 40 years ago, to remember those who lost their lives on the job and to inspire workers to fight to prevent further tragedies.

What began through the efforts of Canada's labour movement is now observed in more than 100 countries around the world.

Since 1978, sixteen Local 500 members have died due to a workplace accident or illness.

It is also with regret that we report four CUPE members across Canada died on the job over the past year, as well as two City of Winnipeg employees from UFFW.

### **Day of Mourning Ceremonies/Events:**

**Tuesday, April 28, 2026**

#### **Main Ceremony:**

- 9:00 am City Hall Courtyard or Mayor's Foyer (if inclement weather)

#### **Worksite Ceremonies:**

- 7:30 am - 1539 Waverley
- 7:30 am - 552 Plinquet St.
- 10:30 am - 1155/1199 Pacific Ave.

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### **SAFE Workers of Tomorrow - Leaders' Walk**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 28, 2026

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Where:** Union Centre (Broadway at Smith Street, Winnipeg)  
traveling down Broadway to Memorial Park

## **MFL Day of Mourning Ceremony**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 28

**Time:** 12:00 Noon

**Where:** Memorial Park, Winnipeg

### **GOOD OF THE UNION: DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**May 1-** May Day - International Workers' Day

**May 5-** National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous

**May 17-** International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia and Biphobia

**May 18-** Victoria Day\*

\*Office closed.

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Les Butterworth Scholarship and Bursary applications will be opening early in May. Watch the website for more information and how to apply, as well as the announcement on the May general update email.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Please share this document with your co-workers.

In solidarity,



Gord Delbridge, President