



# STRONGER TOGETHER

## SPECIAL CONVENTION 2022

### Convention Highlights - Day One

**June 10, 2022** - MGEU's Special Convention 2022 kicked-off with greetings from Winnipeg Labour Council President, Melissa Dvorak and a presidential address from MGEU President, Kyle Ross. Melissa spoke about the integral role the local labour movement plays in our everyday lives and reminded us of the importance of stepping up to make sure our communities are healthy, thriving spaces to live and raise our families.

Kyle shared all the initiatives and campaigns that the MGEU has been working on since he was elected as President in October 2021 and reminded delegates how important it is to acknowledge each and every victory – the value of never giving up and focusing on the agency we do have, because that's what unions are all about.

#### CR-4 (2021) –Emergency Powers of the Board of Directors

During his speech, Kyle alluded to the work the Constitution Committee had been doing to further develop the framework for emergency measures and let delegates know that it was critical the democratic integrity was kept in place and that the delegates would be given a chance to further discuss these measures and chart a new direction for the union.

Convention proceedings resumed mid-morning with the Constitution Committee providing a comprehensive explanation about the work that had been done since the last Convention with CR-4 (2021) and the amendments that the Committee was proposing in order to have emergency measures embedded in the Constitution. Thorough explanations were provided by Committee Chair, 1st Vice-President Scott Cloney, MGEU Director of Internal Operations, Jean Bourgeois, and legal representative to the Committee, Kristin Worbanski from Myers LLP.

After a few thoughtful questions and requests for clarification, the amended language was accepted by the majority of delegates and after no further questions on the amended resolution, CR-4 passed with an overwhelming majority.

#### Constitutional Resolutions:

The following Constitutional resolutions (which require 2/3 majority) also passed:

- CR-5 Appointment of Local Presidents will be granted constitutional exemption under certain circumstances when Locals are non-existent due to the inability to reach quorum. (with amendments)
- CR-7 Amend Constitution 5:3 to make "to act as a non-partisan non-sectarian organization" its own section in the Constitution
- CR-8 Amend Constitution 5:5 to include Local Labour Organizations in a list of organizations that members are encouraged to participate in (as well as Provincial and National Labour Organizations)

The following resolutions were referred to the MGEU Board of Directors for further review and to report back at the next convention:

- CR-4 Use Ranked Ballots for Elections
- CR-11 Create Board seats for equity seeking groups

The following Constitutional resolutions were defeated by delegates:

- CR-1 Amend Quorum
- CR-2,3 Record Board and Table Officer Votes
- CR-6 Develop a Disability Standing Committee
- CR-9 Amend Constitution 8:1 to delete 'every two years' from article
- CR-10 Create new standing committees for equity seeking groups
- CR-13 Remove workplace liaison designation



#### Financial Resolutions:

The following Financial resolutions were defeated by delegates:

- FC-1 Base dues on salary, not overtime
- FC-2 Reimburse Locals for expenses
- FC-3 Give an honorarium to stewards doing union business on days off

