



PLEASE POST!

5 The President's -MINUTE UPDATE



Michelle Gawronsky

In the Public Eye

FINDINGS AT FIRE PARAMEDIC SERVICE MUST NOT BE DOWNPLAYED

On March 26, I told the **CBC** that it is questionable leadership for the Fire Paramedic chief to issue a memo downplaying and distorting the findings of racism in the independent investigator's report during the City of Winnipeg's Anti-Racism Week. We must remember the seriousness of what the investigator found — that there was an attempt to collude and cover up the unnecessary delay in transporting a seriously injured Indigenous patient to hospital.

JURISDICTIONAL DISPUTES JEOPARDIZE LONG-TERM CARE IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

On March 1, as families expressed their concern over the care their loved ones were receiving at Rod McGillivray Care Home in

Opaskwayak Cree Nation (OCN), I told **APTN** that it is every level of government's responsibility to ensure Indigenous Elders are being cared for. There seems to be a constant battle over those funding dollars. There needs to be some real, collective accountability to ensure adequate resources and staffing for all long-term care facilities. We need to respect our elderly.



CAMPAIGN CONTINUES TO PUSH BACK AGAINST LIQUOR PRIVATIZATION

Throughout March, we continued to make sure Manitobans understand the importance of keeping liquor sales public. This revenue provides our services!



Welcome to the April edition!

Here's what's been happening in and around our union in the last month.

If you have any questions, please get a hold of me through our Resource Centre (204-982-6438 or 1-866-982-6438) or e-mail me at president@mgeu.ca.

At the Bargaining Table

Members of **Career Connections - Local 142**, who support those living with a disability in the Brandon area, ratified a new three-year agreement that includes wage increases and a new technology allowance, while members of **Knowles Centre (SAIL) - Local 432**, who help youth living in care gain the skills they need to live independently, ratified a two-year agreement that includes five additional days vacation.



Members of **Riverwood Square - Local 380** and **SPIKE - Local 266**, who provide care to Winnipeggers living with disabilities, both ratified new three-year agreements with general wage increases, while members of **Family Dynamics - Local 214**, who provide services to Manitoba families in need of support, ratified a new four-year agreement with wage increases and the addition of Indigenous traditional practices as a valid reason for requesting leave.



In Your Workplace

HEALTHY MINDS WEBINARS KICK-OFF

Huge thanks to all of you who participated in the first of our **Time to Connect** webinar series on March 30. MGEU Safety and Health Specialist Blaine Duncan guided members through the why's and how's of beginning to make mental health a priority in our workplaces and fielded questions that will guide our union in creating future *Healthy Minds at Work* webinars.

Plus Wear Red Wednesdays continue!

This coming April 7:

- wear something red to work or a *Healthy Minds at Work* pin, lanyard, mask, badge holder, or stick-on tattoo;
- visit HealthyMindsAtWork.ca to learn more about how to be an advocate;
- share the campaign with others!

TIME FOR MANITOBANS TO VOICE CONCERNS OVER PRIVATIZATION OF PARKS

For years now, the Pallister government has not invested in the Department of Conservation and Climate and MGEU

members on the front-lines have been left facing the dire consequences of such budget cuts, including unsustainably high vacancy rates and rundown amenities. In March, I wrote Minister Guillemard to remind her that parks are for people, not profit.



MEET A MEDICAL EXAMINER INVESTIGATOR



This month we were proud to profile Local 20's Lindsay Friesen, one of a small handful of nurses who are usually the first point of medical contact with the deceased and their family whenever a Manitoban dies unexpectedly. Visit mgeu.ca/about-us/member-profiles for more.

The Big Picture



WOMEN'S COMMITTEE SIGNALS SUPPORT

On International Women's Day, our Women's Committee challenged members to post a screen shot of their hand held high to call out inequality and gender bias.

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE!



The MGEU has always been committed to the life-long learning of our members and their families. Each year, we make nearly \$30,000 available in scholarship and bursaries to help with pursuing an education and upgrading skills.

Visit mgeu.ca/for-members/scholarships-and-bursaries for more.

At the Leg

2021 BUDGET MUST ADDRESS PANDEMIC IMPACTS THROUGH PUBLIC INVESTMENT

On March 29, I submitted the union's recommendations for the 2021 budget, calling on the Province to invest in public services that will help Manitobans weather the fall out of a global pandemic and economic recession.



Read the full submission at mgeu.ca.

Want to get this by e-mail?

Contact us to get this 5-minute monthly update delivered to your inbox.

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