



PLEASE POST!

5 The President's -MINUTE UPDATE



Michelle Gawronsky

At the Bargaining Table

POST-SECONDARY LOCALS CONTINUE INTO 2018

Assiniboine Community College/Red River College Central Table - Locals 71 and 73 negotiations have been ongoing since October and are currently scheduled to continue into March 2018. While the **Université de St Boniface - Local 148 (Professors)** Bargaining Committee reached agreement with the employer in October 2017, bargaining continues on behalf of **Local 149 (Instructors)**. Once **Local 147 (Support)** has their turn, all three Locals will negotiate together with the employer at a Common Benefits table.

In the Public Eye

VIOLENT ASSAULT ON CORRECTIONAL OFFICER SHOULD BE WAKE UP CALL FOR HSC

On Jan. 26, after an MGEU Correctional Officer escorting an inmate to HSC was attacked by a patient armed with surgical scissors in the hospital's forensic psychiatric unit, I told the **CBC** that the assault must be a wakeup call for the Dept. of Justice and the WRHA.

The union has called for an investigation into the incident and a thorough review of security protocols to ensure this type of incident does not happen again.

LATEST HEALTH CUTS WILL LEAVE SOME UNABLE TO AFFORD TREATMENT

On Jan. 24, I told the **Wpg Sun** that government funding cuts will force Manitobans suffering from sleep apnea to cover most of the cost of their own treatment, leaving many unable to afford life-saving CPAP machines.

CHALLENGING PREMIER'S CLAIMS OF "WORKING TOGETHER" WITH LABOUR

On Jan. 18, I challenged the Premier's claim that he was "working with organized labour" on his so-called civil service transformation plan. I told the **Wpg Free**

COMMUNITY SUPPORT HOLDS MEETINGS

With their agreement set to expire at the end of March, nearly 5,000 **Community Support** workers began meeting with their Bargaining Committee reps in January to share ideas for improving their current contract.

TECH-PROF/EMS: EARLY PROPOSALS

The **Technical-Professional/EMS** Bargaining Committee has been gathering bargaining proposals via mail or email from members and will hold proposal meetings across the province in February.

RATIFICATION REVIEW

Members of **Family Dynamics - Local 214**, who provide support for vulnerable families in Winnipeg, ratified a new 2-year agreement on Jan. 30, 2018.

Press that though the union has offered to meet with the premier several times, we've met just once, more than a year ago. So far, all we know about the plan is that it will eliminate 1,200 jobs and weaken the public services Manitobans count on.

COMPLAINT FILED ON BEHALF OF HCSS MEMBERS

On Jan. 6, I told the **Wpg Free Press** and **CBC** that the union filed an unfair labour practice with the MB Labour Board on behalf of thousands of our **Health Care Support Services** members who've been ready to begin bargaining for months. We will argue that the employers should to stop stalling and begin negotiations immediately in good faith.

MGEU TV/ONLINE AD BACK ON AIR JAN. 22



It's a familiar ad with an updated message: ongoing government cuts mean fewer services and more Manitobans falling through the cracks!

Visit www.KeepUsTogether.ca

Welcome to the February 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.

The Big Picture

#ME TOO AND MORE AT WOMEN'S MARCH

On Jan. 20, I was proud to join hundreds of Manitobans and thousands around the world for the Women's March.



Women of the MGEU (plus supportive children and pets!) gather outside City Hall on Jan. 20.

Led by the *Winnipeg Labour Council*, we rallied at City Hall for women's rights, with a focus on the missing and murdered Indigenous women of our province.



RISKY PENSION CHANGES ON HORIZON?

GET INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY!

In early January, the government announced it's looking at new pension options that would leave MGEU members with less money and less security in their retirement.

That's why we're holding a province-wide tele-meeting on **Thursday, Feb. 15.**

If you receive a call from the MGEU, stay on the line to hear more about how potential pension changes could affect your retirement plans and how you can make your voice heard before it's too late.

Manitobans are being asked to submit comments at pensions@gov.mb.ca by February 21, 2018.

In Your Workplace

LACK OF INFO, ORIENTATION CREATES HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT DURING VIC RESTRUCTURING

On Jan. 9, the union filed a Respectful Workplace complaint on behalf of **Victoria General Hospital Health Care Support Services - Local 100**, charging management with failing to provide timely info, proper orientation, or appropriate responses to union concerns, creating an overall negative environment when the opposite should have occurred.

WRHA IN BREACH OF HOME CARE CONTRACTING OUT LIMITS

The union has filed a grievance on behalf of **WRHA Home Care/Home Support- Local 113**, charging that the WRHA is now in breach of their commitment to contract out no more than 20% of home care attendant work in the city. Under the guise of their new "Priority Home" initiative, the government has gradually introduced more privatization into the home care system in recent months, something the union has spoken out against repeatedly.

Want to get this by e-mail?

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

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