



PLEASE POST!

# 5 The President's -MINUTE UPDATE



Michelle Gawronsky

## At the Bargaining Table

### CIVIL SERVICE: NEW YEAR, NEXT STEPS

After holding over 50 bargaining proposal meetings across the province in November, the **Civil Service** Bargaining Committee will now begin working with staff negotiators to clarify key issues, identify priorities, and develop a comprehensive package to present to the employer later in the spring.

### SEVERAL LOCALS TO CONTINUE WITH AID OF CONCILIATORS IN 2019

After struggling to find common ground with their employers, several MGEU bargaining tables are carrying on negotiations in 2019 with the aid

of a third-party conciliator, including **Assiniboine Community College/Red River College Central Table - Locals 71 and 73**, **Canadian Blood Services - Local 200**, **Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services - Locals 435-437**, and **Family Dynamics - Local 212**.

### STRIKE NEWS

The **Nisichawayasihk Personal Care Home - Local 367 Bargaining Committee** will be holding a strike vote on January 24, 2019. After years of trying to rectify the issue, including going on strike in December 2017, members at the personal care home in Nelson House continue to make less than their counterparts in other Manitoba communities.

## Welcome to the January 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](mailto:president@mgeu.ca).

## In the Public Eye

### PRIVATIZING AERIAL FLEET RISKS SAFETY, JOBS

On Dec. 3., I told the **CBC** that 52 jobs are at risk if the Province hands over our aerial wildfire-fighting fleet services to the private sector this spring.

### EMS: FOCUS ON SAFETY, NOT SOURCE OF FUNDING

On Dec. 5, on behalf of our 350 Winnipeg paramedics, I told the **CBC** and **Wpg Sun** that the City and Province must settle their funding squabble and begin focusing again on patient safety.

### LISTEN TO DOCS, INVEST IN LIFEFLIGHT PROGRAM

On Dec. 11, in response to Lifeflight air ambulance doctors threatening that they will no longer fly on privately contracted aircraft in the new year, I told the **Wpg Free Press**, **CBC** and **CTV** that patient care should be the priority and the Province should listen to its doctors.



Later in the month, when the Province announced it would be hiring two new pilots and investing \$750,000 in aircraft maintenance, I told the **Wpg Free Press**, **Wpg Sun** and **CBC** that the MGEU is hopeful this is just the beginning of investing in this service, rather than privatizing it. All Manitobans deserve high quality critical emergency care.

### ANY CIVIL SERVICE CUTS IN 2019 BREAK KEY ELECTION PROMISE

On Dec. 30, in response to Premier Pallister publicly stating that some "trimming" of the Civil Service remains to be done, I told the **CBC**, **Wpg Sun** and **Wpg Free Press** that the Pallister government continues to blatantly break a key election promise — to protect our public services and the people who provide them — in 2019.

### MGEU RADIO MESSAGE: TRUE MEANING OF SERVICE



It's become an annual December tradition — I get the pleasure of publicly thanking all those MGEU members who give up time away from family and friends over the holidays to deliver the vital services Manitobans rely on.

## In Your Workplace



### KEEP GOOD JOBS, PUBLIC ASSET IN NORTH!

In December, we continued our efforts to keep Churchill's only public Liquor Mart open, protecting quality jobs in the town and much-needed revenue to fund our public services. To date, a thousand Manitobans have signed, asking the government to put the health of our communities, as well as public safety, before profits.

### MGEU WATCHING PINELAND CLOSELY TO DETERMINE OPTIONS

The Province also continues to maintain that they will be selling Pineland Forest Nursery. The MGEU will now watch the government's next steps closely to determine what options will be available for our members.

## At the Leg



### BUDGET 2019: SLOW DOWN, PROTECT SERVICES

In December, we submitted our priorities to the MB government as they prepare for this spring's Budget. The MGEU recommended that the government stick to their original eight-year plan to balance the budget gradually while ensuring public services are protected. Delaying tax cuts and ending the hiring of costly management consultants were given as two examples where the government could further reduce its expenditures without cutting services.

## The Big Picture

### STANDING WITH CUPW: WE'RE STRONGER TOGETHER!

On Dec. 3, we stood in solidarity with our Canadian Union of Postal Workers brothers and sisters and other labour groups to defend their right to strike.



I was proud to join fellow members in support of CUPW outside the MB Human Rights Museum in Winnipeg.

## Want to get this by e-mail?

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

204-982-6438 Toll-free 1-866-982-6438  
[resourcecentre@mgeu.ca](mailto:resourcecentre@mgeu.ca)  
[www.mgeu.ca](http://www.mgeu.ca)

