



PLEASE POST!

# 5 The President's -MINUTE UPDATE



Michelle Gawronsky

## At the Bargaining Table

### BILL 29: DOZENS OF HEALTH LOCALS TO VOTE ON UNIONS BEFORE BARGAINING

Though dozens of MGEU health care Locals and all those at the **Health Care Support Services** and **Tech/Prof-EMS** central tables have been ready to begin negotiations with their employers for some time, the government's recent proclamation of Bill 29 means negotiations will be postponed until union representation votes are held. The MGEU will keep up the pressure on government to move forward steadily with these votes and get members back to the table as soon as possible.

### RATIFICATION REVIEW

On June 19, after a challenging round of bargaining, members who work for the Liquor Commission (**GOLICO**) accepted the employers' settlement offer on the condition that should the MGEU and the other public sector unions be successful in their constitutional challenge of the government's proposed wage cap legislation, the **GOLICO** Bargaining Committee has reserved the right to return to the bargaining table.

On June 13, members of the **MB Museum - Local 133** ratified a new 3.5-year agreement, including wage increases in each year and a *Letter of Understanding* to address part-time employee issues.

## Welcome to the July 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

### ASSAULT AT HSC: NEED FOR REVIEW, TRAINING

On June 20, **CTV** and **CBC** reported that a member of **HSC Security - Local 249** was attacked with a syringe and I called on the WRHA and the Province to pursue an incident review, more training, and special constable status for officers.

### THOSE IN CARING ROLES SHOULD NOT HAVE TO MANAGE VIOLENCE

On June 22, in response to potential government changes to train health workers to intervene with violent patients, I told **CBC** there should be no expectation these workers do anything but wait for Security Officers to arrive with assistance.

### HEALTH WORKERS DESERVE TO KNOW MORE

On June 14, I told the **CBC**, **Wpg Free Press** and **Wpg Sun** that the government can and must provide more transparency as health care workers strive to juggle heavy workloads without even knowing what their future may hold.

### RED RIVER COLLEGE CUTS HURT OUR FUTURE

On June 12, I told the **Wpg Free Press** that cutting education programs while driving up tuition at RRC is NOT how you create a bright future for young Manitobans to stay here and build our province.

### OUI À LE ÉDUCATION, NON AUX COMPRESSIONS!

On June 7, members of Université de Saint-Boniface held a rally (below), where I told the **Wpg Free Press** and **Wpg Sun** that the government now has the whole summer



to rethink education cuts that hurt faculty members, Franco-Manitoban students and their families.

### SELF-REGULATION OF PARAMEDICS WELCOME

Paramedicine became a self-regulated profession on June 1 and I told the **Wpg Free Press** our union has supported this from the outset because it's in the best interests of paramedics and Manitobans.

### PHASE 2 CUTS NOT FAIR TO WORKERS, PATIENTS

On June 1, in response to the unveiling of the government's "Phase 2" health cuts, I told the **Wpg Free Press** and **Wpg Sun** that hospital staff are stretched thin and further cuts will only continue to disrupt patient care and increase workloads.

## In Your Workplace

### LET'S HEAR IT FOR OUR PUBLIC SERVICES AND ALL THOSE WHO DELIVER THEM!

To help celebrate *National Public Services Week* in mid-June, I was happy to join members at the Fort Dauphin Museum and salute their service at an annual BBQ.

On June 8 in Winnipeg, the Province and the MGEU also honoured outstanding provincial employees at the 20th *Manitoba Service Excellence Awards*, including Martin Jandavs (above), Facility Manager at the Manitoba Law Courts, who received the Premier's Career Achievement Award for 49 years of service to Manitobans!



### HEALTH VOTES 2018: CHOOSE MGEU!

We also started spreading the MGEU-word in June, visiting health facilities in Dauphin (right), Wpg and Vita to make sure all health care workers know that our union has the strength and the know-how to represent them best!



## At the Leg

### QUESTIONING SAFETY OF SHERIFF CUTS

On June 1, the government revealed they'd be cutting three Sheriff Officer's positions — a move which could create a safety risk for both members and all Manitobans. Our union will continue to challenge the move in the days ahead.

### SAFER HIGHWAYS: PUBLIC REST STOP SAVED!

Thanks to all members who signed the online petition to save the only public rest stop between Winnipeg and the Ontario border! Manitobans managed to put the brakes on a decision that would've increased accident risks along that busy stretch of highway.

## The Big Picture

### TIME TO CELEBRATE DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY

I was honoured to get outside and join fellow members in celebrating diversity and equality at three very special events in June!



On June 23, members of the MGEU Equality & Human Rights Committee showed their support at **National Indigenous Peoples' Day** events at the Forks.

Members of the MGEU took part in Winnipeg's **Filipino Street Festival** (right) on June 9 and 10, and proudly marched in both the Winnipeg and Brandon **PRIDE** parades (below, in Winnipeg, June 3) in support of our LGBTQ\* communities.



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