



PLEASE POST!

5 The President's -MINUTE UPDATE



Michelle Gawronsky

At the Bargaining Table

NEW LOCALS WORKING TOWARDS FIRST CONTRACTS IN 2019

The MGEU continues to organize a growing number of members who work in social services and education and several of these new Locals continued to work towards first collective agreements this month.

Members of **CFS Western Emergency Placement Resources - Local 450**, **Kinosao Sipi Minisowin Agency Inc. - Local 448** and **Duke of Marlborough School - Local 446** had an opportunity to forward their ideas and proposals for a first agreement and hope to head to the table soon. Meanwhile, the **Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services - Local 443** Bargaining Committee is already well into negotiations as talks with the employer moved onto monetary items in February.

UCN RATIFIES, ACC/RRC TO VOTE ON OFFER,

On Feb. 20, members of the **University College of the North - Local 69, 70** ratified a four-year agreement that includes family-related and sick leave improvements and averted major concessions (such as wage reductions and changes in hours of work). In fall 2019, the MGEU and other unions will be challenging the government's Bill 28 wage freeze legislation in court and the voting ballot included a caveat which addressed the restrictions imposed by the Bill, limiting the parties' ability to negotiate freely.

In late February, the **Assiniboine Community College/Red River College - Locals 71 and 73** Bargaining Committee received a new offer from the employer. Members will have the chance to vote on the offer in mid-March, using a ballot that also includes the Bill 28 caveat.

Welcome to the March 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.

In Your Workplace

GOOD COMMUNICATION KEY FOR UPCOMING HEALTH CARE UNION REPRESENTATION VOTES

On Feb. 25, the Commissioner in charge of the Bill 29 union representation votes launched www.bill29commissioner.com, a website where union members can find unbiased information about the votes.

While he doesn't say exactly when votes will happen yet, he does answer some of the questions members have been asking. For instance, he makes it very clear that workers are not voting to choose a contract. They are making a decision based on which union is the strongest to represent them into the future.

THOUSANDS JOIN CALL, MEETINGS FOR STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT VOTES

On Feb. 27, thousands of Community and Facility Support members joined two tele-meetings to chat with their elected MGEU leaders and Director of Negotiations about what these votes mean and why the MGEU is the best union to represent them, speak up for them, and fight for them at the bargaining tables following the votes. If you missed the call, recordings of both meetings are available at mgeu.ca.

MGEU elected leaders were also frequently out-and-about this month, meeting with health care workers to answer their questions and make plans for ensuring MGEU members remain MGEU members.



Meeting with home care workers in Winnipeg on Feb. 19.

In the Public Eye

NEW AMBULANCES IN 2019 LONG OVERDUE

On Feb. 4, in response to the government's announcement they will be ordering 65 new ambulances, we told the **Wpg Free Press** that some emergency vehicles currently on the road have upwards of 350,000 km on them.

LIQUOR MART SAFETY: POLICE A FIRST STEP



On Feb. 10, I told **CBC, Global News, CTV**, and **Wpg Sun** that we see hiring special duty police officers to help curb liquor mart thefts in Winnipeg as just the beginning and we look forward to working with MBLL management to ensure they're coming up with safety protocols that can be put in place permanently.

LIFELIGHT UNCERTAINTY CONTINUES

On Feb. 14, when Lifelight staff found out the decision affecting their jobs may be pushed back until summer, I told the

Winnipeg Free Press that our members are unduly stressed and the government's own mismanagement of air services has created the problems that it is now using to justify privatizing the service.

JUVENILE COUNSELLORS WELCOME CALL FOR MORE SUPPORT WITH ADDICTIONS, MENTAL HEALTH

On Feb. 21, in response to reports from the Children and Youth Advocate and MB Ombudsman regarding treatment of youth at the Agassiz and Manitoba Youth Centre, I told the CBC that our professional juvenile counsellors are committed to helping the troubled youth they work with every day and they welcome a call for more supports for mental health and addictions issues.

"PEOPLE BEHIND THE PUBLIC" GOES PUBLIC

Public services keep Manitoba healthy, safe, and strong. But they don't happen without the people to deliver them.



Check out our new MGEU ad campaign featuring members who work in the provincial Civil Service at KeepUsTogether.ca

40,000 and growing!

MORE MANITOBANS CHOOSE MGEU THIS MONTH

Manitobans working with *Patient Transport Services*, the largest provider of non-emergency patient transport services in the province, recently voted to form Local 451, MGEU's newest Local.

Local 451's 86 stretcher attendants and dispatchers join the over 17,000 MGEU members who work in health care!



Want to get this by e-mail?

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

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