



PLEASE POST!

# 5 The President's -MINUTE UPDATE



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## At the Bargaining Table

### OVER 40 MGEU BARGAINING UNITS CURRENTLY IN NEGOTIATIONS

From members who work in our colleges and universities, to our Liquor Marts, social services agencies and libraries, 42 MGEU Bargaining Committees continued to negotiate the best deal possible in April. The Bargaining Committee for one of our largest Components, **Community Support**, continues to pull together their proposal package in prep for negotiations.

### BILL 29: FIGHT CONTINUES TO GET HEALTH COMPONENTS TO THE TABLE

At a Labour Board hearing scheduled for mid-June, the MGEU will argue that by refusing to come to the table for over

a year, **Health Care Support Services** employers are committing an unfair, illegal labour practice. Meanwhile, the government continues to say that legislation aimed at cutting the number of health care bargaining units (Bill 29) will be proclaimed any day. Such unknowns, delays, and the upcoming hearing will now impact other health Components, such as **Tech-Prof/EMS**, whose agreements recently expired.

### RATIFICATION REVIEW

On April 11, members of **Career Connections - Local 142**, who help Western Manitobans with disabilities find employment, ratified a three-year agreement while **Paramedics of Winnipeg - Local 911** members voted to ratify a four-year agreement on April 24.

## In the Public Eye

### LOCAL 911: TIMING OF MEMO, REPORT UNHELPFUL

In April, I spoke with the **Wpg Free Press**, **Wpg Sun**, **CTV**, and **CBC**, questioning the timing of a memo to Local 911 members, and a City report outlining how Paramedic jobs may be handed over to the Province or lost altogether.

### CIVIL SERVICE: LOYALTY IS NOT THE PROBLEM

On April 11, in response to government assertions that vacancy rates were due to a lack of employee loyalty, I told the **Wpg Free Press** that the real problem is cuts that leave too few workers to deliver

services, wage freezes that make it hard to hire and keep skilled staff, and criticizing public employees to justify privatization.

### FIGHT TO SAVE KILLARNEY OFFICE CONTINUES

In mid-April, I told **CKLQ** and the **Brandon Sun** that the short-sighted decision to close the Family Services office in Killarney would hurt public services and remove good jobs from a rural community.

### WOMEN'S CONFERENCE MAKES HEADLINES

On April 18, I was happy to share, along with Brandon member, Hana Prodan, why this year's Women's Conference focused on domestic violence and workplace bullying with the **Brandon Sun**.

## In Appreciation

### LOCAL 150 TREATS WINNIPEG MEMBERS & FAMILIES TO A DAY OF ART AND CRAFTS!

On April 29, we held one of our Member Appreciation Days at the Winnipeg



Art Gallery, where members and their families had a chance to browse the galleries and even create some of their own art (left), courtesy of the MGEU!



### WORKPLACE REPS: BIG THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!

Since April began, I've been thrilled to express our deep gratitude to MGEU's elected workplace reps at appreciation dinners in five different Manitoba communities (including *Portage la Prairie*, above). We'll be hosting six more dinners around the province in May!

## The Big Picture

### MGEU WOMEN COME TOGETHER, STAND UP!

About 200 MGEU women gathered at Brandon's Keystone Centre to explore our 2018 Women's Conference: *Stand Up Against Domestic Violence and Workplace Bullying*. It was an inspiring few days of listening, learning, sharing and mobilizing!

### HONOURING THOSE KILLED OR INJURED AT WORK

MGEU members and staff joined in annual Day of Mourning events around the province, including the Winnipeg march on April 27,



With panelists (from left): Nahanni Fontaine, NDP critic for Status of Women and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, Dr. Corinne Mason, Professor of Gender and Women's Studies at Brandon University, and the Honourable Rochelle Squires, Minister of Status of Women.

which ended with a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Manitoba Workers' Memorial across from the Legislature.

## Welcome to the May 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 Your Workplace

### PUBLIC HOME CARE WORKERS ARE THE BEST!

On April 16, the MGEU celebrated *Public Home Care Workers Day* to recognize those on the "front-line" of Manitoba's universal home care system. It's a significant date — twenty years ago, after two years of experimenting with private home care delivery, the Filmon government abandoned their privatization plans.



In response, on April 16, 1998, (pictured above) home care workers from across the province marched to the legislature to present the government with 15,000 signed hearts that read, *My heart supports home care for people... not profit*.

### MEMBERS HOST WORKPLACE TOURS, DISCUSS JOB CONCERNS

A huge thanks to members in western and southern MB who took the time to meet with me in April and discuss current challenges and concerns in their workplaces. So far, we've visited over 20 job locations, ranging from MPI offices and Liquor Marts (*Brandon*, pictured above) to government offices like the *Departments of Families and Industry, Training and Employment* (*Swan River*, below). Throughout May, we'll be heading north, east and then back to Winnipeg!



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