



PLEASE POST!

5 The President's -MINUTE UPDATE



Michelle Gawronsky

At the Bargaining Table

MEMBERS ACROSS PROVINCE SUBMIT BARGAINING PROPOSALS ONLINE

Given the recent public health restrictions and cancellation of in-person Local meetings, Bargaining Committees preparing to head to the bargaining table this fall will be accepting members' ideas and proposals for improving their collective agreements either through the mail, or online. Members for whom the MGEU has an email address in our database will receive a fillable proposal

form, while the rest will receive hard copies in the mail.

We're asking that when you fill out a bargaining proposal form, you provide your contact information so your Bargaining Committee can follow up if they have any questions. It's important that Committee members fully understand an issue before bringing it forward to the bargaining table.

Once all proposals are in, Local meetings will be held -- as public health guidelines allow -- and those in attendance will have an opportunity to vote on which proposals are included in the bargaining package.

Welcome to the October 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 the Public Eye

IF MASKS REQUIRED TO DO YOUR JOB, YOUR EMPLOYER SHOULD PROVIDE THEM

In early September, I dropped off masks for our members in Brandon and told **CTV** and the **Brandon Sun** that if your employer expects you to wear a mask to stay safe and protect others in your workplace, then they should be providing this safety equipment to their staff.



PRIVATE LAB NOT THE SOLUTION TO FAST, EFFECTIVE COVID TESTING

On September 7, I told the **Winnipeg Free Press** that the fact the province has not yet reached its COVID-19 testing capacity goal shows it has a lot of work to do. The government should have expanded its public testing capacity -- ensuring accountability to Manitobans -- rather than enrich a for-profit company in Ontario.

WINNIPEG FIRE PARAMEDIC SERVICE: NO PLACE FOR RACISM OR SEXISM

On September 22, in response to reports some Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service employees are sharing inappropriate content on social media, I told **CTV** that our Local 911 members have come forward to say that there's racism and sexism going on and

they have provided documentation to the employer.

INCREASE IN SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINTS IN CIVIL SERVICE REQUIRES SUSTAINED FOCUS

On September 25, in response to a government update indicating an increase in reports of sexual harassment in the Civil Service, I told the **Winnipeg Sun** that these stats show bullying and harassment are still a major problem. The government clearly needs to stay focused on dealing with this problem and drive home the message that bullying and harassment are not acceptable in any way, shape, or form.

LOSS OF JOBS, SERVICES TOO HIGH A PRICE FOR "BALANCED BUDGET"



On September 30, as the Pallister government congratulated itself for "mission accomplished," I reminded Manitobans in the **Winnipeg Free Press**, **CBC**, and **Winnipeg Sun** that Pallister's "balanced budget" comes at the cost of deep cuts to services. Over 2,500 jobs have been slashed in the Civil Service alone. Strong public services are what we need now more than ever before, as this pandemic stretches everyone thin. It's time to stop asking everyone to do more with less and fund public services properly to ensure they are there when we need them.

In the Public Eye

MGEU REQUESTS MEETING WITH MINISTER RE: STAFF SHORTAGE

In the wake of an Auditor General's report that contained alarming statistics about the safety of our drinking water, the MGEU has written a letter to the Conservation and Climate Minister, asking for a meeting to discuss the findings and address critical staffing shortages in the Office of Drinking Water.



THOUSANDS OF MASKS DELIVERED TO MGEU MEMBERS, MORE ON THE WAY

To date, we've delivered 10,000 reusable masks to our members across the province -- and another supply is on the way!

RECOGNIZING VITAL SERVICES AND THOSE WHO PROVIDE THEM

As we head back to our "normal" routines, recognizing those who make it all possible takes on extra meaning.

We celebrated a number of special days and provincial proclamations -- including *Manitoba Corrections Day*, *Direct Support Professional Week*, *IT Professionals Day*, *Environmental Public Health Week*, and *School Support Staff Recognition Week*. Let's hear it for those who keep our province going, through good times and bad!



The Big Picture



On September 30, posters with the names of Indigenous children who died at residential schools lined the hallways of the MGEU head office in Winnipeg

ORANGE SHIRT DAY SHOULD BECOME STAT HOLIDAY TO RECOGNIZE TRAGIC HISTORY, HONOUR SURVIVORS

On September 30, people across Canada donned orange shirts to recognize the victims of residential schools. As part of our commitment to being a partner in recognizing the historic injustices imposed upon Indigenous people and acknowledging the hurtful legacy of residential schools, the MGEU called on all Members of Parliament to support Bill C-5 and declare September 30 a statutory holiday.



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
www.mgeu.ca

