



PLEASE POST!

5 The President's -MINUTE UPDATE



Michelle Gawronsky

At the Bargaining Table

TRIO OF BRAND NEW CONTRACTS BEING NEGOTIATED THIS FALL

The Bargaining Committee for **Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services - Locals 435-437** began negotiations for a first contract with their employer this past summer and continued bargaining into September. Meanwhile, the Bargaining Committee's for two of the MGEU's newest Locals, **End Homelessness Winnipeg - Local 439**, a non-profit agency aimed at coordinating supports for homeless Winnipeggers and **Les Tournesols de Saint Vital - Local 441**, a Francophone

day care in St. Vital, both sat down at the table with their employer for the first time in September.

EMS LOCALS CONTINUE TO SEEK AGREEMENTS

The **Paramedics of Winnipeg - Local 911** Bargaining Committee and the employer have resolved some issues since they began meeting last November, but with many significant items still outstanding, negotiations resumed on September 21. After eight months at the table, the **Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Superintendents - Local 431** Bargaining Committee resumed negotiations with the aid of a conciliator on September 18.

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

SPEAKING OUT EARLY AND OFTEN ABOUT HOME CARE PRIVATIZATION

First on September 7, and then again on September 21, I responded to the **Wpg Free Press, CBC** and **Wpg Sun** about the government's plans to privatize major pieces of our home care program — I told them that Manitobans were against private home care in the 90s and they still oppose it today. We already have a comprehensive, universal program that's among the best in Canada. We should be building on that system, not auctioning it off in pieces.

CALLING FOR FAIRNESS FOR FRONT-LINE STAFF



On September 12, I told the **Wpg Free Press, CBC,** and **Wpg Sun** that by laying off 40 health care and dietary aides, as well as housekeeping and clerical staff, at Victoria General Hospital, the

government is going back on its word to protect the jobs of all front-line health care

workers in the WRHA.

PUBLIC MARIJUANA SALES RIGHT THING TO DO

On September 7, when Ontario announced their plan for public marijuana sales, I told the **Wpg Free Press** that 2 out of 3 Manitobans agree selling marijuana publicly would be more effective in protecting public health and safety, not to mention ensuring that profits are invested right back into Manitoba's public services.

"CARE COMES FIRST" CAMPAIGN MESSAGE SPREADS FAR AND WIDE IN SEPTEMBER!

On a bus or a billboard, your TV or your phone — you've probably noticed MGEU health care members spreading an important message: care should come before cuts. Visit carecomesfirst.ca for what you can do to make your voice heard!



Scene featuring MGEU members in "Big Moments" commercial

In Your Community



THOMPSON OFFICE QUADRUPLES SPACE!

I was happy to join staff and members in Thompson to officially open our new MGEU office. The new space will allow us to host Local meetings and video conference with remote members.

The Big Picture

SEPTEMBER 27

Happy to present \$5,000 in strike support to workers of the Winnipeg James Richardson International Airport who have been on strike for over ten weeks.



SEPTEMBER 22

Proud to help promote a "Go Fund Me" drive for a peace officer memorial. I told reporters it will be a place where families can remember their loved ones and where Manitobans can thank them for their public service. Two days later, on September 24, it was my honour to join some of our MGEU Conservation Officers, Correctional Officers and Sheriffs for the 19th annual Peace Officers Memorial Service.



SEPTEMBER 16

Dozens of MGEU members marched in support of LGBTQ* Manitobans at annual PRIDE events in Portage la Prairie and Thompson — thrilled to join them in Portage!



At the Leg

THOUSAND-STRONG MESSAGE TO GOV ON STEPS OF LEGISLATURE: PUT CARE FIRST!

On September 13, a thousand MGEU members and supporters of our universal, public health care system rallied at the Legislative building over the lunch hour, sending a clear message to the government — care comes first!

Health Care Support Services Component Director, Terry Rear, and Lisa Tarko, a retired home care attendant, spoke about how the government's chaotic restructuring and cuts are hurting both the hardworking people who provide health care day and night, as well as the Manitobans who need that care.

Email communications@mgeu.ca to request a sign to display in your car, home or office window!



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

