



PLEASE POST!

# 5 The President's -MINUTE UPDATE



Michelle Gawronsky

## At the Bargaining Table

### NEW LOCALS HEAD INTO BARGAINING FOR FIRST TIME

Members of the **Manitoba Arts Council (MAC) - Local 444** had the opportunity to put forward their ideas and proposals for a first collective agreement with their employer in early June and the Bargaining Committee has since been working to pull together these proposals into a package to present to the employer. Negotiations are scheduled to begin in early October.

Members of **Duke of Marlborough School - Local 446** in Churchill will be putting forward their bargaining proposals for a first contract on September 6, 2018.

### FRANCOPHONE DAY CARE LOCAL 441 REACHES FIRST TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

The **Les Tournesols de Saint Vital - Local 441** reached a tentative agreement with the employer on Aug. 29, 2018. They'll be recommending the deal, which includes wage increases and a range of new benefits.

### COLLEGES PREPARE TO VOTE ON OFFER

After bargaining with the aid of a third-party conciliator into the summer, the **Assiniboine Community College/River College Central Table - Locals 71 and 73** Bargaining Committee spent much of August preparing to take the employer's final offer back to the membership for a vote. Meetings are scheduled for this September.

## Welcome to the September 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

### CABINET SHUFFLE CHANCE TO REBOOT

On August 1, in response to the Premier's cabinet shuffle and mention of working with organized labour to improve services, I told the **Wpg Free Press** that this is the government's chance to reboot and reconsider recent cuts and privatization. The MGEU welcomes any opportunity to sit down and talk with government about the services our members provide and what we're hearing from them as Manitobans.

### FLEETNET UPDATE WELCOME

On August 9, I spoke with media in response to the government's announcement it will be replacing its aging FleetNet communications system. I told them this was welcome news for our



members out in the field who've told us for years that the system needed updating.

### REPORT ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN CIVIL SERVICE A WAKE-UP CALL

On August 10, I told the **Wpg Free Press** that we're hopeful the recent report, and more importantly, its recommendations, will mean all workers can come forward with concerns and feel free from reprisal when reporting harassment.

### SHOPPING AROUND AIR SERVICES TOO RISKY

Policy analysts who recently completed a study for the MGEU that found the government would be hard pressed to realize cost savings by selling Government Air Services without jeopardizing high standards of service, summarized their findings in the **Wpg Free Press** on August 17.

### WHO'S CARING FOR CARE AIDES?

On August 22, I wrote to the **Wpg Free Press**, calling for change given a recent study suggesting that those who provide frontline care to our most vulnerable are at risk of burnout due to high job demands and understaffing.

## In Your Workplace

### WORKPLACE TOURS GREAT WAY TO SHARE COFFEE BREAK, CONCERNS AND IDEAS

I spent a lot of August on the road, continuing to meet as many members right in their workplaces and in their communities as I could.



Stopping in at the Pinawa Health Centre on our tour through eastern MB.

In Winnipeg, I chatted with members at the **Victoria** and **Grace Hospitals** and **Access Winnipeg West** over their lunch hours and work breaks, then headed east to the communities of Whitemouth, Oakbank, Elma and Lac Du Bonnet.

I've found that whether our members work on a highway crew or in an ambulance, in one of our provincial parks, liquor stores or hospitals, they all take tremendous pride in the services they provide and have a tremendous amount of experience to share.



In the last week of August, I spent some time in the Interlake, making stops at the MB Agricultural Services Corp. in Teulon, the Renal Health Centre in Hodgson, the Arborg personal care home, and the EMS station in Riverton (above centre). Big thanks to members in Eriksdale (right) and Ashern for taking time to talk with us as well!



## Welcome Local 449

### NEED TO SET UP A REMOTE RESCUE MISSION? CALL THE MEMBERS OF MGEU'S NEWEST LOCAL!

Members of **Canadian Base Operators - Local 449** are the latest Manitobans to unionize with the MGEU. Based out of Southport in Portage, the union's newest members provide a wide range of supports, from housekeeping to ice clearing to navigational equipment maintenance, for rescue, firefighting and Canadian defence missions.

## Back to Class...



3rd V-P Shelley Wiggins and I presented James Alexander (Corrections Area 7) with the Ken Hildahl Memorial Award to study pension governance.



Graham Dowdell, MGEU staff (left), 3rd V-P Shelley Wiggins, former MGEU Prez Peter Olfert (right) and I presented Alex Menjivar (Social Sciences Area 7) with the Peter Olfert Scholarship to further his Masters studies in City Planning.

Congratulations to James and Alex!

## Want to get this by e-mail?

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

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