

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
LOCAL 500**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Central Council
December 17, 2018**

CUPE / *Canadian Union
of Public Employees*
Local 500

TO: All Central Council Delegates

RE: PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings:

The following is my monthly report of the activities and issues facing the Local since our last Central Council meeting:

ELECTION RESULTS FOR TABLE OFFICERS

Elections of the Local 500 Table Officers took place last month on November 26th. Please note that my position as President was not up for re-election. Here are the election results:

1st Vice-President: Ted Yorke

2nd Vice-President: Nicholas McClurg

Treasurer: Phil Dembicki

Recording Secretary: Rebecca Scott

Warden: Cameron Patrick

One trustee was also elected as follows:

Three-Year Trustee: Danielle Carriere

Congratulations to the newly elected and re-elected officers and trustee. I wish you all the best in your elected positions.

LOCAL 500'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY ADS

Local 500 has launched its annual holiday TV, radio and print ad campaign to extend season's greetings to the public.

We are also pleased to be broadcasting versions of one of our ads in Punjabi and Tagalog.

If you would like to hear or see the ads, they are available on the Local 500 website.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

International Day of Persons with Disabilities is annually held on December 3rd to focus on issues that affect people with disabilities worldwide.

People with disabilities face discrimination, high unemployment and underemployment, high rates of poverty, and barriers to accessing many services. Workers with disabilities continue to face barriers to achieving appropriate accommodation measures and face barriers to hiring and promotion.

As a fundamental principle of human rights, people with disabilities must be able to fully participate in all aspects of our society.

CUPE has long advocated and continues to fight for full accessibility, inclusion and equity – in our work places and in our communities.

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AND ACTION ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Every year on December 6th, we commemorate the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women in Canada.

Established in 1991 by the Parliament of Canada, this day marks the anniversary of the murders in 1989 of 14 young women at l'École Polytechnique de Montréal. They were singled out and murdered because of their gender.

Gender-based discrimination and violence remain widespread in our workplaces and communities. CUPE recognizes that such violence has particular impacts on Indigenous, racialized, LGBTQI women and women with disabilities.

In Manitoba, candlelight vigils, memorial services, and other events were held on December 6th throughout the province.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

International Human Rights Day is observed every year on December 10th. This year, marked the 70th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Declaration contains thirty articles on human rights that remain as relevant today, as they were seven decades ago.

CUPE members can be proud of the work our union has done to build solidarity and support for human rights struggles in our union, in our communities and around the world. By bargaining strong language in our collective agreements and through political action, we have played a key role in decisions that ended wage discrimination, entrenched same-sex spousal benefits, improved employment equity, and created pay equity and anti-discrimination laws. It is a tradition we are proud of, and together, we will make universal human rights and equality a reality.

CUPE will continue to build awareness of human rights issues, and strive to ensure that all people enjoy human rights equally.

GOOD OF THE UNION

Local 500 is deeply sad to announce the passing of Honorary Life member Brother Howard Matthews on December 14, 2018 in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family and friends.

CONCLUSION:

I would like to thank all the members, staff and executive for your hard work and dedication to the Local throughout the year.

It is a pleasure and honor for me to be president of a well-respected Local at all levels in our city, province and country!

Best wishes for the holiday season and all the very best in the New Year!

Please share this current issues document with your co-workers.

In solidarity,



GORD DELBRIDGE
President

GD/ng
cope 342

Brother Howard Matthews

Howard was employed by the City's former Parks & Recreation Department as a Storekeeper. He became active in Local 500 and was elected as President of the former Parks & Recreation Unit in 1980.

In 1982 he was appointed to the position of National Staff Representative and he was assigned to Local 500. In 1986 negotiations he served as Chief Negotiator and after securing a strong strike mandate achieved a good settlement for Local 500 members.

He served many units of the local including the Convention Centre, where he negotiated enrollment of Convention Centre staff into the City of Winnipeg pension plan.



Howard was a tough negotiator and it was clear to all that he stood on the side of workers. He had a tremendous legal mind and won many arbitrations which he argued on his own, without the assistance of legal counsel.

In 1991 he transferred to Thunder Bay where he worked for our union until his retirement in 2002.

Brother Matthews was a proud CUPE 500 member and a friend to all workers. He will be missed.

(Read by Local 500 President Gord Delbridge at Central Council on Monday, December 17, 2018.)