

October 11, 2012

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Over the past couple of weeks, the media has reported on the problems experienced with Winnipeg's new garbage and recycling service.

It's important to clarify that City employees do not deliver this service. The City of Winnipeg has two private vendors under contract to provide garbage and recycling collection services. Clearly, citizens have witnessed a significant drop in terms of quality of service delivery and loss of public control and accountability.

For many years, CUPE Local 500 members provided a dependable and quality garbage pickup service for the residents of our city. Our presence in garbage pickup helped keep the industry in check.

Maybe it's time to bring this service back in-house just like many other Canadian cities have recently done. And, maybe now, City Council will agree to have an outside audit performed on residential garbage pickup, to truly see if there is a cost savings to our citizens. Taxpayers have a right to know if continuing to contract out this service to the private sector is actually saving them money.

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