

CUPE 744

St. James Assiniboia School Division Workers Union

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Editor: Steve Magian
www.cupe744.ca

Newsletter

Bargaining forward in 2019 and beyond

Mark Hancock | National President



It's no secret: 2019 is going to be a big year for CUPE.

We're up against a wave of newly-elected right-wing governments who are determined to undo a generation of progress on issues that matter to working people.

We're going to be in difficult rounds of bargaining across the country, as we push back against governments and employers who want to take away our pensions, our benefits, and the job security we've fought so hard for.

But we will be ready.

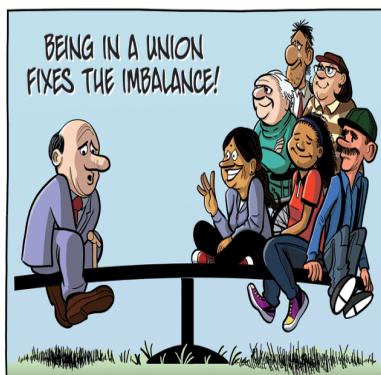
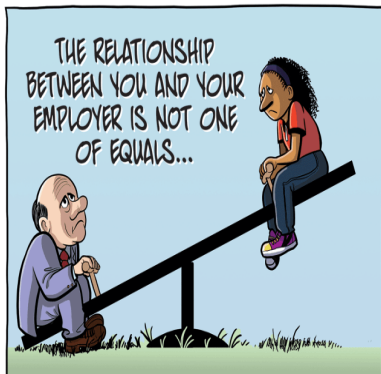
Two years ago, CUPE renewed its collective bargaining policy. We now have a blueprint for national solidarity in the face of austerity agendas and attacks on workers' rights across the country. It lays out expectations for our local unions when it comes to difficult rounds of bargaining. And it is our commitment to members that we will have their backs at the bargaining table.

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THE NEXT LOCAL GENERAL MEETING

IS ON SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019
AT THE ANAF #283 HALL (3584 PORTAGE AVENUE).
CALL TO ORDER IS AT 10:00.
PLEASE COME A LITTLE EARLIER FOR BREAKFAST ON THE LOCAL.



Local 744 Scholarship

There are four (4) \$500 scholarships available for the daughter, son, stepchild or child of legal guardianship of CUPE Local 744 members. Completed applications must be received by the Local on or before May 15, 2019.

Eligible members are urged to apply. Specific application details are outlined in our By-Laws which can be viewed in the Resource section or our website, www.cupe744.ca

To quote Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world".

Bargaining forward in 2019 and beyond

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The renewed bargaining policy focuses on equipping our locals with the planning and tools they need to resist concessions and two-tier contract language. It focuses on presenting a strong, unified front against employers and governments looking for cracks in our armour. It also lays out expectations that our locals will look to bargain improvements in two specific areas: precarious work and workplace violence.

Two years on, we've seen some incredible results. We've seen locals across regions and across sectors negotiating strong new language to protect and extend new rights to vulnerable workers. We've seen locals and bargaining councils in sectors like health care and education get strong commitments at the bargaining table to prevent and ad-

dress workplace violence. And from coast to coast to coast, our members have held the line against concessions and two-tier contract proposals.

In March, at our National Bargaining Conference, we'll continue to roll out new tools, training and supports for our members to fight back against attacks on their hard-won rights.

Working together, we can meet the challenge of right-wing governments and austerity-obsessed politicians head-on. We will fight back and protect our hard-won rights—and we will bargain forward for the kind of future we want.

Mark Hancock Online
| twitter.com/MarkHancockCUPE



Mark Hancock addresses the **Moving Forward CUPE National Bargaining Conference** in Saskatoon on March 18, 2019



NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

**Observed on Friday April 26TH
11:00 - 11:45 AM**

Union Centre
Second Floor Auditorium
275 Broadway
Winnipeg

Light refreshments will be served beginning at 10:30 AM

Mourn the Dead, Fight for the Living.

Please join the Manitoba Federation of Labour in marking the National Day of Mourning with a special Candle Light Memorial Service to remember and honour workers killed or injured on the job.

To be followed by the Safe Workers of Tomorrow Leaders Walk, starting at the Union Centre at 11:45 AM.



USW9074.01

Statement by MFL President Kevin Rebeck on planned minimum wage increase

No one should work full-time and live in poverty. But that is exactly what the Pallister government is forcing thousands of workers to do, by keeping our minimum wage as a poverty wage.

Contrary to the myths, most minimum wage workers are adults, and the majority are women. Thousands of families are forced to make tough choices between paying the rent and buying groceries because our minimum wage isn't enough to allow people to make ends meet, even with a full-time job.

- Kevin Rebeck, President of the Manitoba Federation of Labour

STRIKE!

THE MUSICAL

**Our History...
Our Story...
Our Musical!**

**Based on true
events and staged
one hundred years to
the day of the climac-
tic conclusion of the
Winnipeg General
Strike,
RAINBOW
STAGE presents:
STRIKE!**

**THE MUSICAL
June 18 – June 28 and
July 2 – July 5, 2019**

Re-imagined by a visionary
creative team, STRIKE! THE
MUSICAL

will not only feature ex-
traordinary performers who
act, sing and dance...

...but performers who play
the score with our musi-
cians at the same time!

**Manitoba's rich history of
acting, singing, dancing and
musicianship combine to
create a production of
STRIKE! THE MUSICAL that
defines community!**

If there is one event you
want to take in for the
Centenary of the Winnipeg
General Strike,

**Don't miss the one-
stop flagship event!**



A picket line for the umpires union.



Keep Them Poor Keep Them Uneducated & Keep Them Fighting Amongst Themselves

THE ETHOS OF ANY HIERARCHICAL UNJUST SOCIETY

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO THE LOCAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (LEC)

On Saturday March 16, 2019 the following members were nominated for LEC positions:

- Dale Gibson was nominated for Vice President,
- Randy Palmer was nominated for Recording Secretary,
- John Marsh was nominated for Shop Steward,
- Ken Peters was nominated for Warden,
- Robert Kennedy was nominated for Trustee.

The nominations will close, and an election will be held at our next General Meeting which is scheduled for Saturday, April 13, 2019 at the ANAvets Unit 283 Hall (3584 Portage Ave).

Call to order is scheduled for 10:00 am.

As per Section 11 of our By-Laws, nominees must be present at the meeting to accept the nomination unless his/her written and witnessed consent is filed with the Local prior to the election call.



ABOVE:

- Steve Magian and Bob Guenther at a rally in support of CUPE Local 1975 (U of S Workers) in Saskatoon.
- (U of S) Professor addresses the Rally.

BELOW

- Jeff Good, Executive Director of the United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA) gave an outstanding presentation at the Conference discussing the most recent teachers strike in LA.
- Downtown Saskatoon (Tommy Douglas still stands tall throughout Saskatchewan)
- The beautiful Bessborough Hotel in downtown Saskatoon
- Bob Guenther and Steve Magian at the beginning of a Session



President's Message



Sisters, Brothers and Friends,

It has been a long, cold winter and the nicer weather can't come fast enough for me.

I am very proud to say our new website, www.cupe744.ca is up and running. The reception has been unbelievable. I put a counter on it and this month alone it has been hit 4921 times. Since the site went up in February it has had a total of 6188 hits. Now admittedly I am likely responsible for about 800 of those hits but that is still pretty impressive. I only have a rudimentary counter but will be upgrading it shortly to keep more specific and reportable details about each hit as well as the general geographical area these hits come from. Don't worry, I won't know any specifics about addresses or who hits the site

Our Collective Agreement has expired, and our National Representative has submitted Local 744's formal intent to bargain. The 2019 Bargaining Committee has been formed and trained. We are in the process of confirming our proposals. We have not met with the employer at this point and no dates have been discussed or proposed. We are currently awaiting the outcome of a specific arbitration case in front of the Manitoba Labour Board which will have a direct impact upon our bargaining.

While the Arbitrator has been selected, hearing dates have yet to be determined. It is not a quick process.

In the meantime, we will continue to prepare, taking the usual and appropriate steps normally taken when bargaining. Manitoba unions and labour associations have, to date taken a very legal and measured approach. Unfortunately, this government has not, choosing instead to ignore labour rights that are inconvenient to the conservative corporate agenda. Civil servants unionized people and labour rights are not the enemy, but all three groups are being pushed into a corner by a premier who seems unwilling to work with anyone in a productive, collaborative or respectful manner.

Your Local Executive Committee is committed to working on behalf of the members of Local 744. If you have any questions regarding your workplace rights don't hesitate to contact a member of the LEC.

In Solidarity,

Steve

Local Executive Committee (LEC)

2019

Table Officers	President	Steve Magian	smagian@sjsd.net	204.793.1297	(talk or text)
	Vice-President	Dale Gibson	dale.gibson@sjsd.ca		
	Secretary-Treasurer	Bob Guenther	bguenther@sjsd.net		
	Recording Secretary	Randy Palmer	rpalmer@sjsd.net		
Shop Stewards:	Sharon Guzzardi				
	Sylvia Shaler				
	vacant				
Sergeant at Arms	Ken Peters				
Trustees:	Kim Vezina-Orvis				
	Stan Sobczak				
	vacant				

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