

# PRESIDENTS REPORT TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

September 12, 2017



## **HEALTHCARE**

As of today, our Provincial Government has yet to proclaim Bill's 28 and 29 but they have announced massive changes to the healthcare system that will affect many of our members at the St. Boniface Hospital, at the Grace and in the North.

Our Union Representatives have been meeting with representatives from each hospital and the WRHA to try and get as much information as possible and to communicate that to our members. At our town hall meeting on September 11th, Marie Buchan will give us all an update on the status of those changes and be on the line to ask any questions you may have. You can also always go to [wearethefrontline.ca](http://wearethefrontline.ca) for the most up to date information.

## **SOBEYS AND RED RIVER CO-OP**

Although the contract for Sobeys and Red River Co-op doesn't expire until March 17, 2018, we have already begun preparations as we believe these talks will be very difficult. This will be the first time we have negotiated with Red River Co-op since they purchased their stores from Safeway in 2014, and Sobeys has had an extremely difficult time trying to make the Safeway Banner successful so we believe we are in for some tough negotiations.

## **EAL FUNDING IN BRANDON**

In April we were informed that the funding we receive to offer English as an Additional Language to our workers who came to Manitoba through the Temporary Foreign Worker Program would be cut dramatically as of June 30th this year. The cuts come to our advanced program and we are currently working with the Assiniboine Community College who is also having their funding cut to lobby the Federal Government to reconsider funding the highly successful program.

## **NDP CONVENTION**

On September 16th a large delegation of UFCW members will attend the NDP Manitoba Leadership Convention which will decide who runs against Pallister's Tories in the next election. At our Executive Board meeting held in Gimli this summer, the board members voted to support Wab Kinew for leader. In the Federal leadership race, UFCW Canada is supporting Jagmeet Singh to be the next leader of the Federal NDP.

## **UFCW CANADA NATIONAL COUNCIL CONVENTION**

Last week we attended the UFCW Canada Convention in Montreal that's held once every 5 years. At the convention we nominated all six of the positions on our International Executive Board including recommending that Paul Meinema – our National President – be re-elected for another term. The nominations will be voted on at the International Convention next April.

## **LIGHT THE NIGHT WALK**

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UFCW Local 832 is proud to once again be the presenting sponsor for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society of Canada's Light the Night Walk being held September 30th at 7 pm at The Forks in Winnipeg. Join our team on line and donate to this very worthy cause and come out and walk with us at the event – we'd love to see you there.

## **2017 POLICY CONFERENCE**

On November 8th at the Winnipeg Training Centre we will be holding our annual policy conference where we will be approving the budget for 2018 and discussing how to move our union forward in the coming year. If you are an activist who is interested in being a part of this event, please speak to your full time union representative.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jeff Traeger'. The signature is stylized with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Jeff Traeger**

President  
UFCW Local 832