



21 NEWS/VIEWS

Membership Meeting – 2nd Tuesday of each Month
7:30 pm – Italian Club – 2148 Connaught Street

2009 NEWSLETTER - EDITION #5

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Greg Moyer

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Newsletter Editor

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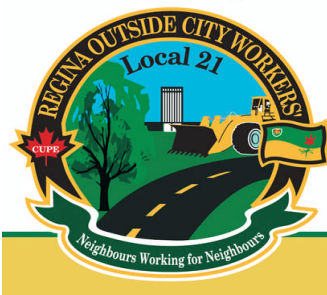
Trustees

Ken Kabatoff
Steve Frankiewitz
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CUPE National Representative

Guy Marsden

Serving Regina Citizens For 75 Years!



Commitment to our Community

Union Work! Union Proud!

President's Message

Sisters and Brothers:

On August 9th Local 21 invited our members out to the Sherwood Forest Country Club to celebrate this Local's 75th anniversary as a unionized workforce within the City of Regina.

Whether you were golfing, swimming or just hanging around listening to some music or soaking up the sun it was a good time had by all. The weather was beautiful and the turnout good. Many thanks go to everyone who came out and participated, and to the Valley Girls for putting together a fantastic meal.

Special thanks to the following Regina business's for their gift contributions and to the following advertisers for their professional guidance and advise:

Phoenix Auto Parts --- Acklands-Grainger Inc. --- Gales Florist (13th Ave.) --- Toys 'R' Us --- California Fitness --- Houston Pizza (Park & Vic.) --- Houston Pizza (1126 Albert St.)
Johns Place Restaurant --- Work Authority --- Smiths' Insurance --- Fellingens Red Meat Wagon --- Northern Strands Co. --- Weber Safety Supply Company Inc.
ACME Sewer Services --- Scotia Bank (Regent Park) --- Sherwood Forest Country Club --- Woloshyn & Company --- Supreme Basics --- Access Communications
Regina Saskatchewan Rough Riders --- Safeway (13th Ave) --- Safeway (Quance St.) --- Slab Master --- Jeff Bohac (City of Regina).

Mark Reis (CBS Billboards)

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Gabe Rosescu (Digital Skies Billboard Network)

Bill Wright and Aaron Hackel of the Leader-Post

Kenda Ashton (Harvard Broadcasting)

The Sasquatch and City Life newsletters

In The City

IN MEMORY
Doug Martin

Local 21 Store

Baseball style hats: **\$5.00**

T-shirts (white only): **\$5.00**

Thermos: **\$5.00**



- **Collective Bargaining Agreement: expires 31 December 2009.**
 - **Local 21 Website: www.21.cupe.ca**
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Sister Cindy Jessop – Local 21 Executive Member at Large

My name is Cindy Jessop. I work in Community and Protective Services and I am your newly elected executive member at large. I would like to take this opportunity to give you a little taste of labour history and why it is so important for you the membership to be connected with your union.

As you may or may not be aware 78 years ago the Estevan Coal Miner's were on strike protesting unsafe working conditions, starvation wages, deplorable housing and the monopoly of company stores. It's hard to believe average salary earnings were ten (10) to twenty-five (25) dollars a month. Even harder to believe is that at a peaceful demonstration on September 29, 1931, three (3) union brothers from the Mine Workers Union of Canada were killed by police.

We often take for granted, forgetting what others before us have fought for. We have become accustomed to our rights, benefits and legislation as a standing "given". I am sad to report brothers and sisters, these victories are slowly being taken away from us today.

Two pieces of legislation that the Saskatchewan government has passed in the last year has been one of the most aggressive assaults on the rights of working people.

Bill 5 (now a Legislated Act), the Essential Services Act, simply guts our collective bargaining rights allowing the employer to designate essential employees where they deem necessary; while **Bill 6** (now a Legislated Act), amendments to the Trade Union Act, strengthens the hand of the employer allowing them to legally coerce and intimidate workers during organizing drives. These will be hard battles to win back. In the meantime, our Rights as workers can no longer be denied.

As our collective agreement ends on December 31st we must ensure that we are prepared to present a clear strong message along with our proposal package to the employer. I encourage the membership to come out and come out strong at our October meeting to support what will be taken forward to the employer.

This is our opportunity to tell the employer that we are well worth the investment as unionized public service employees and that we will not be undersold as second class citizens in this round of bargaining. The challenge will be to have them recognize their most valuable resources: the membership and strength of Local 21.

General Information & Updates

Labour Day History

Tom Graham, President, CUPE Saskatchewan

Canadians are accustomed to the tradition of the statutory Labour Day holiday each September. It traces its roots to April 15, 1872, when 10,000 people took to the streets of Toronto, to parade in protest. Just prior to the event, 24 union leaders refused to work, striking in support of the work day being reduced to eight hours. "Eight hours for work, eight hours for leisure and eight hours for rest," was sought, on behalf of all working people. Those 24 union leaders were imprisoned for their demonstration.

Following a second large demonstration in Ottawa, in September, 1872, Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald pledged to repeal the barbarous law that imprisoned the union leaders. The law was gone by the end of the year. On July 23, 1894 Labour Day was declared a legal holiday, moved to the fall and has remained in place since. Other countries followed suit, and Labour Day is now celebrated on various days around the world.

Take a moment to think about the rights you, your family and your friends have as working people. You have an eight-hour workday; your employer is obligated to provide a safe workplace; and you receive a paid vacation each year ---- **These rights are among the many that have been fought for and won by Canadian unions.**

Worst Essential Services Legislation in Canada?

Compiled by - Larry Kowalchuk, RWDSU ----- Carla Jensen - THE SASQUATCH NEWSLETTER

Thousands of employees throughout Saskatchewan were deemed essential under the controversial Public Services Essential Services Act. The Act, which became law in May 2008, stipulates that services essential to the public's health and well-being must continue to be provided during a strike.

Saskatchewan's essential services legislation is also broader than legislation in other provinces, encompassing all public employees, including government, crown corporations, universities and SIAST, health employers and municipalities, as well as any other group that the government designates as essential.

Larry Kowalchuk of RWDSU points out that under this legislation, casino and liquor board employees could be prevented from striking on the basis that they are essential to health and safety, while Emergency Medical Services is not covered by the legislation because it is not named as a public employer under the Act.

Neighbouring province's legislation is not as severe. The Public Services Essential Services Act was introduced in the Saskatchewan Legislature on May 14, 2008.

➔ Here's how it works in Saskatchewan:

- 90 days before the expiry of a collective agreement, the union and employer must attempt to negotiate a list of individuals who will be designated as "essential."
- If the employer and the union cannot agree, the employer decides which classifications and individuals are essential.
- The union may appeal to the Saskatchewan Labour Relations Board, but the union may only dispute the numbers in each classification, not the classification itself.
- **The union may not go to an independent, 3rd party arbitrator for a settlement.**
- During a strike, each employee designated essential must work all of their duties – even the non-essential ones.
- Each employee designated essential cannot participate in strike activities.
- If a designated employee participates in a strike, they could be fined **\$2,000 + \$400** per day.
- The definition of essential includes danger to life, health or safety, the destruction or serious deterioration of machinery, equipment or premises, serious environmental damage, disruption of the courts.
- Even casinos, government insurance, universities, SIAST and rural and urban municipalities are considered essential-service employers, along with all government, crown corporation and health-region employers.

➔ Here's how it works in Manitoba:

While the Manitoba law is similar but not as broad, it has operated without near as much violation of an employee's human right to collectively bargain and to strike. Nonetheless, the Saskatchewan Party government

claims it is modeling its law after that in Manitoba – a province led by an NDP government. Unions and employers in the Manitoba health-care sector follow a voluntarily negotiated model which has protected public safety since 2001, even during several strikes.

Here are its features:

- Only essential duties (not all duties) are required to be performed.
- The duties are voluntarily provided by the union and its members.
- Every member is allowed to participate in strike activities.
- Only duties which protect life and limb are required to be provided.
- The union may go to arbitration if it disagrees that a duty is essential and ask an independent, 3rd party arbitrator to decide.

This model is very similar to the way unions were already operating during strikes in Saskatchewan. Unions have always voluntarily provided emergency services during strikes, not only because they do not want to jeopardize their bargaining support with the general public but because they care about public safety.

Want your message to “STAND OUT”?

**Call: Gabe Rosescu at: (306) 591-0444
email: gabe@digitalskies.ca**



Designer Sunglasses

EYECANDY OPTIKS in conjunction with **Local 21** is pleased to offer all members and the immediate families of members a **15%** discount off all Non Prescription Designer Sunglasses.
(Expires 31 December 2009)

This Offer extends to all in-store sunglasses. We recommend that you consider our Wiley-X brand of sunglasses with the ballistics resistant sunglass lenses that some models feature. Wiley-X is the official supplier of non-prescription sun wear to the U.S. Military.

EYECANDY Optiks
“Designer Sunglasses... it’s all we do”

**5340 Rochdale Blvd. (across from Winston Knoll High School) - 949-5878
2585 Quance St. E. (East Landing strip mall) - 545-4350**