

**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES  
LOCAL 500**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Central Council  
August 27, 2012**

**CUPE** / *Canadian Union  
of Public Employees*  
**Local 500**

TO: All Central Council Delegates

**RE: *PRESIDENT'S REPORT***

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Greetings:

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

**1. Public Works Department Will Get Review**

The City has notified the Local that they will hire a consultant to see if there are ways to improve operations and save money within the Public Works Department.

On August 9<sup>th</sup>, the City announced they issued a Request for Proposals for industry experts to review the Public Works Department to ensure the City makes "the most efficient and effective use of taxpayer's funds".

If the City wants to pass on savings to the citizens of Winnipeg, they could contract back in-house for example residential garbage pick-up. Many Canadian cities have already done this. The Local has requested that a number of audits be performed so the citizens of Winnipeg can see the real picture.

**2. Golf Courses**

On July 11, 2012 the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Alternate Service Delivery Committee, and submitted the following to City Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service initiate negotiations through a Modified Management Competition (MMC) process at this time for the operation of City-run golf courses (Kildonan, Windsor, Crescent Drive and Harbour View) in response to the Expression of Interest, and consistent with direction from the May 25, 2011 City Council decision.

Voting against the motion were Councillors Jenny Gerbasi, Brian Mayes, John Orlikow, Mike Pagtakhan, Harvey Smith and Ross Eadie.

2. That the requirement for a deposit be waived for negotiations through a Modified Management Competition.

Voting against the motion were Councillors Ross Eadie, Jenny Gerbasi, Brian Mayes, John Orlikow, Harvey Smith and Dan Vandal.

At both of these City meetings held in July, Councillors voted in favour of the MMC process to decide the future operation of its golf courses. The ASD process simply does not work given the results we are witnessing from the sale of the City's Glacial, Sand and Gravel pit and the contracting out of residential garbage pick-up. Just like the golf story, we were told back then that "we have to stop the bleeding" and get out of the business and sell the pit. The Local has and will continue to request that audits be conducted on these operations to show who truly benefited by the sale of the gravel pit and contracting out of the City garbage pick-up. Ultimately, it is the citizens of Winnipeg who lose out.

### 3. Veolia

On July 18, City Council voted unanimously to accept a report about the first year of Winnipeg's sewage treatment consulting deal with the French multinational giant Veolia.

The details of the Veolia deal are still unavailable to the public. The Local will continue to monitor Veolia's presence in our city.

### 4. Water Park

City Council voted unanimously to spend 7 million earmarked for the last four years for a private water park on some other capital project in 2013, to be determined during the budget process.

St. Norbert Councillor Justin Swandel did not take part in the vote.

### 5. Bargaining Updates

The Local has a number of Affiliates that are either in bargaining or are about to commence the bargaining process.

These include:

1. Gateway Recreation Centre
2. Winnipeg Humane Society
3. Winnipeg Convention Centre

**Conclusion:**

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

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Davidson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "D".

Mike Davidson

MD/ng  
cope 342

cc: B. Sumerlus