

MANITOBA REGIONAL OFFICE

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**HEALTH CARE BULLETIN
LOCAL 204**

Dear CUPE Health Care Member,

There have been numerous announcements by the Provincial Government and the WRHA about changes to the health care system over the past few months. In response to those changes and to protect the members, the 16 CUPE locals within the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority have voted to merge into one local, CUPE Local 204 which is 7,000 members strong.

You are now part of Winnipeg's largest health care union! Congratulations!

Bylaws

The next step is to create bylaws. The 16 locals sent representatives to a working group to prepare the bylaws for Local 204. Bylaws are the rules the local must follow in running itself. A draft of those bylaws is available for you to review at phcc.cupe.ca. If you wish a paper copy, please call 204-942-0343 or contact your current Local President. We welcome your input! Please review these bylaws and provide any feedback to phcc@cupe.ca, or by fax (204-956-7071), or in person to your Local President. Please send any feedback by August 14, 2017.

All of the members of Local 204 will have the opportunity to vote to accept the new bylaws. These votes will take place late August - watch your bulletin boards for dates!

Elections for Local 204

Elections will be scheduled for mid-late September of 2017. Once these elections have taken place Local 204 will be in effect and all the current Locals will be united into CUPE 204.

The Table Officer positions will be elected at-large from the Local 204 membership. There will be voting locations at each site. Watch for further information! The positions available will be:

- President (full-time)
- 1st Vice-President
- 2nd Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Recording Secretary
- Diversity Vice-President
- Diversity Vice-President - Indigenous

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MARK HANCOCK

National President/Président national

CHARLES FLEURY

National Secretary-Treasurer/Secrétaire-trésorier national

DENIS BOLDUC, FRED HAHN, JUDY HENLEY, DANIEL LÉGÈRE, MARLE ROBERTS

General Vice-Presidents/Vice-présidences générales

Unit Vice-Presidents and Lead Shop Stewards (site representatives) elections will take place after the table officer elections. These positions are elected at each local and will be held on-site.

Bargaining

In the spring, the Provincial Government announced new legislation: Bill 28 (*The Public Services Sustainability Act* to freeze wages) and Bill 29 (*The Health Sector Bargaining Unit Review Act* to force changes in your union representation). Both Bills have been passed. They are NOT yet in effect.

Bargaining has not started because of Bill 28 and Bill 29. CUPE continues to push to negotiate a fair and reasonable contract for the members, and to challenge these Bills.

Under Bill 29, there could be representation votes. There is a section of the Bill that states that all unionized workers in a health care job sector will fall under the collective agreement of the winning union's biggest unit. That means we would start bargaining from that new collective agreement.

Our bargaining proposals will need to be redone. Once we know how these changes will affect us, we will call a CUPE Provincial Health Care Council conference.

Until a new collective agreement is negotiated, your existing local collective agreement will remain in place. The new CUPE all-Winnipeg health care local (Local 204) will work hard to make sure facility-specific issues are addressed in the one new collective agreement.

POLITICAL ACTION

CUPE is challenging the Pallister government's bad legislation. We have joined together with other unions to launch a legal challenge to prevent Bill 28 from coming into force.

The WRHA has made several announcements as well: program transfers, closures of departments and the creation of a new Shared Health Services Manitoba agency. We believe these changes compromise public health care. CUPE has been on the front page and the frontlines, fighting back against these sweeping changes! CUPE has held many rallies and takes every opportunity to get the message out about how these changes will affect patients and the staff. We continue to work with the other health care unions to protect the members.

Health Care Acquired Infection (HAI's) Campaign

Look for CUPE at festivals and fairs across Manitoba this summer! CUPE is spreading the word on HAI's and how to prevent them.

The Provincial Government's attacks on health care have been hard for everyone.

On behalf of CUPE and the 650,000 members across Canada, **THANK YOU** for your hard work and dedication to Manitoba's health care system. You are truly a health care hero, and we are so proud of the work you do each and every day.

If you have any questions please contact your local executive or visit phcc.cupe.ca and sign up for email updates. It is the best way to get the right information.