
CUPE WIRE

Official Publication of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 38
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May 2016

All good things come to an end...

After 35 years with the City of Calgary, Peter Marsden announced his departure as the President of CUPE Local 38. The Executive of Local 38 received the news with mixed feelings. On one hand, it is always exciting to see someone move onto another phase in their lives; yet on the other hand, Peter's experience and leadership will be sorely missed.

Peter started with the City of Calgary Electrical System in 1980. Hired as a drafter, Peter was thrust into the 1980 strike within weeks of starting his new job. He quickly assumed the role of picket captain, and was elected as a steward for his work unit after the strike. In 1984, Peter was elected as Chief Steward for the Local. Upon his election, Peter's manager quipped, "be careful, that position is where President's come from!"

In 1986, Peter stepped into the role of Business Agent to backfill a leave, and in 1987 was formally elected into the position. In 1988, John Corcoran stepped down as President of Local 38 after serving 17 years in the position. Peter was persuaded to run and was elected with broad support from the membership.

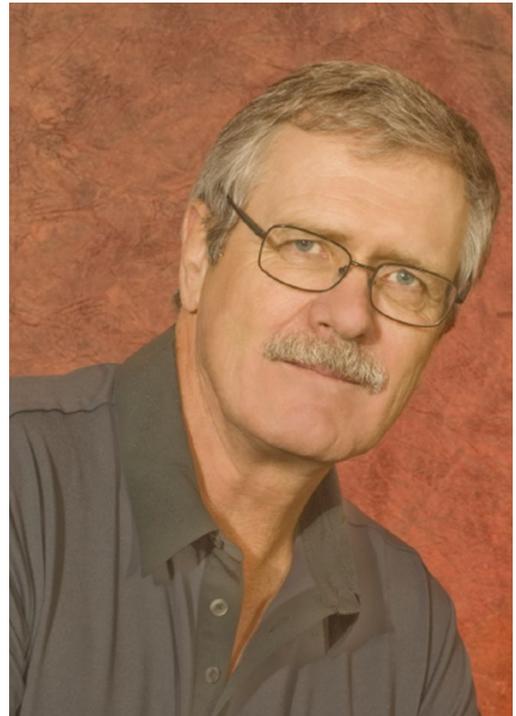
Since that time, Peter has been the lead negotiator in roughly two dozen contract negotiations, navigated Local 38's move from CCEBS to MEBAC, ensured successor rights from the City to Enmax, negotiated the transfer of Enmax's pension plan from LAPP, and navigated the repatriation of the Enmax call centre from ABSU back into Enmax.

Peter was a leading figure in the Local through the downturn of the 1980s, the Klein cuts of the 1990s, the tech burst of the early 2000s, and the economic crisis of 2009. Throughout all of this, Peter's main focus has always remained on protecting the rights of members. Some points that Peter has taken pride in lies in negotiating pay equity inherent in job evaluation and ensuring same-sex benefits in the MEBAC agreement.

Later in his career, Peter served on the Appeals Board for Employment Insurance, and currently serves on the Alberta Labour Board and as a Trustee on the Local Authorities Pension Plan. Peter has expressed his intention to stay on these Boards until he completes his current term.

It is difficult to sum up the impact of a person through a simple chronology. Peter has touched the lives of many people in so many ways. Widely respected as a leader with integrity and determination, Peter has earned the respect of many individuals on the employer's side of the table. Often direct and tough in bargaining, Peter has an innate ability to solve problems and ultimately find the deal. For this, he has earned the loyalty of many members and Executive of Local 38.

For many of us, Peter exemplified the true trade union activist. One of his most well-known sayings, often uttered in the tough times is "if you ain't laughing, you ain't winning." Well, as Peter makes his final departure, it is guaranteed he does so laughing!



Scholarships Available

CUPE Local 38 offers two scholarships in the amount of \$1,000.00 each, to be awarded in October of each year.

These scholarships are open to card carrying members or their eligible dependents. Each applicant must be enrolled in full-time, post-secondary studies, and they must submit a one thousand (1,000) word essay on one of the following topics:



1. The challenges facing unions in Alberta over the next 20 years; or
2. The relevance of unions in Canadian society; or
3. The role of the labour movement in the global environment.

The essays will be assessed on the following criteria: quality of research, degree of analysis, and adherence to the chosen topic. Submissions will be evaluated by CUPE Local 38's Public Relations and Education Committee. Please note that all submissions must clearly indicate the chosen topic.

Entries can be submitted by email or fax. Email attachments should be in Microsoft Word format. Proof of enrollment must also be provided at the time of submission as well as the name and relationship of the card carrying member. The deadline for submission is August 24, 2016. Successful applicants will be advised by letter and CUPE Local 38 reserves the right to publish the names and essays of the winners.

For further information, please contact Local 38 at 403-233-2700 or by email at office@cupe38.org

CUPE Alberta calls on members to help support fire relief in Northern Alberta

Marle Roberts, President of CUPE Alberta, is calling on CUPE members and other Canadians to contribute to the Red Cross fire relief.

Fires continue to ravage the Northern Alberta city of 80,000 with the entire community being evacuated. "It saddens us that residents of such a great city, that has provided so much to the rest of the country, are now on the run. We can only imagine how difficult it is for residents to leave behind their homes and communities and wonder what will be left when they return."

"Our thoughts and prayers are with them," said CUPE President Marle Roberts.

You can send a \$5 donation simply by texting 'REDCROSS' to 30333.

CUPE Alberta will also support members in the community by donating to members who have lost their homes or community members who need accommodations.

"When the same thing happened in Slave Lake, we lent a hand," said Roberts. "When southern Alberta was flooding, we lent a hand. It's what Albertans and Canadians do."

Connect with CUPE 38

Email: office@cupe38.org

Phone: 403-233-2700

In-person: 1439 - 9th AVE SE, Calgary, AB T2G 0T4

Online: cupe38.org

Send Your Kid to Camp!

The Alberta Federation of Labour is holding its 22nd Annual Kids' Camp August 8-12, 2016 at the Goldeye Centre near Nordegg on Goldeye Lake.

The camp is open to kids ages **eight to fifteen** years. The camp goals are for kids to have fun in a positive and safe environment. Kids will develop problem solving skills and learn to work with others. Recreational activities are: canoeing, wall climbing, horseback riding, rappelling, group challenges, crafts and swimming.



The cost is \$500.00 per child. A motion to sponsor four (4) children was passed at the March Regular meeting. If you are a card carrying member of CUPE Local 38 and wish to have your child sponsored, please send a letter to the union office stating why you would like to send your child.

You can send your letter by internal mail to mail code #132, email to office@cupe38.org or fax to (403) 290-1757. We will decide who should receive the sponsorship by **June 7th**, so get your letters in soon. Registration deadline with the AFL is June 15th, 2016.

If you don't wish to have your child sponsored but would like to make enquiries to send your child, contact the Alberta Federation of Labour at 780-483-3021.



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH



All GOOD things must come to an end

To make way for BETTER things to happen

Because the BEST is yet to come

~ Geoffrey Chaucer

Big Push to Expand the CPP

Over the coming months CUPE National will be ramping up its efforts across the country to expand the Canada Pension Plan.

After years of stalling by the former Conservative federal government, CPP expansion is closer than ever. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau campaigned promising an expanded CPP. So now is the time for CUPE and the entire labour movement to make the last big push to make it a reality.

"Over 11 million Canadians without a workplace pension are in desperate need of an expanded CPP, so they may retire with dignity and out of poverty," said Mark Hancock, national president of CUPE. "CUPE is going to do everything it can to make sure the federal Liberal government lives up to its promises, and shows they have courage to finally expand the CPP."

New resources are being developed for CUPE locals to help rally support with members. They will include fact sheets, a new Expand the CPP campaign website, and videos to share explaining why expanding the CPP is so important to Canadian workers and the economy. Campaign efforts will first focus on the upcoming meeting of finance ministers in June, where CPP expansion will be a key agenda item, and a planned national day of action on CPP expansion this fall.

Get involved!

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

All CUPE 38 Members Invited to Attend



**When: Tuesday, May 24, 2016
at 7:00 p.m.**

**Where: CUPE 38 Office
1439-9 Avenue SE
Business: Regular**

A by-election will be held for 2 Executive Members—2 Year Term

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CUPE LOCAL 38 LABOUR ORGANIZATION SOCIETY

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Upon adjournment of the Regular Meeting

UNION OFFICE

1439—9th Avenue SE

BUSINESS: Approval of audit