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# CUPE WIRE

Official Publication of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 38  
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## Benefit Survey Update

In last month's Wire we reported that ENMAX was undertaking a benefit survey. This article drew a sharp response from Human Resources, but did result in pension questions being added to the survey. Unfortunately, the pension questions combined both the defined benefit and defined contribution plans, so it will be impossible to determine which plan the members prefer. Why would ENMAX choose not to obtain this information if they were truly interested in meeting employee's needs?

While our focus in last month's article was to inform you of the survey, it is important that you know that ENMAX is falling behind the Calgary Labour Market when it comes to Health and Dental benefits. Local 38 has raised this matter during benefit oversight committee meetings in 2013 and 2014. On both occasions the reply was that a study needs to be done to confirm where the industry was regarding benefits.

With the late timing of this survey and with the requirement to establish cost and benefit levels so members can make their selection in mid-June, it is safe to say we will not see the changes this year.

All of this leads us to believe the current survey is far more about reallocating existing dollars than improving benefit levels.

The dollar value of the dental and LTD benefits have been eroded by ten years of inflation. The need to improve benefits, not just reallocate dollars has become increasingly apparent. Enmax needs to understand this and to seriously address the increasing deficiencies.

## Calgary Crush!

In an amazing election upset, the Alberta New Democrats swept the majority of Calgary seats, and have formed the new majority government in Alberta. In the initial opening of the election in Calgary, Joe Ceci was the acknowledged front runner in Calgary Fort. Joe represented many Calgary Fort communities as an Alderman for 15 years, and is widely respected throughout the riding. At the outset, Joe was considered to be a star candidate, set to make a breakthrough in Calgary for the New Democrats.

In the end, Joe took half the vote in Fort. With significant experience in elected office, Joe is best positioned to represent members of Calgary Fort in the Legislature.

What is surprising to many was the overwhelming support of Calgarians for the New Democrats. It became apparent late in the election period that frustration and anger of Calgarians towards the governing Conservatives was reaching a boiling point. The result is that over a dozen NDP MLAs will now be joining Joe in the Legislature to represent Calgary in the new majority government.

This election victory is a tribute to the New Democrats and their clear message that it is time for change in Alberta. Support for the New Democrats spanned the entire province, with NDP MLAs heading to the Legislature from Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Red Deer, Peace River, Hinton, Banff, Calgary and Edmonton.



## Scholarships Reminder

In the March and April issues of the CUPE Wire we advertised the two \$1,000.00 scholarships that Local 38 will be awarding.



Reminder to get your 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.

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. The deadline for submission is August 21, 2015. 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](mailto:office@cupe38.org) or check the March or April issues of the CUPE Wire on our website at [www.cupe38.org](http://www.cupe38.org)



## Meet the Local 38 Executive

At the April General meeting, elections were held for Executive positions. Your Executive Board is:

*(Names in bold were elected at April General Meeting.)*

President:	Peter Marsden
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Leslie Stern</b>
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	<b>Sasha Wallis</b>
Treasurer:	Kelley Shinnie
<b>Business Agent:</b>	<b>D'Arcy Lanovaz</b>
Chief Shop Steward:	Kim Jaedicke
Warden:	George Beally
Board Members:	Paul Cardiff
	Jason Cormier
	<b>Ernie Duffy</b>
	<b>John Larsen</b>
	Dee Lawrence
	<b>RoseLynn Moen</b>
	<b>Michael Nguyen</b>
	<b>Cherise Stock</b>
	Kevin Watson
	<b>Ken Weaver</b>

Trustees:	<b>Roxanne Wales</b>
	Dawn Nason
	Maggie Byrne

*Congratulations!*

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH



*Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.*

*~ John F. Kennedy*

## Local 38 Bylaw Changes

A few bylaw changes will be presented at the May monthly meeting for approval of the membership. These changes are best described as “housekeeping” in nature, and none of the recommendations change the current practice of the Local. In three instances, the changes reflect standing motions already passed by the membership over the past three years.

A summary of the changes include: clarifying the roles of the Business Agent and Chief Steward; clarifying the title of the Recording Secretary; reflecting standing motions passed by the membership.

For detailed information, members can contact the Local 38 office. Detailed information will also be presented at the May regular meeting prior to approval.

## Mark's Work Wearhouse Discount Cards

**Mark's Discount cards are available for Local 38 members. The card entitles members to a 10% discount on a wide variety of items at Mark's.**

**If you would like to have one of these cards, please contact the Office at 403-233-2700 and a card will be forwarded to you via internal mail or stop by the Office at 1439-9 Avenue SE to pick up.**

## Send your kid to camp!

The Alberta Federation of Labour is holding its 19th Annual Kids' Camp August 3-7, 2015 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. As well, 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 \$450.00 per child. A motion to sponsor three (3) children will be going to our May Regular meeting. If you are a 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](mailto:office@cupe38.org) or fax to (403) 290-1757. We will decide who should receive the sponsorship by **June 5th**, so get your letters in soon.

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.

# REGULAR MEETING



**Tuesday, May 26, 2015**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Union Office**

**1439—9th Avenue South East**

***BUSINESS: Notice of Motion & Elections***

***Motion to amend the CUPE Local 38 Bylaws will take place at this meeting.***

**Elections:**

1. Five (5) members to the Occupational Health & Safety Committee
2. Five (5) members to the Public Relations & Education Committee
3. Five (5) members to the Social Committee
4. Five (5) members to the Equal Opportunities Committee
5. Seven (7) delegates to CUPE Calgary District Council
6. Delegates to Calgary & District Labour Council
7. Delegates to the CUPE National Convention, November 2-6, 2015