

REPORTS FROM LABOUR COUNCILS AND SURF

MOOSE JAW AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

The Moose Jaw and District Labour Council (MJDLC) has had a busy year with good participation and many activities. We welcome new affiliates and encourage the participation of those already affiliated.

Our Annual Day of Mourning ceremony was held April 28 with a good crowd participating and decent media coverage. As we lost our daily newspaper early this year, communicating our issues has become more difficult.

Our biggest ever Labour Day event was a huge success. Over 600 people attended and were served free burgers and hotdogs, popcorn and drinks. We had two bouncy castles, music, a clown and a face painter along with an exhausted but happy group of volunteers.

We are in the midst of a municipal by-election for one council seat and one seat on the Separate School Board. Our Council plans to survey the candidates and make recommendations of support to our affiliates.

On the subject of political action, we at the MJDLC are very active in all levels of government and keep active on boards and committees and on election campaigns. We know that all areas of our lives are affected by government and involve ourselves in defending workers' rights within that realm. With federal, provincial and municipal elections all just around the corner, we are always preparing and lending a hand.

Nearly all our affiliates are at the bargaining table so we work to provide support and share information with other affiliates to keep us all in the know and provide a network to educate each other. We are so much stronger when we work together!

Solidarity Sisters and Brothers!

Stacey Landin, MJDLC

REGINA AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

This May at the RDLC Annual General Meeting (AGM) on May 5, 2018 I was acclaimed as President and I plan to continue the hard work, and remain committed and dedicated in growing and building new relationships with both Affiliated Local and those that are not affiliated. At this AGM we passed a few resolutions to add new Vice Presidents positions, which will be added to our Constitution; Workers of Colour, LGBTQ, and Disability.

Congratulations to Susan Butson, who was elected as the Secretary of the RDLC in June.

I would like to thank out-going President Ken Kubian for his many years of hard work and dedication to the Labour Council.

There have been two Locals who have joined us for the first time and I would like to recognize new Affiliates – IBEW 2038 and CEIU Local 40811 Service Canada Employees. There are a few more locals who want to become affiliated. More participation and hands means better outreach to our community, I look forward to growing our relationships not only with our own members but with Community Groups and Organizations.

We would like to focus on growing our youth delegation. It has been a struggle, but the RDLC remain determined – Unions need to invest in our youth, the RDLC is committed to doing this. Please send your youth delegates to join us.

It has been a very busy summer, with activities and planning. We had couple of Table Officers meetings in July and August; with new Executives, we had a lot go over and are looking at the year ahead.

We continue to build a relationship with the United Way; Donna Ottenson is on the United Way Board currently and has agreed to sign on for another year. We have two positions on the Board who represent Labour. Marg Romanow from CUPE also has agreed to sit on the Board this year.

We were part of the Queen City Ex Parade this year! It was an absolute blast! We received a warm welcomed from the crowd. There were 23 people who came out to walk with us, and 4 kids. Unions that participated were: Unifor, IATSE, PSAC, CUPW, CURR, RWDSU, IBEW and SGEU. Thank you to everyone who was in attendance, next year we want to put a float in, so be ready to do that. RDLC is in the planning stage to have a May Day Parade in 2019. Anyone interested in being part of the Community Affairs Committee to help organize that, it is also the 100 year anniversary of the Winnipeg Strike in 1919, we will be calling on all Unions to join us to mark this date.

The 7th Annual Equity Conference was successful once again, where we covered the following topics: De-Colonization, Brain Architecture, Mental Health, Domestic Violence, and Me Too. The upcoming conference is usually held in the month of February. Plan to attend, it is an amazing educational.

At our Awards Banquet in March, Bob Bymoer received the Award of Distinction and Carol Mullaney received the Community Service Award. Congratulations to them both! Recognizing folks for their hard work in the Union and Community.

The School Supply Program is seven years running and this year we donated 55 back packs full of school supplies to the Cornwall Alternative School. We have added another school to our list, Albert School. The goal of our Executive is that once we have three schools we will change the name to the Community Learning Program; this was the initial intention. We will continue to grow this. Thanks to Susan Butson, Chair of this Committee, for her hard work and dedication.

Labour Day Picnic – this is a joint event with the RDLC and the Saskatchewan Building Trade and many Unions who also participate. We served over 5000 hot dogs, and it was cozy on the East lawn, but some of us liked that compared to the West Lawn, which “Justice for Stolen Children” occupied. It was a great event, had a few speakers including: Ryan Meili, Ralph Goodale, Larry Hubich. Gunnar Passmore, from the Building Trades, retired and we celebrated with him; he was presented with a plaque.

There is an All Saskatchewan Labour Council Conference at the end of September 28 – 29 in Saskatoon, put on by the CLC to aid Labour Council in their mandate, governance, and give us advice on how to submit reports, technology, media info, and more. Look forward to this conference annually, table officers to attend.

Our Equity Pot Luck is coming up in November. Please look for the date and event posts.

The planning committee has met for our Annual Christmas Dinner at the Delta Hotel. We have for 18 years now and in the past few years we have served over 1600 people from the Community, who would not ever receive a hot meal for the Christmas season. Thank you to all the Unions who support, participate and volunteer for this event. This year it is booked for December 18, 2018 we will be looking for about 110 volunteers to serve and give back to our community. The United Way usually gives out tickets to their funded agencies. Please find in your Convention package a letter of appeal to help with this event. The cost of plates for food this year has doubled, due to change in management at the Delta Marriott Hotel. This location is the best and is central for most people who attend. Unions please consider giving to your community through this event.

The NDP Convention is October 12, 2018 in Saskatoon; we sent a few folks, since election season is on the horizon, we need to be prepared, since the Labour Council is very politically active, it seems appropriate.

I would like to thank the RDLC Executive members for their hard work and commitment to the Council. Your volunteerism and dedication to the community, people and society is greatly appreciated.

In Solidarity

Submitted by
Shobna Radons, President

***"Labour Councils are the heart and hands of the Labour Movement."
"Putting Unity into our Community since 1906."***

SASKATOON AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL



Summer Snack Program

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF SERVICE AND PROVIDING
NUTRITION TO OUR COMMUNITY!

THANK YOU

*Due to your generous donation and ongoing support, the
2018 SDLC Summer Snack Program was able to fulfill its mission!*

Program Summary:

- 11, 690 meals and snacks were served at 6 parks and other locations between July 2—August 28, 2018
- CLC—Prairie Region, Saskatchewan Federation of Labour and CUPE Saskatchewan each sponsored a pizza day. Any leftovers were dropped off at White Buffalo Youth Lodge.
- SEIU-West and STM Faculty Union each sponsored an ice-cream day
- Federated Co-operative Limited donated and delivered endless supplies for the program—Wow Butter, cheese, fruit, veggies, yogurt, baking supplies, paper towels, etc.
- Christie's Bakery donated 10 loaves of bread/day Tuesday through Saturday
- Thomas Fresh donated 5 to 7 cases of fruit/week
- Saskatoon Public Schools donated the use of WP Bates school nutrition room for the weekday food prep, storage and baking
- P & H Milling donated 60 loaves of bread
- Partnered with:
 - United Way of Saskatoon & Area's & GSCS's Summer Success Camps—3000 meals and snacks
 - Saskatoon Public Schools Summer Reading Camps—2250 meals and snacks
 - Agriculture in the Classroom—6 drop-offs/week and a total of 630 lunches
 - St. Mary's Fitness Camp—1125 meals and snacks

This Program would not continue without your volunteer and/or financial assistance. We sincerely appreciate both!

SDLC Top Officers and Executive Board

Submitted by,

Kelly Harrington, President

WEYBURN AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

The Weyburn & District Labour Council is meeting on a regular basis with several new delegates attending.

Many years ago the Labour Council established a memorial for April 28th, Day of Mourning and we continue to hold our annual ceremony. Labour activists and members of the community all gather on April 28th at the memorial site located behind the T. C. Douglas Calvary Centre to remember all workers killed or injured on the job due to a workplace accident.

At our AGM in June we discussed several community based activities that we would be able to organize and decided on providing free photos with Santa and will be holding that on Saturday, November 24th. Please let your members in the area know about the event.

We will be participating in the Remembrance Day ceremony by placing a wreath at the Legion's memorial.

We will participate in the Labour Council Conference being held September 28th and 29th in Saskatoon. This conference is a great opportunity for labor council activists to exchange information on how we're connecting within our communities.

Labour Councils/Committees are an important element in the labour structure of this province. While all the labour councils are working hard to raise their profile and the profile of labour in general in their communities, we know we could do much more if we had greater participation from all the affiliates. If you'd like more information on the council/committee in your area please contact the CLC at 525-6137 or the SFL at 525-0197 and they will be happy to provide you with contact information.

Submitted by
Wanda Bartlett, President
Weyburn & District Labour Council

SASKATCHEWAN UNION RETIREES FEDERATION

Over the past year we have been supplying the new Benefits package to union members who are retiring and will be losing their benefits coverage.

We have been attending and setting up inform table at affiliate union conventions and conferences. Please visit our table here in the convention foyer.

We have also been active in the Pharmcare fight alongside CURC (Congress of Union Retirees of Canada), which is an independent retirees' wing of the Canadian Labour Congress.

SURF has asked to meet with the Provincial Government, as well as the Sask NDP, to discuss how the budget affects our retired members. The Government has not met with us.

SURF's annual meeting will be held on October 24th.

SURF provides:

- Access to Pre-Retirement Planning Workshops
- Assistance to Unions forming retiree Groups/Club
- Retiree Members to participate at Labour Councils and the SFL
- Liaison with other retiree groups throughout the province
- The CURC and SURF newsletters inform you on all our activities

Membership

Any person over 50 years of age and who has, at any time in their working life, been a member of a trade union that is affiliated with the CLC, can join SURF. Spouses of union members may also join.

Individual membership is \$20 per year and a three- year membership is \$50. Couples are \$30 annually or \$80 for three years.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Monk, President
Sask Union Retirees Federation