

CSU 52 Elections: **Vote Pierre Blanchette**

For Second Vice-President / Secretary

It's about what is best for you, the Membership.



In this challenging time of 2020, experience matters. I have served on the Board of Directors for many years as Trustee, City of Edmonton Unit Director and Second-Vice President / Secretary. I've sat on many Committees from Constitution & Bylaws, Discipline, Social Committee, Hiring,

Policy & Procedure as well as Members & Community Support Committee. I've been on the bargaining committee negotiating ***four*** collective agreements with the City of Edmonton, ***one*** as the employer with CSU 52 with our unionized staff. I have been involved with hiring many of the staff to better serve you.

Change is inevitable and I embrace it. If elected **I will do what it takes to serve and support you the membership as you are CSU52.**

2020 Vote: Pierre Blanchette.

If you have any questions, please contact me at blanwit1@gmail.com

Good Evening fellow Civic Service Union 52 members.

I am Pierre Blanchette and I am seeking re-election for the Second Vice President Secretary.

I began with the City of Edmonton in 1988. Upon my joining the City, I became involved with CSU52. My first meeting was in an old hall on 110 Avenue and 97 Street. Upon entering, it was a little over whelming. It was dark inside with lots of people sitting at tables along the exterior walls drinking coffee and smoking. When the meeting started, there appeared to be a lot of in house arguing going on. I continued to go through to 1990 when meetings moved to the Norwood Legion. After a couple of years, when it became clearer to me that the City really did what it wanted, I felt the best way to make changes was to really get involved with the union.

Ever since then, I became involved. I went to meetings as within a few years, I became a shop steward. From there, I decided to run, and was successful becoming a Trustee on the Board. After my term, and not being re-elected, I decided to run and was elected to the City of Edmonton Bargaining team. From there, I was part of the team for 4 rounds of Bargaining. Accomplishments were the increase from 10% to 11% and then 12% wage adjustment for the 80-hour workers. Good percentage wage increases in the 2006 round along with all regrades brought forward. Later rounds saw increases to benefits and the Health Care Spending Account.

During the later round of Bargaining, I became the City of Edmonton Unit Director on the Board. For the last almost 4 years, I have been the Second Vice President / Secretary. I was involved in hiring minute takes, to now doing the minutes myself. One must have an understanding of what to capture on paper for the minutes. Experience is the key to success in minute taking for CSU52. I have assisted the office operation in the acting role when called upon while the President and First Vice President were unavailable.

I have also sat on many committees from Bylaws and Constitution, Discipline, Social Committee to Policy and Procedures, Hiring and most recent Public Relations and Members and Community Support Committee. I also was on the

Contract negotiations committee, where I was the Chief Negotiator for Civic Services Union 52 Management team negotiating with our office staff who are a local with the United Steel Workers. One must remember that in the role of sitting on the Board, one is part of the management team. We wear 2 hats, one being an employee within a Bargaining Unit and the other being part of Management of CSU52.

I was involved in the increasing of our compliment of Labor Relation Officers to better serve the needs of you, our membership. To ensure that you have the best representation possible. Also, I am a supporter of Member Engagement and Organizing, the Jurisdiction review of management positions that should be in our union, as well has Multi media with the ever so rapidly changing technology out there in the world today. I supported the upgrade to our computer system software and web site which will greatly help with communication and engagement with all of you. Upon our first discussions of online voting well over a year ago now, I supported and encouraged that this opportunity be viable for this round of Board Elections, pandemic or not.

I supported and was involved with the purchase of our newer location on 112 Street. Along with James Rockey, a now retiree, I established the leasable area for our tenants, whom rent space in our building and assisted our Financial administrator /Building Coordinator with the leasing agreements.

I always think about what is in the best interest of our members, making my decisions on those bases.

In my personal life, my partner and I have adopted 3 children who are now teen agers and successful young adults. I enjoy camping, gardening and especially now a days, just driving around. As well as my house full of a couple of both Dogs and Cats.

Moving forward if re-elected, I will continue to support you, our membership. In these unsettled times of this pandemic and economic uncertainty, strong leadership is key to standing up for your rights. I believe in a multicultural and all-inclusive society. I am a progressive thinker and was raised with the philosophy of always learning, continuing to grow, working with and accepting new ideas to make a better tomorrow for all.

Upon receiving the online voting forum, I ask for your support in electing me, Pierre Blanchette to the Board as your Second Vice President /Secretary.

Thank you