

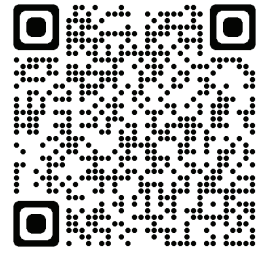
# THE ADVOCATE

## NEWSLETTER

Your Union newsletter curated by the Publications Committee and designed by CSU 52 Office Staff.

*Sandi Giesler · Deb Ketler · Tuyet Kulynych · Greg Novak · Darlene Woodham  
Lan Diep-Young*

Contact Us



## President's Message



The lovely fall weather continues into October. I hope you are all taking advantage of these summer-like temperatures and enjoying our lovely city.

September was a very busy month for CSU 52. On the 14<sup>th</sup>, we joined in

unity at Churchill Square for the Red Shirt Campaign with intentions to show City Council and their negotiating team our solidarity and support. We were joined by various other unions including the Pipefitters Union, CUPE, AUPE, NASA, the Alberta Federation of Labour (AFL), Friends of Medicare, Edmonton & District Labour Council (EDLC), IBEW, and the Boilermakers Union. Estimates of over 300 employees turned up in red shirts, some carrying signs that said, "Work Life Balance", "Devoted to our Members and Community", "No to More Hours - Less Pay", and "Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) - No Zeros". The next planned rally will be on October 13<sup>th</sup>. We expect the Red Shirt Campaign will continue with our EPCOR bargaining unit in the fall as well.

We have four of our five bargaining units currently engaged in negotiations: City of Edmonton, EPCOR, Edmonton Public Library, and Capital Power. The fifth bargaining unit, TELUS World of Science - Edmonton (TWOSE), will prepare for bargaining later this year.

With bargaining, Bill 32 issues, Covid, higher interest rates, and rising inflation, these last few years have been very difficult for our members to try and keep their heads above water. We are working very hard to bring fair and equitable agreements to each of our bargaining units, but we need your involvement and support. If you need advice or information, please call our office.

Longtime CSU 52 Labour Relations Officer Amber Andersen retired earlier this year and I want to take this opportunity to thank her and wish her luck in the next phase of her life. Amber provided dedicated service to CSU 52 and its members and she will be sorely missed.

Thank you all for your continued support as we forge ahead.

Lanny Chudyk

This year's **Harvest Banquet** will be honouring CSU 52 Members who retired in 2019 & 2020. This is a long anticipated event that has been delayed since the cancellation of the 2020 Spring Banquet.

The banquet will take place Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the St. Basil's Cultural Center (10819 71 Avenue). Cocktails at 4:30 p.m. followed by Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Swing by the CSU 52 Office by October 19<sup>th</sup> to get your \$30 tickets.



## Social Committee Events

The annual **Children's Christmas Party** is making its return to the Galaxyland indoor amusement park at West Edmonton Mall on Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

More details on how to get your \$5 tickets will be released soon.



# Bargaining Unit Directors & Chief Shop Steward Updates

## Edmonton Public Library

**Bargaining** • We are planning an EPL Red Shirt Day on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> when we have our first proposal exchange with EPL Management. We are planning a rally on that day, similar to the September 14<sup>th</sup> rally, and we will be looking for support from our City / other Units at that time.

**EPL Unit Meeting** • Our next EPL Unit Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

**EPL 101 Orientations** • I am pleased to share that our EPL member, Michelle Shimenosky, will be our Union representative at future new employee on-boarding sessions where the Union gets a few minutes to share information with new members. Michelle will do a fine job introducing our new members to CSU 52!

Lori Jeffery-Heaney

## City of Edmonton

As you are all aware, the Red Shirt Rally held on September 14<sup>th</sup> was a success. The next Rally is in support of our fellow CSU 52 members at the Edmonton Public Library.

To date, we have met with the City twice and exchanged proposals. The Negotiations Committee met on September 29<sup>th</sup> to review the employer's proposals. Our next dates for meeting with the employer are October 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The November dates are the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>.

Stay tuned for updates and check the website for future rallies in support of your bargaining team.

Pierre Blanchette

## TELUS World of Science - Edmonton

TWOSE is excited to celebrate the completion of the Aurora project renovation. We have now renovated all our permanent galleries and are ready to welcome guests to explore our new spaces.

Bernadette Blakey

## EPCOR

October 21<sup>st</sup> is set to get back to mediation after summer vacations. We will spend a full day at the table in hopes to come to an agreement. We will continue to update the membership as things progress.

Teresa Doblanko

## Fun Union Facts

### MATERNITY & PATERNITY RIGHTS



CSU 52 was one of the first unions in Canada to win maternity and paternity leave protection in a collective agreement.



## Chief Shop Steward

September 13<sup>th</sup> featured guest speaker Linda Mak from Money Mentors. Linda spoke on *Paving the Way to Your Brighter Future* and *Stretch Your Dollars: Budgeting Workbook*. All members are encouraged to contact Money Mentors as they have avenues and resources in-office and online at [www.moneymentors.ca](http://www.moneymentors.ca)

Do you need a Shop Steward at your work location? Members can nominate another member for Shop Steward year-round for areas that don't have a representative. Visit the CSU 52 website > Get Involved > Mid-Term Nominations.

Jolene Hutseal

## OVERTIME PAY

Long before it was included in employment legislation, overtime pay was mentioned in the 1919 CSU 52 Collective Agreement with the City

In 2007, CSU 52 made history by forging the Duty to Accommodate Framework Agreement with the City of Edmonton



Thank you to everyone who submitted entries for the Summer Photo Contest! There were so many wonderful photos which made it very hard for members to select their favourites. You, the members, were the judges for this contest. **Here are your top three picks:**

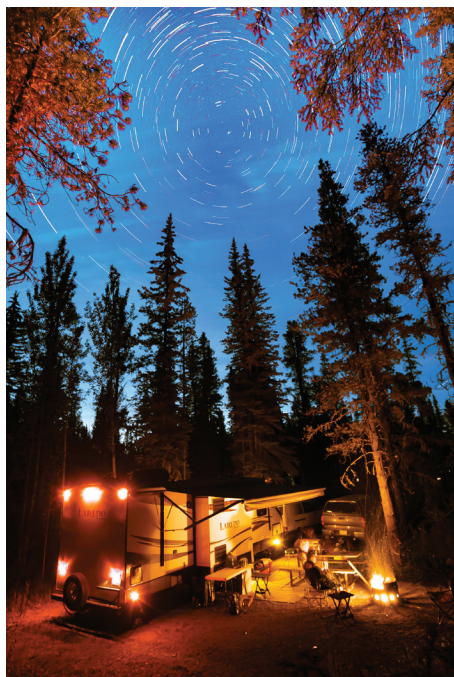
## Summer Photo Contest Winners



🏆 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
**JANNA FUNG**



🏆 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
**DANIELA BONETTO**



🏆 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
**STEVE PEDERSEN**

Pictured above, presenting their prize cheque to winners Daniela and Janna, is Publications Committee member Sandi Giesler. Unfortunately, a photo with Steve was not available at the time of publishing.



## Next General Membership Meeting

The final General Membership Meeting of 2022 will be on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion (11150 82 Street NW) located just east of the Stadium LRT Station. There is ample free parking available.

Just as the December meeting was historically held pre-pandemic, attending members will enjoy a buffet-style Christmas dinner right after the meeting is adjourned.

The meeting will also be held online through Zoom for those who are unable to attend in person. **Please register your attendance on the CSU 52 website, whether it's in person or online.**

DEC

6

# Red Shirt Campaign



Hundreds of CSU 52 members and allying organizations gathered at Churchill Square on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

A campaign to support negotiations for both the City of Edmonton and Edmonton Public Library bargaining units began over the summer. CSU 52 started by organizing people to be Red Shirt Captains in their work areas. Our captains have been busy organizing the membership about our collective actions ever since.

First, we asked everyone to sign the signature of support: "I will only accept a contract with wage increases every year and will stand in solidarity with my bargaining team!" To date, we have collected over 770 signatures – if you haven't done so, please let your voice be heard!

Then we held a series of campaign actions. We had pizza parties where we made our "I Support My Bargaining Team" buttons for members to wear. Please wear them proudly in your workplace.

We also had volunteers come out and phone-tree our members to make sure they were aware of the campaign and to spread the word to wear red at work.

Our first rally was held on September 14<sup>th</sup> - it was a great success and our show of solidarity was attention grabbing! We made it into The Sun and The Edmonton Journal news. Our "Sea of Red" made certain that everyone knows we mean business.

Not everyone could attend the rally downtown, so we offered virtual opportunities for members to participate.

Members are downloading virtual CSU 52 avatars for their online profiles. We also began a social media campaign alongside our mobilization campaign: #RedShirts #WeAreCSU52

Many of our members came together in their networks to show up to the rally. We also had allies, friends, and family show up in support. The Alberta Federation of Labour, the Edmonton & District Labour Council, NASA, Progress Alberta, UA Local 488, Friends of Medicare, and others (let's not forget about our one Boilermaker friend, too!). Our Coalition partners were also there. Blake Desjarlais (MP - Edmonton Griesbach) came to support us and gave us a great boost on his social media as well. The support we received across the spectrum of our community is reassuring that people support civic unions in getting a fair deal!

This campaign is ongoing, so please visit our website often to be sure you are getting the most up-to-date information about our campaign actions. Bargaining is a collective group sport. Join in and let's make a difference!



Brandi Thorne, Member Engagement/Union Organizing  
brandi.thorne@csu52.org • 780-784-2670

## Board of Directors and Committee Elections

### Chief Shop Steward Election

An election is required for the Board of Directors position of Chief Shop Steward. **Eligible voters will include Shop Steward members only.**

OCT  
24 to 28

The online election period will be held from Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. Watch for an email invitation from SmartBallot.

### Committee Elections

Committee nominations and elections are carried out annually at the first General Membership Meeting of the year (January 10, 2023). Over 20 committee member positions will be available. Visit the CSU 52 website for more info (Get Involved > Committees).