

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 11, 2020

Good Evening,

If you are a City of Edmonton member, you are probably aware of another round of layoffs announced on Monday, June 8th. While your Union was given a heads up the previous Friday, June 5th that there was the possibility of a few layoffs being announced on Monday, we were surprised by the number of members let go in this round, particularly since the City had discussions with CSU 52 and CUPE 30 that Friday wanting to schedule a meeting this Thursday, June 11th, to discuss the mechanics around a relaunch at the City's Recreation Facilities.

We were also generally aware that the Province would most likely announce a relaxation of the staged relaunch, so seeing the layoff announcements was somewhat surprising. If you have been laid-off or are aware of areas that have suffered layoffs and are concerned as to how they have been done, please call or email our office. You are our eyes and ears and without you and your information, we are operating blindly. While we do receive names and areas where our members are laid-off, we unfortunately do not get that same level of transparency when it comes to management staffing.

It is extremely disturbing and disappointing to see member layoffs while our City Council continues spending on projects that are not essential. It seems that as savings are realized with layoffs, Council then turns around and spends those savings on projects that could be set aside for better fiscal times. I encourage any of you that are citizens and taxpayers in Edmonton to call your Councillor or the Mayor to express your concerns. What Council should be working on, along with the Administration, is bringing back as many of our basic services as possible, transit and recreational facilities for example.

With the Provincial announcement this week, we can hope that we will see some progress in relaunching our services at Edmonton Public Library and TELUS World of Science – Edmonton units. I am hopeful we will be holding discussions in the near future around bringing those facilities back on line in some form, sooner than later. CSU 52 is planning on holding a virtual General Membership Meeting on June 23rd. Please check our website to get the meeting details needed to participate in the meeting. As we start to see the reopening of our economies, CSU 52 will be posting information as soon as we have it and have confirmed it is factual. It is important that we have your personal email addresses so as to be able to communicate with you as news and info become available. If we do not currently have your personal email please head to our website and fill out a membership card application form with your current personal contact information (<https://csu52.org/oath-card-and-membership-update-form/>) as we will be holding virtual meetings for the next while and possibly conducting elections on an online platform as well.

Please remember that as restrictions relax around COVID-19, it is still very important that we all continue to take all necessary precautions to protect ourselves and others.

***Thank you, take care and stay safe...***  
***Lanny Chudyk***