

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 23, 2020

Good Evening,

As we meet for the first time in a virtual setup for a General Membership Meeting, I ask you to please be patient as we move through a format we are not overly familiar with. I would like to start by thanking everyone who is in attendance this evening. As you may have noticed we have amended the normal agendas to allow for an efficient use of everyone's time. We have deferred all Constitution & Bylaws motions to a special meeting to be held on the 29th of July at the Kingsway Legion. Meeting address and info will be posted online so all are aware of the time, place and all motions. Under current social distancing rules and other COVID-19 requirements, the meeting will be restricted to a maximum of 100 people, and we will require pre-registration.

It is beginning to appear that COVID-19 will be with us for an extended period of time, perhaps even after a vaccine is available, so please continue to protect yourself and others by following all precautions as per our medical experts. The continuation of the pandemic will certainly continue to have an effect on all our workplaces. These effects will range from temporary to permanent layoffs, from working at a work location to working from home where possible. Life will be changed for the near future and possibly for the extended future for many of us. CSU 52 will continue to advocate on your behalf and work to protect your rights and interests. It seems that different levels of government may well attempt to use the pandemic to limit union rights and a union's ability to advocate for its members, and in many cases, for the communities where they are located. It is more important than ever that we exercise our rights as citizens and organizations by letting our elected officials at all government levels know how we feel.

Your Union is conducting discussions in all of our bargaining units as to how we relaunch services in many of our work areas. We have certainly made our different bargaining unit employers understand that while we allowed some relaxation of portions of our collective agreements during the initial onslaught of the virus these relaxations were only temporary. We fully expect that the different employer groups will respect our collective agreements and behave accordingly. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at future General Meetings and listening to your concerns.

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