

2013 AGM DAILY REVIEW

President's Address

Bills and Bargaining on the agenda



Manitoba
nurses
Union

A COMMITMENT TO CARING

MNU president Sandi Mowat welcomed delegates to the 38th Annual General Meeting of the Manitoba Nurses Union and went on to speak about a number of issues affecting the nursing profession as well as threats to unions.

Mowat drew attention to a federal bill that will roll back the automatic dues check off (Rand Formula), one of the most basic

principles established in labour relations in Canada.

“Right to work means, the right to work with all the benefits of the union while contributing nothing,” she said. “We simply cannot allow this to happen. We will join with millions of other Canadians through the CLC to ensure this does not happen.”

She reported that the inquest into the death of Brian Sinclair will begin this summer and that MNU has worked with their legal counsel to ensure that the nurses called as witnesses will be fully supported.

Finally she said that bargaining is expected to start, at the latest, by September. She anticipates that this will be a challenging round of negotiations.

“All indicators are that this will be one of the toughest rounds of bargaining we’ve had in many years.”

She said that the key factor in achieving a fair settlement is the support of MNU members. She called on the members to indicate their support for the PCBC committee and willingness to stand solidly behind them when it comes to tough times. The members responded with resounding applause, indicating their support.





Health Minister Theresa Oswald announced \$2 million for a nursing safety and security fund to implement a province-wide anti violence strategy.

Over the past two years, MNU has worked with government to bring significant changes and improvements to Workplace Safety and Health legislation and will continue to make nurse safety a priority.

Finance Motion passed

A motion to increase the honourariums for board members was presented and passed.

Board members with single sites will receive an annual honourarium of \$500, while board members with multiple sites will receive an annual honourarium of \$750.

Credentials Report

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|----------------------|------------|
| Locals Represented | 103 |
| Voting Delegates | 233 |
| Non-Voting Delegates | 142 |
| First Time Attendees | 14 |
| Guests | 8 |
| Staff | 26 |
| Total | 433 |

Governance and Structure Committee

The Governance and Structure Committee presented a proposal to change MNU's governance structure to mirror that of the employers'. The proposal requires changes to By-Law No1 and No 2 and two constitutional amendments. This proposal will require a two-thirds vote to pass, and will be voted on today.

Greetings from CFNU

CFNU president Linda Silas brought greetings on behalf of the national union.

She reminded delegates that the CFNU biennial convention is a short 32 days away.

The event attracts up to 1,000 nurses from across Canada and will be held in Toronto. Visit www.nursesunion.ca for more info.

Thanks!

Special thanks to the banquet planning committee from Assiniboine, Brandon and Parkland. A great time was had by all!

It takes a remarkable person to be a nurse.

Joy and sadness come in equal measure.

This is where inspiration is met by frustration, and where courage must outweigh fear.

This is challenging.

This is rewarding.

This is nursing!