

Local News @ 8

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We have a winner! As you can see from the new masthead, the newsletter is officially named. After receiving various suggestions, keeping with the spirit of communication, the entry by Deborah Salton, Therapy Aide at Intercare @ Millrise was selected. **Congratulations Deb!** Thanks to all the creative minds, who entered. The newsletter, on behalf of Local 8, will be issuing other contests in the future so keep reading

General Membership Meeting Highlights...

Letters of Understanding: To accommodate wage re-openers and increases being offered at various sites, changes had to be made to some articles in the collective agreements. Check with your site rep. for more detailed information.

New Site V.P.'s: The following members have been elected; Miriam Kelts, Dietary Aide at Mount Royal and Irene Chevrefils, PCA at Bow Crest. **Welcome to the executive Committee!**

Health Workforce Action Plan: A draft addressing Alberta's Health Workforce Strategies was distributed stating recommended actions--

Re: **Health Care Aide: Upgrading Skills and Wage Adjustment.** Check your bulletin boards or ask your local rep. for further details.

Educational Courses: CUPE offers a wide range of educational courses which are available to you as a member. These courses provide valuable insights as well as opportunities to become more involved with your local. A detailed list will be provided in the next newsletter.

Division Newsletter: Copies will be available at each site, highlighting the in depth work that the Alberta Division is doing on your behalf and also it contains a brief history of Local 8. Take the time to check it out.

Young Workers Group: Are you bright, energetic and under 30? We value your participation and input to help form a 'Young Workers Group'. We want to know the issues facing the youth of today. You are the future of this local and CUPE. A meeting will be scheduled this September providing further information and a chance for **your** voice to be heard. Come out and see what open doors await you!

All Committees Meetings: Alberta Division Committees will meet in Red Deer June 23rd – 24th, 2007. Executive members that will be in attendance are: Colette Singh, Anti-Privatization Political Action Committee; Deborah Salton, Women's Task Force; Lisa Byard, Newsletter Committee. Highlights will be made available in the next issue of Local News @ 8.

50/50 Draw: At every general membership meeting, Local 8 hosts a 50/50 draw. The size of the pot varies based on membership participation. The lucky winner of this meeting's draw was Ross McCuaig from Colonel Belcher. **Congratulations!**



Final Note: Our next General Membership Meeting will be held in September, elections will take place for Site Vice-Presidents and Secretary. Come out and vote for the person you want to represent you. **Your vote counts!**

Thought for the month...

Be who you are and say what you feel because those that mind don't matter and those that matter don't mind. - Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel)

Featured Member...



Andrea Dwyer, a Licensed Practical Nurse, is new to Alberta having moved here just a year ago. She is also new to Local 8, as Monterey Place ratified their first collective agreement. She

however; is not new to CUPE due to the fact that a relative is a very active rep. (it's in her blood you might say).

After arriving in Calgary, Andrea took upgrading for her nursing and acquired a position at Monterey. Which is no easy task when you're married, have three children and a grandson. She is a family orientated, warm hearted person who loves shopping, chick flicks (yes, those emotional movies that force you to explore your feelings), and road trips.

So next time you are out and about exploring our scenic country side, keep an eye out because you just might see her along the way

Humor Corner...

When I was young, I used to go "skinny dipping".
Now I just "chunky dunk".

Marriage changes passion,
Suddenly you're in bed with a relative.

Lead me not into temptation--
I can find the way myself.

Some days you are the bug,
Some days you are the windshield.

Experience is something you don't get,
Until just after you need it

Treat each day as your last;
One day you will be right

Notes to the Editor...

What is a grievance? A.L. – Brentwood Great question! The grievance is one of the most effective tools available to workers to protect their rights. For a specific definition of what a grievance is, you have to consult your collective agreement. Basically, **a grievance is a complaint in writing, against actions or lack of action, of an employer in matters relating to the terms and conditions of employment. The right to grieve is a legal right.**

Grievances arise when workers rights are violated. The initial handling of a grievance is a Local concern and is one of the most important functions of the Steward. Grievances are also very important at the bargaining table to prove the need for changes and/or additions to the collective agreement.

Could add a puzzle or brain teaser be added to the newsletter? C.W. – Renoir. Thanks for the idea. We are trying, in each issue, to feature a "lighter side" section. Last month there was a recipe and this month the issue contains a humor corner. Keep reading and you just might discover in future issues that we have included an opportunity for you to "boggle your brain"

Good and Welfare...

Regrettably, we bid a fond farewell to Brother Rene Gripping. As Site Vice President of George Boyack for many years as well as Warden during our meetings, he brought forth, with him, a sense of humor and keen wit as well as the voice of our male members. He will be sadly missed

Calling all members! Your newsletter is your information station but it is also your voice. If you have any comments, suggestions, concerns or questions please contact your job steward or any member of your executive. They can also be emailed to 1_byard@hotmail.com. Your submissions (stories, recipes, photos, etc.) are always welcome.

Editorial Policy: The newsletter is an open forum for all members but the local union is responsible for respecting individual rights, legalities and editing items for good taste.