

# **GMM PRESIDENTS REPORT**

**JULY 21, 2021**

## **CLC CONVENTION UPDATE**

Since our last GMM, Bea Bruske has been elected President of the CLC. This is a huge success for Bea and UFCW and we know she will do a great job steering Canada's Labour Movement.

Following the CLC convention on June 18, we conducted an emergency Executive Board meeting and the board elected Marie Buchan as our new Secretary Treasurer for the remainder of this term of office which ends December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021.

Marie is an incredibly hard worker and very quick learner and we know she will excel in her new role. Local 832 is very lucky to have such a skilled and competent person on our leadership team and we are all excited for the future of our local.

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

In June, Vice President Ted Bacalzo resigned his position at Hylife Foods and was therefore no longer eligible to be a board member.

Also in June, Vice President Jeremy Miller from Malteurop announced he was stepping down from his Executive Board position for personal reasons. June 18 was the last meeting for both Jeremy and Ted.

To deal with these new vacancies, we conducted an emergency board meeting on Sunday June 27 and filled the two vacant positions with Dave Hamalainen from the Sobeys Retail Support Centre and Tim Whitford from Hylife Foods.

Please join me in congratulating both new Vice Presidents.

## **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Effective September 7, 2021, Ron Allard will become the newest member of the Local's leadership team when he becomes the Executive Advisor to the President. Ron started his career as an organizer and has been an exemplary servicing rep for many years building strong connections with our members and activists so his new portfolio overseeing Servicing, Organizing and Member Engagement starting in September is perfect for him.

Max Paches is someone who all UFCW staff rely on very often and regularly and he has never let any of us down. Behind the scenes Max

works very hard keeping all aspects of our 4 properties maintained and equipped all while providing IT support, advice and improvements. Effective September 7, 2021, Max will become the Director of IT, Facilities and Privacy as well as overseeing Local 832's Health and Safety Committee.

### **COVID-19**

Just when you think we're making our way out of the pandemic another issue surfaces that requires a significant amount of thought and discussion to get through it. The latest is employers taking steps toward policies of mandatory vaccinations and/or testing for our members. Last week we became aware that Extencare, Life's Journey and BCO have all written new policies on this issue and our reps are in the process of dealing with these employers.

There is also a trend for employers to start asking employees their vaccination status and we are seeking the best legal advice to deal with this issue.

### **WELCOME WEBINAR**

We have our first Welcome Webinar this Wednesday evening at 7 pm being hosted by our Training Centre. Please go to the Training Centre's website for more details.

### **MAPLE LEAF EXPANSION UPDATE**

The expansion at the Maple Leaf Plant on Lagimodiere has been pushed back to October 12 for construction delays. Once completed, the plant will roughly double its bacon capacity and will hire an additional 450 employees.

As we head into the middle of a Manitoba summer, I want to wish all of you an enjoyable season as we put the pandemic behind us. UFCW workers in Manitoba have remained at the front lines throughout the last 18 months and I want to let you know how much we all appreciate your commitment and sacrifice and how proud we are at Local 832 to be able to represent such a fine group of people.

Happy Summer everyone!

As reported by  
Jeff Traeger  
President  
UFCW Local 832