

President's Message



by **Bob Moroz**
MAHCP President

In December's issue of MAHCP News, I described a number of staffing changes that have either happened or were in the process of being filled. I am pleased to announce that Scott McLaren was hired as a Labour Relations Officer. Scott brings with him a great deal of Labour Relations

experience, beginning with the Canadian Auto Workers beginning in the mid-1990s. His experience there included everything from collective bargaining, Collective Agreement enforcement, and disability management. Most recently, he has been the National Representative for the Director's Guild of Canada.

I also let the members know that we were going ahead with the creation of a Communications Officer position. The posting for this position resulted in over 30 applications being received by our office. After interviewing a very talented short list, an offer was made to the successful candidate. As I write this article, we are in the midst of finalizing all of the details. An announcement will be made as soon as we are able.

On the bargaining front, we have seen a lot of work happening since our last newsletter was published. The committee for Aboriginal Health and Wellness has been hard at work at that table. The committee for Gamma Dynacare is back at the table following those members rejecting the

employer's final offer back in January. The Central Table Bargaining Committee will have completed another 20 days of bargaining by the end of March. The pace of that table has definitely slowed now that we are discussing what are termed "monetary proposals." The employer continues to have a number of proposals on the table that we see as attempts to erode the rights and benefits of the members. We continue to fight these proposals and are still very focused on the major issues, namely workload and extremely low wages relative to the national scales.

Many of you are painfully aware of the SAP payroll system that has existed for some time now at HSC and other sites and is being rolled out to all WRHA sites in the relatively near future. The problems with this system continue. Following the most recent Manitoba Council of Health Care Unions, it was decided that we would put together a group of senior elected union officials and meet directly with the Minister of Health and Minister of Labour to express our members' frustration at the lack of improvements to this payroll system. I will be a part of that group and will update members regarding when that meeting will take place and what the response is.

In this issue and on our website, facebook etc., you will find some information on the Lace Up for Diabetes run which will take place on May 25, 2015 at Assiniboine Park. Please take a moment to consider participating, either as a runner or volunteer. MAHCP volunteers will be working in the food tent and I would love to see a small army of our members wearing our T-shirts. Let's show Manitoba that we are here and proud of our contribution to the healthcare of this province.