

# Solidarity is silver lining during trying times in health care

It looks like summer may have arrived in Manitoba and I hope you will have a chance to enjoy many of the festivals, activities and all that our province has to offer over the coming few months.

I have written and spoken many times about the challenging times we are finding ourselves in as Allied Health Professionals.

We have finally heard about some dates for the implementation of Phase 2 of the WRHA's re-organization plan. The WRHA and the Pallister government like to talk about all the success of Phase 1. I contend that it is easy to consider a plan a success if you ignore the chaos that these changes are producing.

I hear almost daily about workplaces and workloads that have become nearly unbearable and the disrespect our members are facing is significant. We continue to push the Employer(s) to stop the madness of treating our members as if we are the enemy and responsible for the shortcomings in our system. I will continue to convey the stories I hear from you to those in senior leadership of Shared Health and the WRHA.

Robert Pruden has been appointed Commissioner to manage the Bill 29 representation legislation. As of writing of this article, MAHCP has not yet met with Mr. Pruden. There is a meeting scheduled for the first week of June, and I will likely be able to update members shortly after that if we learn anything from that meeting.

Our Bill 28 challenge has made its way into court last week when a judge heard our case for



MAHCP President Bob Moroz and Manitoba Nurses Union President Sandi Mowat, who retires now in June, at the Lace Up for Diabetes event on April 29, 2018.

an injunction against this wage restraint legislation. We argued that even though Bill 28 is not officially law in the province, its existence on the Premier's desk is having the same effect as if it were the law already. A decision on the injunction is expected to be delivered by early July.

Times like these are definitely trying.

It is also at times like these that we build and expand our relationships. Thanks to the combined efforts of more than 25 public sector unions, solidarity and co-operation is as strong as I have ever seen in my time with MAHCP.

We are also building new relationships. I am very proud to sit on the Board of Directors of the Manitoba Health Coalition. This Coalition will be an advocacy body for publicly

funded, publicly delivered health care in Manitoba. We are hoping for a late June launch of this new organization made up of community, research, labour and indigenous groups, right around the time the Provincial Health Ministers will be meeting in Winnipeg.

Again, I wish that each of us has a chance to get out and experience all that this province has to offer during our short, short, summer. I'd like to thank all those members who have come out with your Union at the many events we have attended so far this spring.

In Solidarity,  
Bob Moroz  
MAHCP President