

# Canadian Union of Brewery and General Workers Component 325

September 2007

# LOCAL NEWS

## Local Elections

Local elections will take place on the 26th of October and the 9th of November, with nominations taking place at the October Membership Meeting. Installation of New Officers is affective the 1st Monday of December. You will find a copy of the duties and responsibilities, as is laid out in our Constitution, posted on the Union board. We encourage all to get involved in the election, be informed, question those that choose to run, make an informed decision and please cast your ballot. These are critical elections for our local with Brother Greco retiring and contract negotiations in 2009. We will also be canvassing for Scrutineers (an election committee of three) to run the vote as we approach Election Day. The Committee as always must be approved by the Membership.

## Expenses and Compensation

Just a reminder that with the upcoming Nomination Meeting, our Constitution requires a review and vote of expenses and compensations for all Stewards and Executive members. This will take place at the October nomination meeting. Any concerns or questions you may have regarding these matters are to be dealt with there.

## Membership Meetings

# Canadian Union of Brewery and General Workers

## Component 325

Our next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Sunday September 16. General business as well as nominations for Midnight Alternate Steward in the Warehouse are on the agenda. Our meeting dates are always posted for the year on this bulletin board. Please plan on attending whenever you are able.

### Edmonton Closure

A copy of the Plant Closure Agreement negotiated between the CAW and the Company was sent to the our Union Office by the Edmonton Local along with correspondence thanking our Local for our assistance during what were and are extremely difficult times for our Brothers and Sisters in Edmonton. Please drop by the office if you are interested in giving it a read.

### Committee Meetings

Our next Committee Meeting is scheduled for the 13th of September. The entire Local 325 Committee, get together four times a year at the Quality Suites Hotel on Dixon Road to discuss a wide range of issues that are of concern to the Membership. It has always been a great opportunity for all in attendance to see what is happening in the other departments and to see if solutions in one area can fit the next. Thanks to all for their ongoing contributions.

### Benefits

We continue to encounter problems with Manulife regarding the management of our benefit plan. We have met with the Company as well as representatives of Manulife on a number of occasions

attempting to resolve ongoing issues around eligibility of certain claims (coverage). We encourage all of our members to check with the Union office regarding any denied claim. Our members have on occasion been given incorrect information from Manulife, denied valid claims, requested to provide more information than what is required under our collective agreement, as well as requesting the same information on multiple occasions. Please inform the Office of any problems in this regard ASAP.

### Industry Negotiations

Some of the members have been asking questions regarding upcoming Brewing Industry Negotiations. London Labatt are the next ones to head into bargaining at the end of 2008, our local follows with our contract expiring December 2009 and the Montreal Molson Local going at the end of 2010. We continue to meet regularly with the Montreal Local both hear in Toronto, and in Montreal. The relationship is strong, the lines of communication open. We have also had a couple of opportunities to meet and discuss upcoming talks with the Union Leadership at London Labatt.

### NUPGE Board Meeting

Brothers Greco and Menezes will be in attendance at our National Unions Executive Board Meeting being held in Gatineau, Quebec on September

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17th, 18th. These meetings are held four times a year and bring together leaders of all the 12 components that make up NUPGE (National Union of Public and General Employees). To find out more about your National Union, check them out on line at [www.nupge.ca](http://www.nupge.ca)

## Health Care Premium

The issue of the health care premium went to arbitration in August and I am sorry to report the decision of the Arbitrator went in favour of the Company. Members will not see any difference in their pay stubs, we have all been paying this premium through payroll deduction since it was introduced in the first Liberal Budget. Some Unions have argued successfully at Arbitration and forced the Employer to pay this premium, others not. These cases tend to turn one way or the other, based on very old Collective Agreement language. Ours the Arbitrator felt was not strong enough.

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