



# Local in Motion

## ATU 569 Member News

### Spring 2018



Mark Tetterington  
President

#### Transit Review Update

**Last year after pressure from the** Union and various Seniors Groups, City Council voted against the use of Private Ride Share Companies to provide service in lower ridership areas of the City.

Since that time there was a Civic

Election which took place in October of 2017.

In November of 2017, Councillor Andrew Knack once again reintroduced a motion to explore the possibility of using Private Ride Share Companies under the Transit Review.

The City was supposed to come back to the Urban Planning Committee on April 17, 2018 with a recommendation to Council as to whether or not they recommend using Private Ride Share Companies.

Since November of last year, I have been lobbying City Councillors drumming up support to vote against using Private Ride Share Companies.

The Union has also obtained a legal opinion from Nugent Law which states under our labour certificate that ATU 569 members are to be the sole providers of collection of transit fares through out the City of Edmonton.

The City has asked Council for an extension until November 13, 2018 before it makes any recommendations as to the use of Ride Share Companies.

In the meantime, the Union will continue to fight off any possible threats of privatization.

I would also like to wish all of our members a safe and happy summer.

#### Survey for Main, DATS & Diversified (St. Albert Division) Collective Agreements

**For active members only, please see enclosed survey and return as soon as possible.**

**What is important to you?** All of the Collective Agreements are expiring in December of this year. Before the Union commences bargaining, we would like to hear back from **YOU**, the



membership, as to what are the most important changes you would like to see in your contract.

Please submit any other suggestions not listed that you would like to see in the next contract.

Please complete and return the form to ATU Local 569 at 10540 108 Street or email the form to: [office@atu569.ca](mailto:office@atu569.ca)

#### Stay Connected with ATU

**Would you like to join our mass email** list for occasional emails? Due to the sensitive nature of ATU emails, we would require you to provide your home email address.

Do we have your current home address? Please contact the Union office if you have a change of contact information including your email



address by calling 780-426-6136 or email: [office@atu569.ca](mailto:office@atu569.ca)

Our website was recently unavailable however it is now up and running. Reminder to view our website for the latest news at: [www.atu569.ca](http://www.atu569.ca)

Let us know if you would be interested in having the newsletter emailed to your home address instead of receiving a paper copy. Thank you.



Daryll Miller  
Financial Secretary  
Treasurer

## Automation or Customer Service? You Won't Get Both

**Councillor Andrew Knack has been** in the news recently pushing for Edmonton to be the Canadian Testing Zone for driverless cars and for use in our Transit System. This is right on the heels of a fatality in Arizona (a state known for minimal regulation that companies go to when they want to test their new equipment) where a driverless car struck and killed a woman walking her bike across the street at a clearly marked crosswalk. The technology clearly has a long way to go, and Edmonton's citizens shouldn't be the guinea pigs endangered while it develops.

When a human driver makes a mistake behind the wheel and harms someone there are consequences and accountability for the individual. What happens when a driverless car or bus kills a family member? This is a quote from Uber after the death in Arizona

**Uber's CEO, tweeted: "Some incredibly**

**sad news out of Arizona. We're thinking of the victim's family as we work with local law enforcement to understand what happened."**

**"The robot cars cannot accurately predict human behavior, and the real problem comes in the interaction between humans and the robot vehicles," John M. Simpson, privacy and technology project director with Consumer Watchdog.**

There is so much talk of Public Safety that we make hundred's of 30 km playground and school zones to protect our children, yet in the next breath Councillor Knack proposes the idea of driverless cars driving through these same neighbourhoods. You can't have it both ways, if you're for the safety of your citizens you can't be for testing driverless technology on the streets of Edmonton. I'm not willing to lose a single life to test a new technology.

Automation is not all bad, and in some cases, it makes our day to day lives easier. But who benefits the most from Automation? Private business' do, they reduce their costs by cutting staff and benefits and replacing them with software or equipment. How many of us miss the days of calling our bank and talking to a human being when needing customer service? I know I get frustrated when I have to go through six different menus on my phone and then I'm put on hold because they

have reduced their staffing levels and the software can't handle the number of calls coming in. This is not good Customer Service and we the public do not benefit from it. Sure, the bank saves money, but do we? No, and it's the same for the City. The service levels will drop but we will keep on paying the same taxes even though we no longer get the service we deserve.

If this spreads to your Public Transit service with driverless buses and trains, what will be the effects? Who are you going to ask for directions? Who is going to assist your grandmother boarding the bus during a blizzard? Who is going to call for help when a medical condition occurs or someone is assaulted on the train? Then if you have a problem with your Transit experience you can call 3-1-1 (hopefully you get an Operator and not an Automated menu) and have it looked into and be notified of the results.

The City of Edmonton has to be fiscally responsible to us the taxpayers. At the same time, we have to ask how do we benefit from the changes proposed? Will our transit system be better with driverless vehicles and outsourced to private companies like Uber? Public service has to be provided to it's citizens. The Public Service provided also needs to provide great customer service and you don't get that with Automation.



Jose Hernandez  
Vice President  
Maintenance

## Maintenance Update

**It is already 17 months working** in the position as a Vice President Maintenance, Assistant Business Agent for Local 569 which day by day I am putting all my knowledge, skills and experience to represent members in their best interest making sure wages, hours of work, fringe benefits and working conditions are covered for all

our members.

The process to correct things take place little by little but the results are reflected positively in the system. Your patience, understanding, information and feedback, allow me to work harder with good elements in any particular matter.

Fleet Service Department had a title for some members, for a long time, as Service Trained Cleaners which never existed in the Collective Agreement. This issue is fixed and followed up as our Collective Agreement indicates.

The topic of Sign Up is slowly rectified in all the Maintenance Departments such as: Transit Utility Workers, Maintenance Repair Worker, Track

Maintainers, Facility Maintainer, Mechanics, Service Persons, Cleaners, Foremen, Stores Coordinator, Tech I, Tech II, etc.. There are so many aspects to discuss items, following up the mechanism and procedures which take time to resolve. I am working daily on this and the outcome is categorical. As an example, Corporate Service Parts Department members are now able to sign any facility they want based on their seniority. For years they could not do that.

In Fleet Services, seniority is back in recognition as the Collective Agreement is written. Two Relief Service Foremen were placed based on Seniority.

Wishing you all a safe summer. Enjoy.





Martha Martinez  
Recording Secretary

## Giving Back to the Community

On Saturday November 4, 2017 the Women's Caucus (WC) hosted the 2nd Annual Vendor's Market. Over 20 home based businesses filled our hall. We also hosted a bake sale which raised \$843, which was matched by our Local with proceeds going to help YESS!!!



On December 12th we filled and delivered over 100 back packs with everyday essentials going to Laurana House and SAGE.



Left to right back: Anita Gates, Randy Severinsen, Merry LeBlanc. Left to right front: Lorie Hudson, Joyce MacKenzie, Kelly Dumouchel, Georgina Eccleston, Sherry McNeil, Denise Meyer, Martha Martinez.

## Donations & Yarn Wanted

Once again we are collecting donations of assorted toiletries, new or gently used clothing for men, women and children and/or cash in order to fill and provide backpacks/bags to approximately 100 shelter recipients. A list of possible donations – toothbrushes, toothpaste, wet wipes, dental piks, dental floss, women's hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, combs, brushes, cough drops, kids' toys and puzzles, kids'

activity books, crayons, gum, band aids, hair elastics, hemorrhoid cream, baby powder, Vaseline, hand cream, etc.



If you or someone you know has yarn that is not being used, please donate it to the Women's Caucus.

For more information regarding donations, please contact Martha Martinez at 780-265-1022.

We graciously would like to extend a heartfelt **"Thank you"** to our donors from DATS and Operators for helping those less fortunate. This campaign could not be possible if it weren't for the support and monetary donation from Local 569.

## Congratulations to the Following Retired Members Living the Dream

John Anderson - March 24, 2018	Kimberly Benvie - November 8, 2017	Larry Berezanski - January 5, 2018
Kevin Bray - March 17, 2018	Rick Checknita - May 14, 2018	Patrick Conlin - March 31, 2018
Elmer Doucet - June 30, 2018	Dallas Dyck - May 9, 2018	Frank Faber - January 17, 2018
Charles Fisher - September 3, 2017	Dwayne Forbs - June 20, 2018	Katherine Fowler - December 21, 2017
Ray Frigon - May 1, 2018	David Gairdner - January 16, 2018	Lorne Glass - April 29, 2018
Darrell Guay - April 15, 2018	Janis Hargreaves - March 13, 2018	Don Hitsman - October 25, 2017
James Hoover - December 30, 2017	Craig Hudson - April 11, 2018	Claude Keller - February 25, 2018
Greta Kiernan - June 8, 2018	Ray Labrie - October 14, 2016	Theo Lambrechts - September 22, 2017
Thomas Latcham - April 29, 2018	Geoff Malkin - June 30, 2018	Dennis McCrae - November 29, 2017
Wallace Mock - January 11, 2018	Doug Moore - December 9, 2017	Bruce Olausen - February 18, 2018
Debbie Palmar - October 2017	John Palmer - July 14, 2018	Richard Patterson - April 8, 2018
Jim Perron - April 28, 2018	Vincent Pollard - July 22, 2017	Barry Posehn - May 9, 2018
Dennis Presisniuk - February 10, 2018	John Robertson - June 20, 2015	Patrick Robinson - February 3, 2018
Gordon Russell - November 23, 2017	Douglas Ryan - November 2, 2017	Nasrullah Saleh - January 24, 2018
Dietmar Schlotter - Sept. 13, 2017	Greg Schultz - February 10, 2018	Terry Shook - December 3, 2017
Heather Stewart - September 30, 2017	Norman Stewart - September 30, 2017	Blake Tally - February 1, 2018
Jon Tennesen - May 12, 2018	Albert Vanoni - January 27, 2018	Larry Waselenchuk - Sept. 9, 2017
Donald Wilmott - January 20, 2018	Steve Winter - November 23, 2017	



**Amalgamated Transit Union  
Local 569**

Doors  
open @  
1930

# SUMMER FAMILY SOCIAL

**WORLD WATER PARK @ WEM**  
**Saturday, June 16, 2018**  
**7:30 PM to 10:30 PM**

**FREE FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY ONLY**

**PICK UP TICKETS AT THE WATERPARK ENTRANCE**  
**Limit of 5 tickets. If more tickets are**  
**required have proof & present**  
**Blue Cross Card**



**Mark Tetterington, President/BA**  
**10540 108 Street NW Edmonton, AB T5H 2Z9**

**Save the Date**

**This Year's Retirement Banquet**

**September 29, 2018**

**New Location Edmonton Expo Centre**



**Retiree Bus Pass Update - Your current retiree bus pass will be valid until further notice by the City**

**Upcoming Regular Membership Meetings**

**May 22 & June 26, 2018 10:00 am & 7:00 pm**

**Union Hall 10540 - 108 Street**



**Denise Meyer**  
Community Service  
Operator

## Is Your House in Order?

**In the last little while I have got my** house in order by getting my Will, DNR Order, Mental Capacity Documents and how I wish my body dealt with upon my death done. It is very important

that everyone have these documents in order, especially if you have children and/or a spouse. Also, if you have any property, assets or valuables that it is spelled out how they are to be disposed of. Death and money often do not make for good family relationships. These documents can help prevent any misunderstandings or issues.

If you have a very straight forward will, go to:

<http://www.gblegalclinic.com/will%20kit.pdf>

Edmonton West Primary Care Network Patient-Education Workshops provides the following courses:

**Personal Directives** - personal directive and power of attorney

**When I'm 64** - overview of federal & provincial benefits

Good luck and please get your houses in order.

**This Newsletter can be  
accessed on our  
website: [atu569.ca](http://atu569.ca)**

## In Remembrance of Deceased Members

Faizal Bacchus - February 10, 2018	Samuel Davies - January 24, 2018
Michael Eagleson - October 21, 2017	Mohamod Haymour - March 18, 2018
Gordon Jarvis - February 22, 2018	Debra Lafferty - August 31, 2017
Peter Lubbers - August 7, 2017	Maurice Mackie - November 20, 2017
Welcome Magaya - November 22, 2017	Ewald Pgetzke - October 17, 2017
Gordon Roberts - November 20, 2017	George Ward - September 30, 2017
Brent Whitford - August 24, 2017	Albert Wideski - November 30, 2017