

WENDY SOL
REPORT FOR THE WOMEN AND EQUITY COMMITTEES
SEPTEMBER 2011

National Financial Picture as of June 30, 2011:

General Fund	\$ 7,660,611
Defence Fund	\$39,086,263
Organizing Fund	\$ 4,172,835

The revenue is under budget but can be attributed to the postal lockout. Our expenses remain under budget by \$384, 599.

Humanity Fund:

Donations made were:

\$5,000 to the Red Cross for the Manitoba and Quebec Floods

\$5,000 for the Alberta Wild Fires

\$5,000 to Japan earthquake and tsunami, as well as

\$25,000 to the Oxfam appeal for the humanitarian crisis in East Africa.

The Humanity Fund and CEP have extended an invitation for a sister from our UNI affiliation and project in Zimbabwe to attend our National Women's Conference.

Convention 2012:

The convention will be reduced by one (1) day and the social events (i.e. the first evening reception, casino night and traditional banquet) will be combined to be a modest solidarity evening.

Canadian Human Rights Museum:

The first Federal museum outside of Ottawa is being built in Winnipeg. This museum will be unique and is touted as more of a Human Rights Centre inspiring people to focus on present day events with roots from the past. This is a new kind of museum - "idea centered" - with the ability for distance learning and an on-line virtual museum. There will be a labour section highlighting the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike. CEP has donated \$10,000 and we will be permanently recognized in the museum. CEP will evaluate future support as the museum progresses. The labour community is insisting on a representative on the Board of Directors.

Young Workers:

Unfortunately the Young Workers Conference scheduled for June was cancelled due to lack of registrations. It was agreed at the NEB that if the Young Workers do not host a conference in 2012, that the money set aside for the conference would be distributed to the regions to be used to encourage young worker participation in the regions.

The Western Region has offered ten \$1,000 bursaries for Locals who send young workers to attend the Western Region Conference in October and, in addition, our two Western Region young worker representatives will automatically receive the bursary.

Provincial Politics:

This fall there are several provinces conducting elections and it is important we get involved and understand what the candidates stand for.

In Manitoba the Conservative opposition launched their campaign and leader Hugh McFayden was piped in by the band L.M.F.A.O. and their Party Rock Anthem. For those of you not familiar with this band or song it is quite misogynist and sexist.

Below is a letter to the editor I submitted.

*Letter to the Editor
Winnipeg Free Press*

Re: Tories put on new face August 31st "McFayden was introduced to the throbbing sounds of Party Rock Anthem". Conservative Party and Hugh McFayden's choice of song to launch their campaign is very telling and certainly sends a message of a lack of respect for women. "I'm runnin through these hoes like drano". And there is more...No apology will suffice to explain this blatant disrespect to the citizens of Manitoba. This speaks volumes about the candidate and the party, shame!"

McFayden's response is it is only the NDP who are making an issue out of this. Clearly the Conservatives just don't get it and I am ok if he wants to give credit to the NDP for their equity stance and being the conscience of the citizens of Manitoba.

I would like to welcome Sister Patty Barrera who is our new Director of Special Projects and staff support for the National Equity Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Sol
Western Region Administrative Vice-President

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