



Regina & District LABOUR COUNCIL

The Regina & District Labour Council President's Report 2020 & 2021

On May 10 & 11, 2019 at our last AGM, combined the AGM with the Awards Banquet. It was a successful Friday and Saturday event. The AGM for 2020 unfortunately had to cancel due to Global Pandemic, COVID 19.

The Awards Banquet May 10, 2019; there were two worthy recipients who did exemplary work in their Community and Unions; Dodie Ferguson from CUPW 820 was the winner of the Community Service Award, and Muna DeCiman from SGEU 1101 was the winner of the Award of Distinction.

With new and returning Executive Members we had an orientation night was held on June 8, 2019 where we went over the constitution, our motions and policies, what good governance looks like, what each Executive and Alternate Vice President's expectations were and what they intended to bring to the table and contribute to their Labour Council. Michelle Lang from PSAC 40005, was elected as First Vice-President.

The RDLC along with the Building Trades joined to co-sponsor the event, many Local Unions also participate in this event. We had the buns and hotdogs purchased, and that weekend it was rained out and we had to cancel in September 2019. The food was donated to local community organizations to help those in need in our community. Unfortunately we had to Cancel for 2020 due to the Global Pandemic.

2019 we continued relationships was built with community organizations from the previous years. However 2020, in the early part of the year when everything was shut down, there was not a lot of connections until we figured out how to communicate and use the virtual world to meet.

August 2019 and 2020 we continue to support Cornwall Alternative School. The School Supply Program that many Unions have contributed to. See the Education Committee report for more details on this.

On November 20, 2019 was the Equity Potluck and had 40 to 50 people attended, it was a great turn out, a lot of new people from the Transgender community attended. We joined with them to recognize Trans Day of Remembrance. Where the names of all the Trans people who were killed because of their identity. It was an opportunity to connect and build a relationship with the people from the Trans community. This was a somber event, however we made new friends that we support in their fight and struggles.

We had to cancel the potluck for 2020, due to COVID 19.

December 2019 was the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), “All Labour Council’s Conference in Regina: where political action is always discussed and how to maneuver community and our internal executives along with sharing Council Highlights & Achievements and went over plans for the next year. Again this had to be canceled in 2020 due to the Pandemic.

In December we held the Unions of Regina Christmas Dinner, and the many volunteer, we met with the Hotel to sort out details for December 2019. The 19th Annual Christmas Dinner was another success, where we served 600 – 800 people, a hot Christmas meal. Thank you to all the Unions who contributed and took the call and gave generously. The number of tickets had to be reduced due to the cost of the meals per plate, which were doubled the price from the previous years. We could only print 1000 tickets, 600 less from the previous year. We also had 80 volunteers. Thank you to all that participated to make this a huge and continued success to serve those who may not receive a hot meal for the holiday season.

February 22, 2020 we did have our Equity Conference, where we had 2 panels with members from the community; Climate Change and Populism, which covered Islamophobia, Transgender and Indigenous matters. Very intimate group with heart felt discussions on these very important topics.

The Christmas Dinner had to be cancelled for 2020 due to global pandemic – COVID 19. However, Regina & District Labour Council was able to assist Cornwall Alternative School with a donation to the winter maintenance fund for the school’s recently received donation of a new van. This van is used to drop off schoolwork kits to all students during the pandemic shutdown of their facility & it will continue to be used to transport students to & from school once in-school instruction can resume. Donation covered the cost of new winter tires. Each student received a stocking stuffed with Christmas candy, candy cane reindeers for their entire family & gift card to be used at any of the following stores: Superstore, Great Canadian Wholesale, Independent Food Stores, No-Frills in the amount of \$60. Donation to Van Winter Maintenance \$ 1416.09 & Costs of Gift Stockings \$1941.63 for a total of \$3357.72. There is a more detailed report provided by Sister Dodie Ferguson, who is no longer with us; she has moved on to other adventures and more education. She will continue to support our movement in solidarity, Thank you Sister Dodie.

United Way Regina and the RDLC, we continue to have two members from Labour on the Board, an opportunity to keep that relationship going, Marg Romanow and Wendy Daku are the Labour Representatives on the Board.

In March for International Women’s Day we did work together with the United Way as a joint initiative with CLC and Labour Council, where we continued to support Tampon Tuesday. RDLC Donated \$500 in both 2020 & 2021.

April 28, 2020 - Day of Mourning was done virtually and was a huge success, we did it again on April 28, 2021 via Webinar with a few speakers from the province and community. We did the best with new technology.

Had to cancel May works events for 2020 and 2021.

Last year on June 29, 2020; we lost a very hard core activist; involved in politics, went to many meetings in the community, she was connected. If you wanted to know who was who or what's what in our community and province. She was a very active member of Saskatchewan Federation of Union Retirees (SFUR). You would be sure if you asked her she would tell you. **Maureen Eckstein** was involved for many years on the RDLC and participated on many committees; including Equity and mostly Political Action. She had a sharp wit and told it the way it was. She will be missed by the community and by all who knew her.

On November 9, 2020 saw the election of many RDLC endorsed candidates in the municipal election for the city of Regina. There were six endorsed candidates, of which five were successfully elected. There were three school board trustees, of which two were elected. Huge shout outs to all who participated and helped in getting these candidates elected and the Chairperson of the PAC Darin Milo and the committee. Thanks also to Michael Kurtz, Deanna Ogle, and the Canadian Labour Congress. For a more detailed report see Political Action Committee Report.

December 6, 2020 Day of remembrance to stop violence against Women. This event was virtual for 2020 and RDLC made a video and shared on Facebook.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the RDLC Executive for your commitment to your Labour Council and most of all for your participation and contributions to guide your labour council. We help to build a strong community and make a difference to those most in need.

I would like to extend a special thank you to the Table Officers; Michelle Lang, Susan Butson, and Colette Martin for all the extra, and behind the scenes work done prior to meetings, planning sessions, emergency meetings. It is an honour to work with all of you and all of our Vice Presidents, you represented your Unions and Locals and RDLC very well.

In Solidarity my Brothers, Sisters and Friends!!



Shobna Radons

President

Regina & District Labour Council

"Labour Councils are the heart and hands of the Labour Movement."

"Putting Unity into our Community."