

msot Update

Manitoba Society of Occupational Therapists

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Hello, and Happy Summer!

I hope you have enjoyed this beautiful summer weather, and have made time for your own leisure activities! MSOT does not formally meet over the summer months, but as always, we have a few things underway.

We have welcomed a volunteer, Ken Keating, who is working on some projects for us over the summer. He is exploring a career change to become an Occupational Therapist. Check out his submission to learn more about him. We look forward to seeing his contributions!

As you know, we have compiled information related to the upcoming union votes and put this on our website. We had many people reach out because of difficulty logging on to the members portal and viewing the content. We contacted the host of our website who was able to make some changes that have proven successful. Please continue to reach out – we are always open to feedback and feel it is a priority to ensure our communications are as accessible as possible.

We are meeting at the beginning of August to prepare for our Annual General Meeting in October. We plan to do a blended model of in-person and online again this year. We are also looking at bringing in a speaker to add to the evening. If you have someone you would specifically like to hear from, we would be open to suggestions.

I would like to take a moment to thank the office staff, particularly Sandra Nowicki. She really keeps our ship afloat and we are always thankful for her hard work, and the positive relationship we share with her, Carmen and Sharon. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Come September, we will be back at it with meetings and preparation for OT month! Looking forward to what advocacy initiatives await.

Respectfully,

Esther Hawn,
MSOT President

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Bill 29 - The Health Sector Bargaining Review Act: Union votes will occur from August 18-22, 2019

The MSOT Board has compiled important information for members to review in order to stay informed about the voting process and the participating unions.

Bill 29, The Health Sector Bargaining Unit Review Act, became law in 2018 and all health professionals will be asked to vote on which union they want to represent them (to decrease the number of bargaining units for health care employees from 190 to 36).

A commissioner has been assigned to make this into action (<https://www.bill29commissioner.com/>) and the website indicates that the voting process will allow unionized employees in each new bargaining unit to determine which union will represent all of the employees in that new bargaining unit in the future.

Voting is to occur between August 8-22, 2019. Voting will occur via telephone or online. According to the Commissioner's website it is anticipated that there will be two sets of votes:

Phase 1:

- Interlake-Eastern Health Region Employers Organization
- Prairie Mountain Health Region Employers Organization
- Southern Health Region Employers Organization
- Northern Regional Health Authority Employers Organization

Phase 2:

- Winnipeg-Churchill Health Region Employers Organization
- Shared Health Employers Organization

Listed below are the websites each of the unions is striving to keep updated to share information:

CUPE – <https://cupe.mb.ca/>

MAHCP – <https://www.onestrongvoice.ca>

MGEU – <https://www.carecomesfirst.ca>

UFCW – <http://www.ufcw.ca/index.php?lang=en>

MSOT has gathered the relevant information you might need to make an informed choice.

For a summary of each of the unions, click on the following link: [Bill 29 – Union Summaries](#)

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