

April 18, 2017

Welcome to UMFA Fast Facts! Below you'll find information on UMFA activities and other items of interest. Follow the links below:

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UMFA News

UMFA Vice-President Election

All Regular Members (those who have signed a Membership card) should now have a paper ballot waiting for them in their U of M department mailbox to vote in the UMFA VP election. Ballots must be returned to the UMFA office by **4 PM, on Friday, April 21, 2017**, to be accepted.

Two candidates have put their names forward for UMFA Vice President: Orvie Dingwall (Associate Librarian, NJM Library, Bannatyne Campus) and Michael Shaw (Instructor, Biology, Fort Garry Campus). Candidate statements were sent to you by email on April 5.

Please be sure to fill in your ballot and return to the UMFA office it in the envelope that was included with the ballot no later than April 21.

Info you can use

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - MB: Manitoba's Budget 2017/18: When no news is bad news

By: Lynne Fernandez, Errol Black Chair in Labour Issues

The government was well aware that many were dreading yesterday's budget: Non-profit organizations, healthcare workers, educators and public sector workers in general were bracing for Filmon flashbacks. Did the Conservative team take those fears into consideration when putting together the budget?

It might well have. Although it takes days to understand how the budget will filter down to all concerned, there were no obvious flashpoints to grab the public's attention. To a large degree that is because the big bad news items were dribbled out before the budget: the attacks on labour, weakening of drinking water regulations, the 900 job losses at Manitoba Hydro, the closing of 3 emergency rooms in Winnipeg and the cancellation of much-needed healthcare

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infrastructure such as the Lac Du Bonnet personal care home and the new CancerCare Manitoba facility are examples. *Read more [here](#).*

EVENTS

Joint Walkout Against Tuition Increases (University of Manitoba and University of Winnipeg)

April 18, 2017 – TODAY!

Manitoba Legislature Building

Walkout of classes at 11:30

Rally at 12:30

Despite lobbying efforts, tuition rates have nearly tripled since the 90s. The Manitoba government will soon lift the cap on tuition. They will slash funding to universities this upcoming budget to justify further budget cuts and an increase on tuition. We will show them that students will fight back. It's time to mobilize for walkouts and a rally. This is just the beginning.

Click [here](#) for more event info.

Note: If students/organizers wish to speak to your students about this event during class to encourage participation, please ensure discussions take place at the end of class.

Rally for Workers

April 21, 2017

Manitoba Legislature Building

12:15 p.m.

Conservative governments in Manitoba and Saskatchewan are putting the responsibility for deficits on workers.

Join the Public Service Alliance of Canada as we protest austerity agendas and attacks on labour.

Speakers include:

- Hassan Yussuff, CLC President
- Robyn Benson, PSAC National President
- Tom Lindsey, Official Opposition Labour Critic (MB)
- Kevin Rebeck, MFL President
- Carl Gannon, UVAE National President

Click [here](#) for more event info.

Communities Not Cuts! Gather and Rally

April 22, 2017

Gather at 11:30 am at Oodena Celebration Circle at The Forks

Rally 12-1 pm

You are invited to join this family and child-friendly event to stand up for your community, and to stand against provincial budget cuts and legislative changes. Click [here](#) for more event info.

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March for Science – Winnipeg

Officially sponsored by the [University of Manitoba: Faculty of Science](#)

April 22, 2017

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. at the Manitoba Legislative Building

The March for Science champions robustly funded and publicly communicated science as a pillar of human freedom and prosperity. We unite as a diverse, nonpartisan group to call for science that upholds the common good and for political leaders and policy makers to enact evidence based policies in the public interest. Click [here](#) for more event info.

NOTE: The event will be a RALLY (not an actual march). Bring signs appropriate to the theme, we expect lots of media coverage!

MNU Rally for Safe Patient Care

April 26, 2017

12:30-1:00 pm.

Manitoba Legislature Building

The Manitoba Nurses Union will be holding a rally at the Manitoba Legislature to speak out against recent front line service cuts, including the announcement to close three Winnipeg Emergency Departments.

If you have any questions about the event please contact Samantha Turenne sturenne@manitobanurses.ca

Click [here](#) for more event info.

MFL National Day of Mourning

April 28

11:00 – 11:45 a.m.

Union Centre – 2nd floor auditorium (275 Broadway)

Join the Manitoba Federation of Labour in marking the National Day of Mourning with a special candle light memorial service to remember and honour workers killed or injured on the job. To be followed by the Safe Workers of Tomorrow Leaders Walk starting at the Union Centre at 11:45 a.m.

If you have an upcoming event or information that you think would be of interest to UMFA Members, please send it to umfa-communications@umfa.ca for consideration in a future issue.