

Weekly Round-Up December 7 – December 13, 2019

POLITICAL ROUND-UP

Legislation

The session has now adjourned and MLAs will return to the Assembly in February, 2020.

Announcements

The government announced that they were merging the offices of the Seniors Advocate with the office of the Health Advocate. Previously, former UCP Executive Director Janice Harrington was named as the Health Advocate so she will now be filling both roles. The [media release](#) indicates staff and resources from the Seniors Advocate will be moved over to the office of the Health Advocate.

Occupational Health & Safety – Labour Minister Jason Copping made an announcement about two changes to the OH&S regulations. The first deals with Mandatory Training Requirements for Joint Workplace Health and Safety Committee members and/or worksite representative; Part I of training will no longer be mandatory. Part II remains in effect and for those who have received certification after Part II training, those certificates will remain valid.

The second change involves modification to the way employers can count the number of workers they have. It will no longer be site-specific; AUPE continues to review how this change might affect the operation of the Joint Worksite Health & Safety Committees currently in place and will update you as soon as we are able.

JOB LOSSES

As of December 6, 2019, we have been notified of the following job losses. This past week, we were not notified of any new potential job losses for members.

Alberta Innovates

This past week, 48 members at Alberta Innovates received layoff notices. AUPE agreed with the employer's request to extend the notice period so that the members wouldn't be getting lay off notices just prior to Christmas; their final day worked will be January 23rd.

University of Calgary

In early November, the Board announced they were cutting 250 positions (150 FTEs, of which 100 are expected to be AUPE members).

Government of Alberta

Employer informed AUPE that 2,500 bargaining unit positions will be eliminated between April, 2020 and April, 2023.

Alberta Health Services

Employer informed AUPE that they intend to cut 2,000 to 3,000 GSS FTEs between April, 2020 and April, 2023 and up to 400 Nursing Care FTEs beginning April 1, 2020.

WAGE ROLLEBACKS

Bargaining tables where the employer is or will consider tabling wage rollbacks of -2%:

Government of Alberta
University of Lethbridge
Athabasca University
Alberta Health Services/Nursing Care
Alberta Health Services/General Support Staff
Alberta University of the Arts
Lethbridge College
Carewest Nursing Care
Carewest General Support Staff
Alberta Pension Services Corporation
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)
Medicine Hat College
Covenant Health – St. Therese Villa

EVENT ROUND-UP

(Events you don't want to miss December 14 – December 20, 2019)

Bargaining Rallies

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 **Chartwell Griesbach**
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 4480 McCrae Avenue
Edmonton

All AUPE members and our supporters are invited to join during their non-work time.

Fightback Rallies

Tuesday, December 17, 2019 **Neil Crawford Centre**
4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. 6950 113 St.
Edmonton

Contact: Marcia O'Connor 780-497-9926

All AUPE members and our supporters are invited to join this info-picket on their non-work time.

Tuesday, December 17, 2019 **William J. Cadzow - Lac La Biche Healthcare Centre**
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 9110 93 Street
Lac La Biche

Contact: Val Whelen 780-646-2871

All AUPE members and our supporters are invited to join this info-picket on their non-work time.

Social Events

Friday, December 20, 2019 **Vegreville Area Council Christmas**
6:30 p.m. **Party**

Two Hills Inn

CHECK OUT

Fill out AUPE's new working short [survey](#).

[AUPE calls on UCP to reverse corporate tax breaks on Human Rights Day](#)

[Health-Care workers to rally in downtown Edmonton](#)

[Carewest Colonel Belcher nursing care team protests schedule changes](#)

[Surgical Wait Times Initiative](#)