



September 30, 2009

Please Circulate and Post

Important Message for all City, Parks, Ray-Cam and Britannia Members

Dear Members:

As you've probably already heard, the City is planning to reduce their budget shortfall of \$60 million by restructuring the current workforce and services of the City of Vancouver. (Please see link on our site for the full memo to staff.)

I want to tell you how this affects you and your job.

In the past few days, all the civic unions met with City Manager, Dr. Penny Ballem, when news of this shortfall came about. Realizing the impact that this could have on you, I wanted to let you know that we are taking all opportunities to inform ourselves of any new details. We are asking the questions, but at this point, it's too early to know specifics.

I also want to assure you that we are doing all we can to keep our membership informed. Once we receive additional information of any kind we will let you know.

We will communicate to you through the following means:

1. **Our Website** - We will have all our meetings posted on our site at www.cupe15.org for you to take full opportunity to know what's happening as we know it.
2. **A Special Members' Meeting** - Much like a general membership meeting, we will inform you of a time and location if we need to call one together.
3. **Worksite Meetings** - Your shop steward will let members know at specific worksites of the latest news.
4. **Park and City Council Public Sessions** - We plan to be there, for each public opportunity to keep ourselves up to date on the next steps the Park Board and City Council want to take.
5. **Shop Stewards Meeting** - We can brief our shop stewards so they can help their sector members find out more.

I've told the City Manager, over our numerous meetings, that we want to be a part of the discussion, especially when it affects our members and the quality of the services that we can deliver. I understand, like many, that the recent economic uncertainty has made it more difficult, especially faced with provincial and federal cutbacks. However, this membership is proud of the high standard of service we deliver and we want to protect that.

If you have any questions beyond what you find on our website or the City website, please get in touch with your shop steward or our office. We will have two full time staff dedicated to this matter. Visit our website for the latest news and postings on this situation.

Thank you.

In solidarity,

Paul Faoro
President

Rmm/CEP Local 467-UW