

Report from the Labour and Community Services Committee (LAC)

While the focus of the committee remains to strengthen the relationship between the RDLC (Regina District Labour Council) and UWR (United Way Regina), and engaging our union sisters and brothers, our main activity this year has been to create and sign a new partnership agreement with United Way Regina.

There have been a number of meetings held with representation from RDLC, CLC and United Way Regina. To date, no new partnership has been signed.

Without a Labour Staff representative on staff at the United Way Regina, it is difficult to strengthen the presence of United Way in the workplace. However, until a new partnership agreement is in place, it has been determined to not pursue filling that position.

However, we were able to support some United Way programs with volunteers and, at times, financial support:

Summer Success/Summer Slide Program

REACH Summer lunch program (delivery)

Cornwall Alternative School (school supplies) – See Education Committee Report

Unions of Regina Christmas Dinner (report attached)

Doctor Seuss Reading Day.

Submitted by:

Donna Ottenson (CUPE 3761)

United Way Regina and Unions of Regina Christmas Dinner

The United Way Regina and Unions of Regina Christmas Dinner was hosted in the Delta Hotel ballroom in December 2017.

Financial - all costs of the dinner including gifts of books for each child were provided by generous donations from the unions of Regina and surrounding area.

Tickets - were printed in-house at the Regina United Way and distributed to various agencies with a small number of tickets kept back to allow for "walk-ups" - children under 5 years do not require a ticket to attend.

Attendance - attendance was below normal this year. Unknown prior to our event, another community agency was also hosting a Christmas dinner the same evening. We will attempt to coordinate with them this year to ensure the same situation does not result.

It did appear that a number of tickets that were distributed were not used. There will be a process developed to monitor which agencies have distributed tickets that are not utilized to determine if there is a trend that will need to be addressed.

Food - the Delta Hotel provided us with meals at their cost per plate with the addition of taxes and gratuities.

The Christmas dinner consisted of:

- dinner rolls and tossed salad
- turkey, dressing, gravy and cranberry sauce
- mashed potatoes and mixed vegetables
- oranges, cookies, candy canes, Christmas candy and chocolate packaged as "Goody bags" were distributed as dessert
- tea, coffee, milk, juice and pop

Volunteers -over 100 union and family members volunteered their time to assist with the dinner. Delta management and serving staff donated their time the evening of the dinner. Food prep staff received regular wages for work done in the days prior to the dinner.

Gifts delivered by Santa this year with the help of his elves were once again age appropriate book to continue to complement the United Way of Regina's focus on All That Kids Can Be. 205 children visited Santa this year.

The popular Dino Bouncers were available for pre-dinner children's activities.

"Goody bags" were made available to all guests at their tables.

Special thanks to:

Randy Weir (retired Unifor 1-S member) - our ever present, ever patient Santa who has been with us every year since the dinner's inauguration

Dino Bouncer - courtesy of Sandy Holfeld (SUN member) and her family who donate the use of the Dino Bouncer, their time to transport, set up, monitor the use of and dismantle the Dino Bouncer as well as covering the costs of all liability insurance for this attraction.

Unifor 1-S - for the loan of their Santa chair and elves costumes, which they have kindly let us borrow for the last 14 years.

Staff of Delta Hotel (members of Unifor 651) who donate their time the evening of the banquet.

Delta Regina Hotel - for providing the dinner for our guests at their cost and assisting in making this event the success it is in numerous ways.

Following the dinner, volunteers were treated to their own turkey dinner sponsored by the Regina and District Labour Council.