



August 28, 2019

In this issue:

- [Are you a new UMFA member? Read this.](#)
- [A workplace free of discrimination and harassment](#)
- [“Too many Manitobans can’t find affordable, reliable child care when they need it.” – A message from the Manitoba Federation of Labour](#)
- [Labour and Education in the News](#)

Are you a new UMFA member? Read this.

The UMFA Collective Agreement is one of the most important documents governing your work life here at U of M. We know you have lots to read, so here are some essential facts about the Collective Agreement for new members: [UMFA New Hires Fact Sheet](#).

A workplace free of discrimination, harassment, and sexual assault

You are entitled to a safe and healthy workplace, one that is free of discrimination, harassment, and violence. If you experience workplace discrimination, harassment, sexual assault or other violence, the U of M administration must act to address it. Suffering harassment, discrimination, or assault can be demeaning, embarrassing, and disempowering. The Association is here to offer you confidential advice, support, and advocacy based on how you want to respond to a problem and the available formal and informal tools. [Read more](#).

Too many Manitobans can’t find affordable, reliable child care when they need it – A message from the Manitoba Federation of Labour

Dear Sisters, Brothers and Friends,

Too many Manitobans can’t find affordable, reliable child care when they need it. Working Families deserve better!

Under Brian Pallister's Conservative government, parents are facing unnecessary stress because affordable, high quality child care is so hard to find.

This makes it harder for parents – especially women – to get back to paid work, and it hurts our economy.

Brian Pallister's government is failing hard-working families when it comes to child care:

- Wait lists for child care are at record highs, and convenient child care options are hard to find.
- Child care fees are putting a squeeze on household budgets.
- Poor wages and working conditions are making it difficult to recruit and retain early childhood educators.

Making affordable, high-quality early learning and child care available to all families will grow our economy, help set children up for success at school, and reduce gender inequality.

This election, ask your local candidates if they'll commit to doing what's needed to make sure families can access affordable, high-quality child care by:

- Expanding the number of publicly-funded child care spaces.
- Making parent fees affordable.
- Improving quality with a workforce plan that focuses on training needs and fair wages and benefits for early childhood educators.

Please share this message with your members so that we can get the word out that working families deserve a government that will make affordable, accessible child care a priority.

In solidarity,

Kevin Rebeck
President of the Manitoba Federation of Labour

Labour and education in the news

Did you read the news this week? Find this week's links to news stories about labour and education by visiting the "[Labour and education in the news](#)" section of the UMFA website daily.

If you have information or an event that you'd like to share in an upcoming issue, please email the item to umfa-communications@umfa.ca for consideration.