



comMUNACtions

MUNACA NEWSLETTER

2025:October

Highlights for Fall 2025

We hope everyone enjoyed a well-deserved summer break and found time to rest and recharge.

We know this year has been difficult. You've had to withstand an aggressive employer and job cuts that threatened your security.

When employers make decisions that hurt you and your coworkers, it sparks action.

Your newly elected team is organizing and educating members, recruiting and training stewards, and fighting hard at the bargaining table.

What's Inside?

Committee Updates

Members Section

Upcoming Events!

Unions in the Spotlight



One of the first demonstrations for the signing of the 1st CA - 1998 Photo care of Maria Ruocco

Communications Committee

Sarah Butler is the Chair. Soaad Hammami has joined the team, working alongside Bishara Assaly, Mell Martella, and Helen Ogundeji, who are continuing their strong work.

Big thanks to Elif Kayali and James Newman for laying the groundwork we're building on.

Got feedback, ideas, or stories to share?

Reach out at communications.chair@munaca.com

Women's Committee

Ahead of the enactment of Quebec's Bill 56, the PSAC unanimously adopted a resolution encouraging all PSAC Locals to form a Women's Committee.

MUNACA answered the call and has created its own Women's Committee. Its mandate is to identify, promote and assist union actions by educating, politicizing and mobilizing women, ensuring women's representation, providing safe spaces for members to address concerns, and by making links between themselves, the union, the workplace and the community.

What is Bill 56? This Act changes Quebec's laws regarding unmarried couples with children. Women, please take the time to familiarize yourselves with the new bill.

In Quebec, even if you have been with your partner for years, you do not have the same rights that spouses do. If you do not have a will, please make one as soon as possible to protect your loved ones.

As a reminder, MUNACA offers a free 45-minute legal consultation on small-claims, rental, or other non-union legal matters. Please contact the MUNACA office at 514-371-2222 for more details and to make an appointment.

For any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us:

womens-committee@munaca.com

Anne Mary Bedard – Women's Committee

Solidarity Committee

What is Bill 89?

Bill 89 is a strike-breaking law passed by the Quebec National Assembly on May 29, 2025. The law grants the Labour Minister the authority to refer any work stoppage to binding arbitration. The labour movement has condemned this regressive legislation, stating that it harkens back to the anti-strike laws of the Duplessis-era government.

How Does This Affect MUNACA Members?

The right to strike was a hard-won victory by the labour movement in the early 20th century.

Wages and workers' rights have historically been achieved through the ability to withdraw labour on the picket line. Many social benefits we take for granted today such as: the five-day workweek, sick days, maternity leave, and the minimum wage, were all won through strike action.

This law effectively gives the government the power to exert downward pressure on wages and social benefits won by Quebec workers if unions exercise their **right to strike**.

As MUNACA members and part of the broader labour movement, **we all benefit when another union succeeds in the fight for fair wages and improved benefits**. With the right to strike and labour movement under attack, we as MUNACA members need to broaden our fight through our local union centre, the Montreal PSAC regional committee, and our provincial labour federation, the FTQ, to build solidarity with striking workers who may be under threat of strike-breaking by the CAQ government.

United We Bargain, Divided We Beg

Bishara Assaly – Solidarity Committee Chair – solidarity@munaca.com

Kudos

Congratulations to **Steven Blaise**, Customer Service Coordinator and **Mila Bozic Erkie**, Head Library Clerk at the Nahum Gelber Law Library, recipients of the 2025 Staff Excellence Awards!

Kristen Goodall, Senior Library Clerk at Humanities and Social Sciences Library and **Octavian Sopt**, Senior Documentation Technician Rare Books and Special Collections on graduating this week, June 6th, 2025 with Masters of Information Studies (MIS) from McGill's School of Information Studies.

Who has retired?

Anne-Marie Emili from Collection Services after 36 years of service.

Louise Nadeau from Collection Services after 47 years of service.

Andreas Gadmer from IT Customer Service after 21 years of service.

Jane McAslan from the Humanities and Social Sciences Library after 20 years of service.

Thomas Chalmers from the Faculty of Law after 21 years of service.

In Memoriam



Carlos P. Rojas-Carmona passed away on March 13, 2025, he worked at the Nahum Gelber Law Library for 30 years, he retired in 2013.



Judy Kolonics passed away on April 8, 2025, she worked at Humanities and Social Sciences Library (McLennan and Redpath) for 43 years before her retirement in 2016.

Is there a coworker with a milestone coming up — a retirement, work anniversary, or exciting news to share? We want to highlight and celebrate our members in the newsletter!

Email us at communications.chaire@munaca.com to have someone featured in an upcoming edition.

Upcoming Events:

- Annual BBQ Wednesday, Oct 15th, 2025

How to Redirect your emails from your Junk folder:

1. Right Click on the email within the list you want to redirect to your Inbox.
2. Drop down menu should offer "Junk"
3. In "Junk", select "Never Block this Group or Mailing List"
4. Selecting solely "Not Junk" will not work.

Something at work not sitting right?

A [Steward](#) can help. Find one in your area or email reception@munaca.com

Get involved!

MUNACA has lots of ways to get involved: [Become a steward](#)

MUNACA History Read more about the rich [History of MUNACA](#)

Haven't signed your Union Card? Just use [this link](#) to sign up as a MUNACA member and begin taking an active role in your union!

MURA Considering retirement? Check out [McGill University Retiree Association \(MURA\)](#).

MUNACA on Social Media



Education

Quebec commits to maintaining higher tuition for non-Quebec students
La Presse – June 10, 2025

Daycare & Education Labour Deals

Union representing workers in 400 daycare centres votes 58% in favour of tentative agreement – CTV News – June 2025

Retail

IKEA Montréal workers secure wage hikes
CityNews – June 2, 2025

Energy

A third union serves strike notice at Hydro-Québec
La Presse – June 2, 2025

Hospitality

Queen Elizabeth Hotel workers take action
CBC Montreal – June 2025

Postal

Canadian Union of Postal Workers urges workers to reject contract offer
Toronto City News– July 2025