



## August 2023

Monthly Union Meetings are held:

Norfolk, second Thursday at  
10 AM and 7 PM

Hampton, third Wednesday  
at  
10 AM and 6 PM

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### UNION OFFICERS :

President:

**John Reid**

Vice President:

**Vanessa Wadsworth**

Secretary-Treasurer:

**Cheri Jordan**

Southside Shop Steward:

**William Claud**

Southside Shop Steward:

**Crystal Pittman**

Northside Shop Steward:

**Lisa Lawrence**

Northside Shop Steward:

**Michael Gilliam**

Light Rail Shop Steward:

**Marlo Maxwell**



At the end of January the Executive Board traveled to Richmond to lobby our Legislators for transit and labor issues. One of the bills that we were promoting was House Bill 2330. The new law makes assaulting a bus driver a Class 1 misdemeanor or with a minimum sentence of being banned from public transportation for six months.

Last August 129 of HRT's paratransit workers voted to join our local. The current subcontractor, VIA, is worried because this is the first time a for-profit Micro transit company has successfully voted to unionize. The Local and the employees are just waiting for VIA to exhaust their appeals before we can formally negotiate paratransit's first contract.

The NLRB has certified our local as the exclusive representative, but VIA is appealing that decision too. ATU International has contacted them twice to begin negotiating their first contract, but they have not responded.

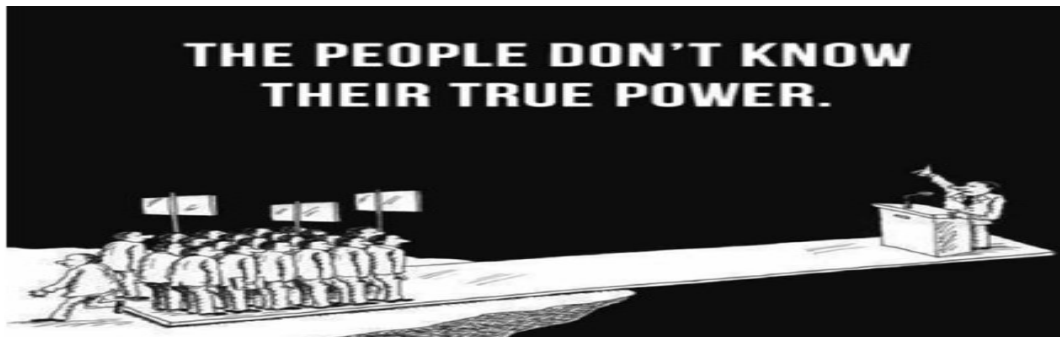
Our contract expires on June 30, 2024. So, at April's union meeting, we began reviewing every article of the contract. This is your contract, if there is something you do not like, this is your opportunity to change it. Our last contract had 55 proposed changes.

Together we fight

Together we win,

John W Reid

# A Letter of Solidarity



Concentra is now requiring 90-day CPAP reading. Use your CPAP machine for at least 4 hours per day to remain in compliance. Eventually a 1-year reading at 70% will be required. If you violate the CPAP usage requirement you will be brought back on a last chance. If Concentra sends you for a Sleep study and that sleep study is negative for sleep apnea, Concentra cannot send you for another sleep study the following year unless you have a medication change or 20 pound weight change.

Read all doctor notes thoroughly before submitting to HRT. Do not allow your doctor's office to blindly fax your FMLA form to HRT. Read over any forms from your doctor to check for errors. If your doctor sends a form to HRT with errors, it may cause you to be out of work until that error is corrected.

A Job Analysis Summary Form is required if you visit ER, Patient First or Urgent Care. The note should say you can, "return to duty as a transit operator with no restrictions"

If you are asked to take a drug test, do not refuse. If your test is positive for illegal drugs, you will be sent to rehab for your first offense.

Remember to stop for School Buses when they are stopped with lights flashing. Even if it is on the other side of the road and there is no median or physical divider between lanes. School bus violations are \$250!

**Together, We Stand in Solidarity.. To build**



## **ATU Increases Funeral Benefit Contribution**

This is a funeral reimbursement that is presented to members of ATU Local 1177 in good standing.

The International Union contributes \$2,000 and the Local Union adds \$1,000 for a total of \$3,000.



## **Retirees Luncheon returns**

The quarterly Retiree Luncheons have returned. They will be held on April 8, August 12, and December 9 at noon, the Norfolk Union Hall.



## **Old F.A.R.T.S. informal luncheon**

John D'ambrosio formed a group called Former Agents of Rapid Transit Systems.

They meet for an informal luncheon on the first Monday of each month at a different south-side restaurant.

Follow John or Mary Giles on Facebook for information on the next get-together.



## **New Retirees**

## **New 50-Year Retirees**

Jennifer Knight,  
Angelia Harris,  
Kirk Davis.  
Rose Nesbitt  
George Lindsey  
Jefferson Barrow



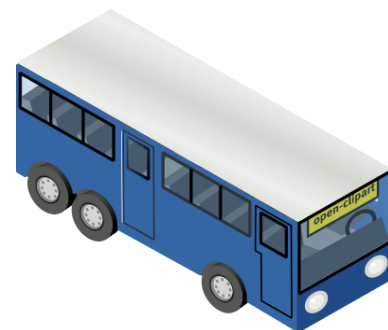
Martha Bundy (January) ,  
Frank Fortuna (February),  
Timothy Gonyea (April),  
Roy Stewart (April),  
Barry Argabright (May),  
Jessica Pugh (May),  
Lauren Wright (October)

## Safety

Don't open the coolant cap or shut the bus off at the battery switch. Let a mechanic handle it.

Rail operators must receive authorization before exiting cab

Travel at least 3 feet away from cyclists on the road



### Weingarten Rights

Do not make side deals with management. If the union is not aware of your side deal they cannot assist you.

Don't talk with Supervisors without a Union Rep with you. You should say, "If this discussion could lead to me being disciplined I would like to have my Union Rep present."

When signing a Write-Up, always check the box insisting on union representation. The company cannot refuse your union representation.

### Promotions

If you would like to promote the products or services of a fellow 1177 member, email Ed Carroll at [atu1177@outlook.com](mailto:atu1177@outlook.com).

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## Calendar

### JULY

1 Canada Day  
1 National Postal Worker Day  
2 LBJ signs Civil Rights Act - 1964  
4 Independence Day  
13 Union Meeting- Norfolk  
10 Norfolk's last street car makes its final run on the Ocean View line at midnight - 1948  
12 Malala Day  
18 Nelson Mandela born - 1918  
19 Union Meeting- Hampton  
28 WW I begins - 1914

### SEPTEMBER

1 WW II begins - 1939  
2 V-J Day - 1945  
3 Texas cotton pickers organize a union and strike for better wages - 1891  
4 Labor Day  
6 Midtown Tunnel opened 1962  
8 Passenger service begins on the Norfolk - Petersburg Railroad - 1858  
10 Grandparents Day  
14 Union Meeting- Norfolk

### AUGUST

4 Barack Obama born - 1961  
6 LBJ signs Voting Rights Act - 1965  
9 National Book Lovers Day  
10 Union Meeting- Norfolk  
13 Norfolk City Railroad Company begins operating horse-drawn streetcars - 1870  
16 Union Meeting- Hampton  
20 Norfolk's light rail line, the TIDE, opens to the public - 2011  
23 International Day of Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition  
25 Last car ferry between Norfolk and Portsmouth - 1955  
26 Women's Suffrage - 1920

## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

### Let's Talk Aneurysm and Certification

An aneurysm is a weakening and ballooning of an artery wall. Left untreated the aneurysm could hemorrhage, or rupture, and have serious residual neurological deficits in cognitive abilities, judgment, attention, or physical skills.

Commercial drivers who have had a ruptured aneurysm should have a neurological examination, including psychometric testing, one year after the hemorrhage, before being cleared for commercial driving.

In particular, patients with aneurysmal hemorrhage should be carefully assessed for subtle residual impairments in cognitive skills. The return to commercial driving status in a person with a recent intracranial hemorrhage should be based on the same criteria as outlined for patients who have suffered a stroke. Further, a small number of patients with intracranial or subarachnoid hemorrhage, similar to conditions of a stroke, will have complication seizures. Because there is no sound data regarding risk of seizure following a hemorrhage, it must be assumed that risks will be similar to those following a stroke.

Drivers with an aneurysm or an arteriovenous malformation that has ruptured and that has not been surgically treated should not be cleared for commercial driving. Drivers whose aneurysm or arteriovenous malformation has been surgically treated can return to driving after one year as long as they have met all other standards set forth. Any driver with a deficit that requires special evaluation and screening should be certified annually.

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Volunteers Needed I am planning to expand the monthly Newsletter but I need your help. I need writers, researchers, and photographers from each division. If you are interested in volunteering just email [ATU1177@outlook.com](mailto:ATU1177@outlook.com).

This NEWSLETTER is an important benefit of ATU Local 1177 membership. It is intended to inform union members of discussions and clarifications that Union Leadership have with Management as well as negotiation progress updates, and other upcoming events.

DO NOT SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER but encourage active and retired union members to subscribe for their own copy.

If you would like to receive the 1177 Email Newsletter, or if you have any questions or suggestions, just email [ATU1177@outlook.com](mailto:ATU1177@outlook.com)

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### Crack yourself- UP-Jokes

Q: What musical instrument is found in the Bathroom?

A: A tuba toothpaste.

Q: What's red and smells like blue paint?

A: Red paint.

Q: What kind of lights did Noah use on the ark?

A: Flood Lights.

Q: Where do pencils go on vacation?

A: Pencilvania.

Q: What did the janitor say when he jumped out of the closet.

A: Supplies!

Q: What did the ocean say to the shore?

A: Nothing, it just waved.



# When the Going Gets Tough The Tough Get Creative.

## **Transit union set to scale back uniforms as part of labour action aimed at city.**

Published Mar 08, 2016. Last updated Jun 03, 2020

Residents in Saskatoon don't have to worry about a full-blown strike following a meeting of the Amalgamated Transit Union 615 (ATU 615) on Monday, but they may see transit drivers sporting different outfits besides their uniforms in the near future. President of the ATU 615 Jim Yakubowski said the decision not to withdraw service was made at the union's direction, noting the ATU 615 chose to violate the uniform policy as opposed to a strike, in order to continue serving the public.

"By not coming to work in full-scale uniform, that would be one message that we would hope the public and the riders would pick up on, and (is) one of our methods of raising awareness to the fact that we still don't have a collective agreement," he said.

He hopes the action will cause City Council to take initiative and force administration back to the table with a fair settlement for members.

Yakubowski said while he doesn't have specifics on what the down-scaled uniforms would look like, he said the ATU would not be making any recommendations on what to wear to its members.

Pensions continue to be the major point of contention between the union, which has been without a contract since December 2012, and the City of Saskatoon.

The ATU 615 has stepped away from demands for a salary based on a western Canadian average of transit workers and has agreed to the wage increase package accepted by eight other civic collective bargaining units.

However, the union wants to see drivers who receive a professional driver certification receive an additional \$0.45 effective from June 2015. Keir Vallance, a labour and employment law expert at the University of Saskatchewan, said he feels transit users would be pleased, but said the action may not be enough to change the City of Saskatoon's position.

"Certainly, transit users would be grateful that the union is not withdrawing service at this time," he said. "Whether that's going to translate into broader, public pressure on the city to finalize a collective agreement is difficult to say."

However, he did note uniform violations are a "valid and affective way," of raising public awareness.

In a statement, the city's director of human resources Marno McInnes said the city is willing to work with the union towards an agreement, but provided no information on recent bargaining efforts.

"We understand the public interest in this issue; however, given the current state of bargaining with the Transit union we are declining interviews or declining to making detailed statements related to our discussions," he explained in the statement.

Yakubowski noted the action is dependent on the response from the city, as the union must give its employer 48 hours notice before any labour action under Saskatchewan Labour Laws.

