



February 7, 2023

City Councillors – UNW members via email only City of Yellowknife

TO: Councillor Ben Hendriksen, Councillor Steve Payne, Councillor Rob Warburton bhendriksen@yellowknife.ca spayne@yellowknife.ca rwarburton@yellowknife.ca

Re: Obligations as UNW Members during strike action

Further to our previous letter sent to all Yellowknife City Councillors, we are writing to inform you of your obligations as UNW members should City of Yellowknife bargaining unit members go on strike.

It is a basic tenent of unionism to respect all picket lines. In addition to this, UNW members are governed by the PSAC Constitution and Regulations, and UNW By-Laws and Regulations.

In both the PSAC Constitution and the UNW By-Laws, it is an offence for a member to engage in any conduct prejudicial to the good order and welfare of the Union.

Further, it is appropriate for you to recuse yourself from discussing or voting as a member of Council on decisions pertaining to the ongoing collective bargaining, to remove yourself from any conflict of interest. In addition, UNW By-Law 16 Discipline, Section 7, outlines discipline measures for members who "who participate in contract negotiations representing management across the table from the Union".

Most importantly, as UNW and PSAC member, we would fervently hope that you support your fellow union members as they would support you. We urge you to show respect for these fellow union members and do not cross picket lines, and in fact show your support however you are able.

Sincerely,

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Gayla Thunstrom President Union of Northern Workers <u>thunstg@unw.ca</u>

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