

SEIU Local 140 Newsletter 2.1.23

Local 140 Instagram!

We now have an [instagram](#) account for our local! Follow us at [@seiulocal140](#) and share with friends! We hope to make this a place to share actions and updates and educate the public about our struggles as workers. If you have an idea for a post or would like to join the social media committee, you can email us at ppslocal140@gmail.com.

How to Document Mistreatment in the Workplace

It is common for folks to experience multiple instances of mistreatment in the workplace before they begin to acknowledge a pattern or start to talk to a steward or report to management. Although it makes complete sense to wait and hope something is a one-time interaction, the lack of documentation leaves your word as the only form of evidence. This is what makes documentation so important!

If you have a notes app or a physical notebook these will be your friend. As soon as possible post-incident write down the date, estimated time, what the interaction entailed, and any other witnesses. Do this every time you have an experience of misconduct in the workplace. If you haven't documented in the past but want to note those instances, do your best to remember the listed details above anyway. At any point, you can contact a shop steward who can support you in building your case and will help represent you during the grievance process.

Report from LiUNA Local 483 Rally

City workers from LiUNA (Laborers International Union of North America) Local 483 were joined by community members, activists and workers from other unions for a rally this past Saturday at City Hall ahead of a looming potential strike starting Thursday.

The union, representing maintenance workers for the city's roads, parks, and wastewater treatment are at a deadlock with the city over their demands including better pay. As many in our union also struggle with inflation, it is encouraging to see other workers fighting for the same things. Just like at PPS, the City of Portland has been more eager to approve cost of living adjustments and other benefits for management than for the workers who make our city function. It seems as though politicians like Mayor Wheeler (a wealthy timber heir) and Commissioner Gonzalez (a wealthy businessman) are out of touch with the reality for most people in our community.

If a strike happens, workers will be picketing starting Thursday 2/2 and this is a chance to exercise solidarity and make connections with people in other unions.

You can sign up [here](#) to join pickets. They also have a [gofundme](#) account to support their strike.

New Seasons COVID Leave Picket:

New Seasons workers will be [picketing](#) unionized stores this Friday and Saturday to demand paid COVID sick leave. Management recently ended their policy of providing paid time off for COVID leave which endangers the health of workers and the community. Since we are fighting for the same thing,

this is a great way to show solidarity with fellow workers and bring awareness to this important issue. You can join the pickets from 11am-5pm Friday and Saturday outside the following stores: Seven Corners, Slabtown, Woodstock, Grant Park, Concordia, Arbor Lodge, and Cedar Hills

Labor History of the IWW

“An injury to one is an injury to all!”

-IWW motto

The Industrial Workers of the World ([IWW](#)) was [founded](#) in 1905 during a period of active working class foment in the United States. The IWW has mainly been active in the US and Canada, but has influenced and spread to other movements around the world. The IWW continues to organize today, including one of the first fast food workers unions in the US here in [Portland](#): Burgerville Workers Union. In the Western US, the IWW organized workers from the mining, agricultural, timber and other industries. The IWW envisioned working class people from all trades coming together in solidarity to defeat the crushing will of the owning and employing classes.

Their slogan means that since our hope for liberation lies in our fellow workers, an attack on one of them is also an attack on us. We must look out for each other, it suggests, in fighting for a healthy society and in facing uncompromising bosses. The motto also applies to, and has been adopted by other unions like the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU).

Coming Up

- Support the Laborers’ Local 483 [strike](#) and New Seasons Labor Union [picket](#)
- School board meeting Tuesday 2/7 at PESC at 6pm
- Bargaining team has first meeting with management Friday 2/10
- Monthly union membership meeting Saturday 2/11 at 10am

Useful Links

[SEIU 140 union contract](#)
<https://seiu503.org/pps/>