AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION LOCAL 1505

Date: October 2, 2026

ATU Local 1505 5-Minute Friday Weekly Summary

Sick Notes: As of October 1, 2026, Manitoba's new sick-note legislation, Bill 11, is in effect. The legislation limits when employers can require employees to provide a sick note for short-term illness or injury. ***More information at end of this document.***

ATU Annual Banquet: The annual banquet will be held October 17, 2026, at 275 Broadway. The cost is $45 per person. Please RSVP by October 9. The evening will include awards, a silent auction, dinner, music and other festivities.

Stewards Committee: We are looking for members in good standing who are interested in joining the Stewards Committee. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Head Steward Christian Brambilla.

50-50 Transit Funding Rally: Please come out and support the 50-50 transit funding rally on Tuesday, October 7, at 4:30 p.m. at the Manitoba Legislature. There will be food, coffee, activities and speakers. Your support is important as we continue to call for the restoration of 50-50 transit funding.

Monthly Meeting: The next monthly meeting is Wednesday, October 14, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. The ATU International Organizer will be attending to speak with members as we prepare for upcoming negotiations.

Fill-A-Bus: The annual Fill-A-Bus charity event is scheduled for November 7, 2026. Save the date. More details will be provided soon.

Congratulations, Sister Crystal: Congratulations to Crystal Hanleyon her election to the ATU Canada Executive Board as the Western Canada representative.

Marcel Malboeuf Scholarship: Congratulations to Mariana Gabriele from ATU Local 113, the recipient of the 2026 Marcel Malboeuf Scholarship.

Meeting with Mayor and CAO: On September 29, ATU Local 1505 met with Mayor Scott Gillingham and CAO Joseph Dunford. A number of important issues were discussed, including the timeline for full operator shield enclosures, Community Safety Officers, transit police, Red Seal employees, the new Oak Point garage, one-way trades, upcoming bargaining, transit radios and the new fare system.

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Transit Security: Between September 19 and October 2, 2026, there were 7 reported security incidents, including 3 physical assaults, 1 attempted assault, 2 verbal threats and 1 passenger-reported weapon incident involving a gun. There have been 186 reported security incidents in total in 2026.

Sick Notes

Key changes

- No sick note for short-term absences: An employer generally cannot require a sick note unless the employee's absence continues for more than one week, or the employee has been absent because of illness or injury for more than 10 scheduled workdays in the same calendar year. A partial day can count toward the 10-day threshold.
- It doesn't have to be a doctor's note: When a note is legitimately required, employers must accept documentation from a range of health professionals who have provided care for the illness or injury.
- Employer must pay: If an employer requires a sick note, the employer must reimburse the employee for any reasonable fee charged by the health professional for providing it. Employees seeking reimbursement must provide evidence of the expense within 30 days of obtaining the note.
- Return-to-work documentation is different: The new restrictions on sick notes do not prevent an employer from requiring documentation to establish that an employee is fit to return to work following an absence.
- Longer-term protected leaves are different: The legislation does not eliminate medical documentation requirements that apply to certain protected leaves under the Employment Standards Code, such as long-term leave for serious injury or illness.