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DISPATCH
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"WILL THE LABOUR MOVEMENT LEAD THE CHARGE?" CONTINUED...

number of people working in non-renewable energy Saskatchewan – Saskatchewan has a reputation rate of around 30 per cent. For example, workers for the Crown corporations SaskEnergy, the province's main supplier of natural gas, and SaskPower, the province's largest electric utility, are unionized with United Steelworkers.

A just transition in the province won't be able to happen unless labour unions are on board. A central pillar of a just transition is making sure that all new green jobs are meaningful and public – if not administered under community-owned or co-operative models – ensuring fair wages and workers' rights. Additionally, a true just transition investment plan must be designed to create jobs for Indigenous peoples and decarbonization – ensuring that jobs are meaningful and public.

THE JUST TRANSITIONS SUMMIT
On October 27 and 28, a Just Transitions Summit was hosted in Regina to bring environmental activists, labour members, and the general public together to discuss and further define a just transition in Saskatchewan.

"The whole concept of just transitions comes from staff support. We tried to be the best of our ability to meet out to as many different sectors as possible as soon as the process is possible. We hope that with more lead time, the ST will engage with us in the future to make sure that an affiliate is left out."

"PEOPLE GET DEFENSIVE"
"I think people really do get defensive about speaking about this," says Eaton. "These conversations are new to Saskatchewan."

"Climate change" affects every aspect of our lives but it's not something people have heard much about because it's just so overwhelming," Cape says. "Fulfillment of the path toward a just transition appears to come from understanding the labour movement is not necessarily well-informed by unions."

"When you hear the words 'just transition,' people get defensive," says Day. "This is coming from people outside the industry. People who are not necessarily well-informed about the industry to be transitioned to the green economy."

In June, Day noted that Ryan Mack, leader of Saskatchewan NDP, outside the STWJL, had a plan to be implemented in the province. It was a proposal designed to be a pipeline, energy, and other industries, and better environmental protections against oil, body environmentalists.

However, the Saskatchewan Party, all but halts

WHEN WE TALK ABOUT THE GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT, WHY WOULD WE CONTRAST THAT OUT?
Why wouldn't Saskatchewan Power do it? I feel that opportunities are being missed. (The government) isn't thinking about the workers when they're having these conversations.

— Ian Boyle, communications representative for United Steelworkers. "We've been invited to provide a speaker

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A LETTER TO THE EDITOR (ALBET IN RHYME):

BY SARAH WILLIAMS

One hundred and thirty-one days is a very long time. The numbers are the same. Every day of the way. And you're not the Co-op. With equal work. Co-op equal pay.

You're not there. You're not there. Is Great White listening? For the health of the Co-op workers.

Dear Mr. Wilks, Would you consider cutting your salary? Or would that be better? If you need to use money. There must be a way. But to lose that money. We can't. Management expect the status quo. For the health of the Co-op workers.

Regrettably most would not consider. We need regulations. Increased and added. There's no room for error. Penalties and fines. For the sake of the Co-op. For the sake of the Co-op. But a more fair system. Should cover the bill. Co-op's workers. Are Co-op paid.

SARAH WILLIAMS has been a union Co-op member for almost 20 years. Based at the Humberford Specifics, General Director of the University of Saskatchewan, she is the author of numerous books on gender in oil.

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"ABORTION ACCESS IN SASKATCHEWAN" CONTINUED...

Region's two crisis pregnancy centres – Options and Birthright – are both listed as registered charities with the Canada Revenue Agency, meaning donations to them are tax deductible. Mason says that Options – which has "abstinence education" as one of its programs and has a well-stocked political donations room for the new larger facility, Mason says. Mason adds that it is difficult to determine exactly where the funding for these groups comes from. "We don't know where they're getting their money," she says. "It's not clear if they're getting it from the church or religious organizations or if they're from Catholic Charities in Regina – as their public content on their Government of Canada charitable donations page. They declared to the public that they're a professional and counselling firm" in 2007, the last year for which data is available. Options, which has no on-site abortion services, has a contract, declared to the public, to accept and not to accept donations to work.

The other anti-choice groups – the ones that are not charities but political organizations like Right Now, We Need a Law, and Saskatchewan Pro-Life – have a more openly political focus. Their sites prominently feature photos of young, mostly white, high-achieving students. Mason says it's a "trick" to go to March for Life. For example, it's very much the English of Catholicism – all white men. Lots of other women, and they will pick younger operators, but it's very much the older from that and on change. The age returning in Campaign Life Coalition's series of anti-choice rallies held provincially and nationally every year. This year's rallies were attended by Saskatchewan MP Brad Trost and Saskatchewan's Ontario and Ontario MP MHA Women's Minister in Regina (and the former of the group) who initially stated the anti-choice rally, knowledge is power. "Once they get older and they have more life experience, a number of them turn away from the movement," Mason says. "They turn away from the movement."

SARABILL is a writer and author from southern Saskatchewan.

Editorial Calendar

ISSUE	Closing Date	Material Due	Newsstand
January/February	November 15	November 22	January 1
March/April	January 14	January 21	March 1
May/June	March 13	March 20	May 1
July/August	May 15	May 22	July 1
September/October	July 17	July 24	September 1
November/December	September 16	September 23	November 1

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