

OCTOBER 13, 2023

UNIFORUM 506

Quarterly Newsletter for Members of Unifor Local 506



WHAT'S NEW AT UNIFOR 506:

- Election for Vice President
- Canadian Council 2023
- Bargaining Workers Summit
- Retirements
- Contest Winners
- Women's Advocate
- Issue Proposals
- Scholarship Winners
- Pride Committee
- Unifor NHL Fantasy Pool
- National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
- Labour Day
- Women's Committee

LOCAL 506 ELECTION

Two candidates from Moncton, Stéphane Lamoureux and Aaron Harquail, were nominated for the Unifor Local 506 Vice President position.

The candidate's nominations, acceptances and resumés can be viewed by clicking the links below:

- [Stéphane's Nomination and Acceptance](#)
- [Stéphane's Resumé in English](#)
- [Le CV de Stéphane en français](#)
- [Aaron's Nomination](#)
- [Clarification for Aaron's Nomination](#)
- [Aaron's Acceptance](#)
- [Aaron's Resumé](#)

The election will take place online from October 15th to the 31st and an email will be sent to members on the 15th with a password that you will need to submit your vote online. The results will be announced on November 1st.

CANADIAN COUNCIL



Local 506 delegates attended the Unifor Canadian Council in Halifax, August 18-20th. This Canadian Council began the celebrations of Unifor's 10-year anniversary.

During this first council since the Constitutional Convention, delegates had a chance to discuss important issues and resolutions and to reflect on all that we have accomplished since our formation in 2013.



Some of the resolutions passed included:

- Supporting journalists experiencing harassment
- Protection against privatization of good jobs
- Combating contracting out
- Creating a new health benefits insurance plan for members without coverage

The following recommendations by National President Lana Payne were put forward and carried with unanimous support by voting delegates:

- Building an Economy that Leaves No Worker Behind
- Supporting 2SLGBTQIA+ Workers
- Bargaining Workers' Power
- Organizing New Members

Jenn Murray, Atlantic Regional Director, touched on the importance of solidarity, unity, and progress within our union, emphasizing the incredible strength that arises when we stand together to create positive change for all members!



BARGAINING STRATEGY SUMMIT

Local 506 delegates attended Unifor's special one-day Bargaining Workers' Power National Collective Bargaining Program Summit on August 17, 2023 in Halifax to hear the union unveil its new bargaining strategy. The Summit caps off a year-long project that included regional strategy sessions across the country to gather input directly from members and retirees on what they want to see in a national bargaining program.



There were 45 regional sessions beginning in February this year in Montreal covering every province of Canada from coast to coast with 1,731 bargaining committee members and local union representatives participating in the meetings.

Delegates at the August 17th Summit had the opportunity to review, discuss and debate the contents of Unifor's new National Collective Bargaining Program as well as explore ways to better engage members in the bargaining process.



National President, Lana Payne, calling collective bargaining the “heart of democracy at work,” recommended Unifor delegates endorse the program, that the union develop additional supporting resources to support local unions, bargaining committees, and staff representatives, as well as monitor the program's progress.

Unifor's national bargaining program positions are broken down into the following themes:

- Wages and Income Security
- Health and Safety
- Benefits
- Pension and Retirement Security
- Human Rights, Inclusion, and Workplace Equity
- New Technology, Climate Change, and the Future of Work
- Workforce Attraction & Retention
- Job Security & Precarious Work
- Union Building

[Click here](#) to see the full list of Bargaining Program commitments.

RETIREMENTS



Best wishes to the following Local 506 members who have retired recently:

- Patrick Shannon - Region 1
- Cecile Landry - Region 2
- Christine Cormier - Region 2
- Daniel Collins - Region 1

The Local gives retiring members a \$150 gift to celebrate this milestone. If you are retiring in the near future, please contact the union office at unionoffice@unifor506.ca to ensure we have your current mailing address, phone and email information.

WOMEN'S ADVOCATE

Local 506 Women's Advocate, Erin Howell Sharpe provides support and help to find resources for members experiencing sexual harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, addictions or in need of community services.



Members can reach out to Erin at erin.howellsharpe@unifor506.ca for help for themselves or if they have someone close to them (wife, sister, girlfriend, daughter) who may need access to community services.

CONTEST WINNERS

In the June edition of the Uniforum 506 newsletter, we challenged members to find a hidden Unifor logo. Eight members were successful in finding the logo and two names were drawn to win a \$50 Sobeys gift card - congratulations to Pascal Gauvin and Anna McCarty!



Another Unifor logo  is hidden in this newsletter. Find it and send the location to unionoffice@unifor506.ca and we'll put your name in a draw for a \$50 Sobeys gift card!

REMINDER

If you have a question, an issue you need to discuss, a safety concern, require personal support, or wish to have a union representative at a meeting with the company, please contact us at 506-634-8810 or unionoffice@unifor506.ca

ISSUE PROPOSALS



The voices of our members are of utmost importance to us. Traditionally, we reach out to our members six months prior to the expiration of the current collective agreement to request bargaining proposals. However, we recognize that our members' issues and needs are not bound by timelines. We want to create an open and ongoing dialogue that allows our members to share their concerns and ideas at any time.



Whether your concerns are immediate or long-term we encourage you to come forward and make your voice heard. Your input is invaluable in shaping the direction and priorities of our union's bargaining efforts.

Please take this opportunity to engage with us, share your concerns, and help shape the collective bargaining agenda. Your active participation is vital to our success as a union! [Click here](#) for an Issue Proposal form or send an email to unionoffice@unifor506.ca.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to the three winners of the 2023 Local 506 scholarship and bursary awards!

The **Truth and Reconciliation** scholarship was awarded to Maxime Poirier, son of Region 2 member Paul Poirier.



The **Day of Remembrance** scholarship was awarded to Samuel Bourque, son of Region 2 member Justin Bourque.

And the **Women in Leadership** bursary was awarded to Emma Aube, daughter of Region 1 member Nicolle Hébert.



Thank you to all the students who applied and we welcome your applications for next year's scholarship awards. We wish you all the greatest success with your studies in the year ahead!

LOCAL 506 PRIDE COMMITTEE

Things are just getting off the ground for the Local 506 Pride Committee. The Committee Chair has received some responses to the call letter and members who have shown interest so far will be attending an initial in-person meeting in the fall at the Saint John union office.

The Committee attended Pride Parades in Fredericton in July, Saint John on August 12th and in Moncton on September 2nd.



The Committee is planning vigils to commemorate the Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20th.



Unifor at the September 3rd Rally in Fredericton supporting Policy 713.

The Local 506 Pride Committee also attended a rally at the Fredericton legislature on September 3rd in support of the original Policy 713.

For more info or to express interest in the Local 506 Pride Committee, please contact Erin Howell Sharpe at erin.howellsharpe@unifor506.ca

September Union Meetings

Nominations for Regional Chair were accepted at recent Saint John and Fredericton union meetings. Tammy Lewis and Adam Costain accepted the nominations and will assume the roles of Region 1 and Region 3 Chair respectively by acclamation.

UNIFOR NHL FANTASY POOL



Unifor is once again rolling out their very successful NHL Fantasy Hockey Pool. The last three years have been a tremendous success and they anticipate Year 4 is not going to be any different. The pool is box format, you simply select players from a group and folks from every level can participate.

The link for the event is www.unifor.org/nhlpool



Registration is free to all members!

The deadline to register is October 17, 2023, 2:00 p.m. EST due to the late notice we are extending the start deadline.

There is no entry fee for the hockey pool but in the spirit of giving back to your community, Unifor asks once again that participants make a donation to your local food bank. If you have any questions, please email recreation@unifor.org.



The National will have some great weekly and monthly prizes along with grand prizes for the winners at the end of the season!

Good luck to all participants!

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

September 30th is the national statutory holiday to recognize the widespread abuse at residential schools, honour survivors, and work for reconciliation. The event has been known as Orange Shirt Day since 2013. It is named after the clothing taken from Phyllis (Jack) Webstad when she was six years old on her first day at a residential school.



The slogan “Every Child Matters” is a plea to value and care for all children, something that was not the standard held by the churches administering residential schools, nor provincial and federal governments.

Unifor members have long organized for justice on Orange Shirt Day. The ongoing discovery of remains of missing children on the sites of former residential schools confirm what Indigenous communities have said for decades--thousands of children went to the schools and never returned home. It is a reminder of the scale of colonial violence that still haunts survivors and their families today.

For many survivors, the 2022 papal apology was a significant gesture but legitimate concerns remain and the church’s words must be followed up with action.

On September 30th, Unifor amplifies the calls from Indigenous Rights Holders for accountability. Organizations and individuals who are responsible for stealing and abusing children must be held accountable. It’s also time to end the impunity for those who covered up these crimes or continue to block the release of records.

Reconciliation is not possible until Every Child Matters.



LABOUR DAY



Region 1 members in Saint John at Labour Exhibit and Labour Day Parade.

Members celebrated Labour Day across the province on Sept 4th to show their unity, solidarity and to reflect on the many accomplishments of the Labour movement. It's a day that highlights the ongoing importance of organized labour in shaping a fair and just society for all workers.



In addition to being a day of celebration, Labour Day is also a time to reflect on the challenges that workers continue to face. Despite the progress that has been made, there is still much work to be done to ensure that workers are treated fairly and have access to the benefits and protections they need.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

The Women's Committee is currently collecting purses and toiletries for the upcoming Purse Project campaign in November.



If you would like to donate items, please contact the Women's Committee Chair, Angela Davis, at angela.davis@unifor506.ca