

JULY 2, 2025

# UNIFORUM 506

*Quarterly Newsletter for Members of Unifor Local 506*



## WHAT'S NEW AT UNIFOR 506:

- Atlantic Regional Council
- Unifor Telco & Tariffs
- Anti-Scab Legislation Win!
- By-Election Results for VP
- Day of Mourning
- New Members!
- UACL Biennial Meeting
- Contest Winners
- Scholarships Winners
- Retirements
- Day of Mourning
- Special By-Election Results
- IPV Symposium

## ATLANTIC REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Atlantic Regional Council took place in St. John's, NL, from May 2nd to 4th. Delegates began the event with a May Day rally, marching through downtown St. John's, proudly displaying banners that proclaimed, "Protect Canadian Jobs."

Atlantic Regional Director, Jennifer Murray, recognized the efforts of the region's council executive and standing committees. "There is a theme this weekend, and the theme is about all of you. Being inspired is powerful, but what we do with that feeling is what defines us," she said in her address.

National Secretary-Treasurer Len Poirier emphasized that members face numerous challenges, including tariffs and new technologies, but collective bargaining remains a key tool for defending workers.

# UNIFOR TELCO'S POSITION ON TARIFFS



Unifor is calling on levels of government and industry to step up and fight back against U.S. tariffs on Canadian products. While there are some industries who are more heavily impacted than others through direct trade activity, the tariffs are an economy-wide threat to Canada.



The U.S. trade war has presented a threat to Canadian Sovereignty and Canadian jobs. For the telecommunications sector, the trade war initiated by the United State's mandates is a call to action to ensure that the industry becomes more resilient and less vulnerable to foreign governments and companies.

Unifor is calling for governments and industry to:

- Tighten foreign ownership rules by prohibiting U.S. companies from purchasing any Canadian telecommunications company
- Protect our infrastructure to safeguard Canada's sovereignty in an increasingly volatile global landscape, recognize it as a strategic national security asset, secure telecommunication standards and crisis preparedness requirements for all telecom providers.
- Continue rolling out funds for broadband infrastructure projects in remote and rural regions
- Dedicate government funding to expand broadband infrastructure to include Indigenous communities
- Introduce governmental incentives for Canadian telecommunications companies to develop more domestic production capacity and reduce their dependence on U.S. or other foreign suppliers and creating jobs locally to keep jobs in Canada.
- Prioritize Canadian companies and require that work be performed locally and within Canada for any government procurement (at all levels) for telecommunications services and/or equipment

Unifor is Canada's premier telecommunications union, with nearly 26,000 members employed by large, small, private, and Crown employers in most regions of the country.

# UNIFOR CELEBRATES HISTORIC WIN AS FEDERAL ANTI-SCAB LEGISLATION COMES INTO FORCE

Unifor is marking a watershed moment for workers across Canada as federal anti-scab legislation officially takes effect on June 20th, banning employers from using replacement workers at federally-regulated workplaces during legal strikes or lockouts. This milestone is the direct result of years of tireless advocacy and organizing work by union members and allies across the country.



“This is a historic and hard-fought victory for workers’ rights in Canada,” said Unifor National President Lana Payne. “Unifor and our labour allies mobilized, organized, and demanded change—and today, we see that the power of collective action can achieve real, lasting progress. No employer in this country should be able to undermine negotiations with scab labour. With this new law coming into force, the right to free and fair collective bargaining is stronger today than it was before.”

Under the new law, employers in federally-regulated sectors—including transportation, banking, and telecommunications—are prohibited from using replacement workers during legal labour disputes. Violations of the law carry a penalty of up to \$100,000 per day in fines. The federal legislation represents a once-in-a-generation overhaul of the Canada Labour Code and brings long-overdue balance to Canada’s labour relations framework.



However, Unifor is warning of ongoing efforts by employer coalitions to circumvent and weaken the legislation.

“The fact is, employers are already probing for loopholes in this anti-scab law,” said Payne. “We have to stay vigilant to defend our right to strike, protect our gains, and extend these protections to all workers in every jurisdiction.”

With the majority of Canadian workers governed by provincial labour laws, Unifor continues to call on all provinces to follow the federal lead. While anti-scab laws exist in Quebec, British Columbia and Manitoba, Unifor is calling for greater enforcement and oversight of existing laws that leave workers covered by existing legislation vulnerable.



# BIENNIAL MEETING



Local 506 will be participating in the upcoming Unifor Atlantic Communication Locals Biennial meeting scheduled for July 8-9<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be held virtually with members participating from Locals 506 in NB, 2289 in Nova Scotia, 410 in Newfoundland and 401 in Prince Edward Island.



The purpose of the Biennial Locals meeting is to exchange ideas and make policy recommendations to the Unifor ACL Executive Board and the National Union. It also provides a forum for members locals to share information, coordinate activities, and build on solidarity with one another.

Elections will also take place to elect the Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Recording Secretary of the Unifor ACL Executive Board.

# LOCAL 506 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to Daphné St Pierre, winner of the 2025 Truth & Reconciliation Scholarship, Amberlee Lomax, winner of the 2025 Day of Remembrance Scholarship, and Freya Robichaud, winner of the 2025 Women in Leadership Bursary!



Thank you to all of the students who applied and we welcome your submissions for next year's bursary and scholarship awards.

# CONTEST WINNERS

In the April edition of the Uniforum 506 newsletter, we challenged members to find a hidden Unifor logo. Two members were successful in finding the logo; congratulations to Kristy Buck and Greg Garnhum, winners of a \$50 Sobeys gift card!



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

# DAY OF MOURNING

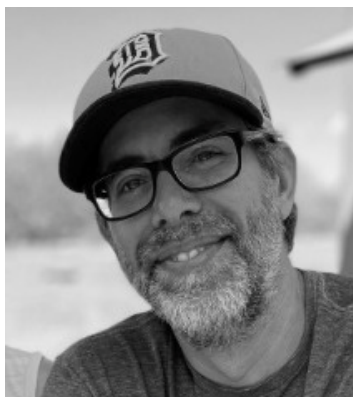
April 28

## DAY OF MOURNING JOUR DE DEUIL

Le 28 avril



Local 506 members laid wreaths at Day of Mourning monuments in Moncton and Saint John on April 28<sup>th</sup> to honor and pay tribute to the lives lost in workplace accidents or as a result of occupational illnesses.



Local 506 honors Moncton member Mike Daye who tragically lost his life on the job on November 22, 2022. His dedication and hard work will always be remembered by his colleagues and loved ones. This solemn occasion reminds us of the importance of advocating for improved safety measures and supporting each other in creating a safer work environment. Let us honor Mike's memory by continuing to fight for the well-being of all workers, ensuring that such tragedies are prevented in the future.



Local 506 acknowledges the profound impact that workplace tragedies have on families and communities.



Unifor is committed to promoting and advocating for safe working conditions and dedicated to preventing workplace accidents, injuries and fatalities.

# RETIREMENTS

We extend our best wishes to the following members who have recently retired. May your retirement be filled with joy, fulfillment, and new adventures!

- Glen Taylor - Region 1
- Claude Boulanger - Region 1
- Glen Moore - Region 1
- Richard Sherwood - Region 1
- Judy Mercer - Region 1
- Dianne Brown - Region 1
- Victor Walsh - Region 1
- Sheilagh Bell - Region 1
- Theresa Naves - Region 1
- Bruce Colford - Region 1
- Sonia Deschenes - Region 1
- Tracy Hanlin - Region 1
- Carlos Jimenez - Region 1
- Dan Clarke - Region 1
- Nancy McAfee - Region 1
- Mark Koven - Region 1
- Sean Gass - Region 1
- Nicole Marks - Region 1
- David Sehl - Region 1
- Doug Dow - Region 1
- Chris Curwin - Region 1
- Sherry MacQuarrie - Region 1
- Janet Phippen - Region 1
- Robert Campbell - Region 1
- Glendon Mcquade - Region 1
- Mark Richard - Region 2
- Lawrence Cormier - Region 2
- Cecil Kervin - Region 2
- Brenda Cormier - Region 2
- Dianne Hebert - Region 2
- Conrad Theriault - Region 2
- Barb Garland - Region 2
- Andrew Akerley - Region 2
- Francois Bedard - Region 2
- Kimberly Beaulieu - Region 2
- Guy Doucet - Region 2
- Daniel Leger - Region 2
- Carolyn Hache - Region 2



- Richard Thornton - Region 3
- Roger Jean - Region 3
- Bentley Boucher - Region 3
- Mark Hachey - Region 4
- Eric Frenette - Region 4
- Albert Chiasson - Region 4
- Daniel Roy - Region 4
- Ronald Downing - Region 4
- Claude Mallet - Region 4
- Paul Knoetze - Region 4
- Renaud Gionet - Region 4

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](mailto:unionoffice@unifor506.ca) to ensure we have your current mailing address, phone and email information.

## 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](mailto:unionoffice@unifor506.ca)



## NEW MEMBERS

Local 506 welcomes the following new members!

- Anders Good
- Connor Griffin
- Wesley McCluskey
- Justin Brun
- Gabe Fletcher
- Sebastien Totten



## SPECIAL BY-ELECTION FOR VICE PRESIDENT



At the April sub-local union meetings there was one nomination for the role of Local 506 Vice President. The nominee, Leesa Allain, accepted the nomination at the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Region 2 Moncton union meeting and was sworn in at the June 25<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meeting.

## INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE SYMPOSIUM

On June 3rd, Unifor convened members and leaders, along with frontline service providers in Fredericton, to emphasize the pressing need for the province to recognize Intimate Partner Violence as an epidemic. This declaration is crucial for securing funding and creating resources that effectively tackle the issue.

N. B. Minister of Women's Equality, Lyne Chantal Boudreau joined to hear the call for action and discuss the need for an epidemic-level recognition and response.



Local 506 Women's Advocate Erin Howell Sharpe also participated in the Intimate Partner Violence symposium. She encourages any members in need of support and resources to reach out to her at [erin.howellsharpe@unifor506.ca](mailto:erin.howellsharpe@unifor506.ca). Local 506 is committed to creating safe spaces for all its members.