

“Solidarity Through Perseverance”



# CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, October 27, 2017

## Solidarity Through Perseverance



Marie Buchanan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President and member of the host committee welcomes delegates and observers representing all UNW Locals to the 17<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention in Yellowknife. This year's theme **Solidarity Through Perseverance** depicts the unity, support and the common vision to overcome obstacles as our members have shown over the past three years. Over the course of the weekend delegates are reviewing and debating the priorities and actions of the NWT's largest labour union, attending to procedural and financial business, electing executive leadership and setting union direction for the coming three years.

### Lunch Time Rally attacks MLA Wage Freeze



Convention delegates, local UNW and PSAC members along with friends and supporters of the Public Service gathered outside the Legislative Assembly on Friday to rally in support of worker's rights to fair wages and job security. UNW President Todd Parsons addressed the crowd citing the union's position on the importance of a fair collective agreement for GNWT, NTPC and HRHSS members. The union and its members are going to stand together and fight the government for fair wages, and a fair approach to addressing rising cost of living – in the same way MLA's salaries do.

### Friday's Guest Speakers



Chief Edward Sangris, YKDFN  
Mayor of Yellowknife, Mark Heyck  
United Way, Tracy St. Denis  
Rotary Club, President Kam Hogan



Delegates and observers participate in Convention School at the UNW 17<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention.



UNW staff register delegates and observers prior to the start of the convention.



Members of the UNW rally outside the Legislative Assembly

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## UNW President Reports to Membership

UNW President, Todd Parsons reported on the progress and accomplishments of the UNW over the past three years. He highlighted that as we grow as a family we can overcome the hurdles through **Solidarity and Perseverance**. Other key elements of the address included:

- Completion of the “House of Labour”
- Building the Union Home
- Bargaining Success
- Modernization of the Public Service
- Relief Workers
- Government Spending
- More support to members (shop stewards, youth engagement)
- Federal Issues- Bill-C-27/Pharmacare
- Public Private Partnerships

“Every single one of us is equally important in our union—our individual gifts give strength to the whole. We **CAN** affect change. We **DO** affect change. Through **PERSEVERANCE, SOLIDARITY, we ARE FORMIDABLE!**” President UNW.

The President delivered the keynote address and written report on behalf of the Full Executive. Copies of the President’s Report will be available to members.

## Delegates Get Schooled

Approximately 60 delegates and 25 observers spent Friday morning getting schooled with regards to the do’s and don’ts of convention conduct. Convention School hosted by PSAC North provided first time delegates along with those returning an insight into convention procedures. Topics included the purpose of a convention, rules of order, resolution and debate, and voting on resolution. Thank you to Kim Bailey and Holmann Richard for ensuring that we are set to go for the rest of the weekend.



### Join the Social Media Revolution

A great way to learn about events taking place in your union is through the Union of Northern Workers is through our social media channels.


You can now follow us on Facebook and Twitter:

The **UNW Facebook group** is a closed, central location where members can enjoy a safe environment to learn and discuss events and issues taking place within the union.

You can now find us on Twitter at **@unw\_nwt** where members and our supporters can follow and interact with union activities instantly.



Join the **UNW Facebook group!**



**SOLIDARITY**

*unity or agreement of feeling or action; among individuals with a common interest; mutual support within a group*



**PERSEVERANCE**

*to persist in anything undertaken; maintain a purpose in spite of difficulty obstacles or discouragement; continue steadfastly.....to succeed*