

# CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, October 28, 2017

# **Committee Reports**



Both the Finance and By-laws/Generals Committees provided reports to the delegates at the Triennial Convention on Saturday. The **Finance Committee** has worked hard at building the 2018,2019, and 2020 budget and presented the budget under the following guiding principles.

- 1. Membership Focused
- 2. Transparency
- 3. Long Term financial stability
- 4. Protection of long term assets.

Delegates asked several questions on the following issues, education expenses, paperless project, rental income and professional dues. The final budget will be available to members.

The **By-Laws/Generals Committee** was established after a call for expressions of interest from the President was sent to delegates of the 17<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention. The Committee consist of Sister Lauraine Armstrong, Brother Ivan Landry, Brother Melvin Larocque and Sister Weir to the combined committee. Resolutions debated included building the shop steward network, youth engagement conference, gender inclusive language, advocacy programs to help members experiencing domestic violence.



Delegates ask questions to the finance Committee during their report on Saturday, 28 October at the UNW 17<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention.



### Robyn Benson, National President PSAC

A native of Manitoba, Robyn Benson has served as the PSAC National President since May 2012. Robyn is a passionate activist for human rights, social justice and a strong public service. In her address via video Robyn recognized our fellow brothers and sisters in Hay River for their strength and resolve during the strike against the Town of Hay River. She acknowledged employees of Dominion Diamond Mines for holding back concessions and refusing to bow to pressure. Robyn recognizes the challenges our bargaining teams are currently having with the GNWT and notes the importance it has on the entire union. Robyn also noted that she will not be running for re-election at the next convention in the spring. For the full address please visit our Facebook page.

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"Every generation has to fight for the Next"

### Hassan Yussuf, CLC President

First elected to the position of President for the Canadian Labour Congress in May 2014, Hassan Yussuf has led Canada's unions in a number of significant victories. In a passionate address to Convention attendees he spoke on a number of topics important to our members today. He highlighted the importance for a stronger Canada Pension Plan and the tabling of Bill C-26 which lead to the expansion of CPP. He reminded the audience that joining a Union is a fundamental right and that all workers in Canada have the opportunity to join a Union of their choice. As the UNW continues to negotiate with the GNWT he also emphasized that members have a right to strike, which is considered a fundamental right and protected by the constitution. In conclusion he reiterated that we are currently negotiating with a difficult employer and encouraged members to continue their fight.



### **Local 6 Gives Back**

Melvin Larocque, President, and Kim Tybring from Local 6, Town of Hay River thank delegates for their support during the Hay River strike this past winter. Support for the Local came from across the country and saw the strike fund raise over \$100,000 for striking members and their families. Today Local 6 announced that they will be giving back approximately \$45,000 to the UNW to assist with upcoming strike action.

### **Paperless Project**

As part of the Paperless Project, delegates and observers were provided tablets at the 17<sup>th</sup> Triennial Convention. The tablets enabled attendees to access all convention documents which significantly reduced paper waste.





### **Rotary thanks UNW**

Kam Hogan, President of the Rotary Club presents UNW President Todd Parsons with a token of appreciation from the Rotary Club of Yellowknife. The UNW is instrumental in providing assistance to several Rotary Club programs including the Rotary Kids Ahead Program.



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



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