

UNW 17th Triennial Convention Information for Delegates Delegate Series #4: THE CONVENTION BUSINESS

The By-Laws of the Union of Northern Workers, dictate that Convention Business shall consist of the following matters:

- The President’s Report;
- The Finance Committee’s financial and membership (and maybe other) reports;
- Matters submitted by the Union Executive, including policies enacted by the Union Executive during the periods between Conventions;
- Matters submitted by Locals;
- A proposed budget for the period until the next Convention;
- Election of the President and Executive Vice Presidents, and;
- Election of delegates to the PSAC Triennial Convention.



Convention must establish certain PROCEDURAL MATTERS

which ensure convention proceedings can be conducted in an orderly and efficient manner.

They include:

- the adoption of an *Agenda*,
- the adoption of a set of *Rules of Order*,
- ratification of Convention Committees.

These are vital preliminary matters (usually handled immediately before presentation of the President’s and Finance Committee’s Reports). They must be dealt with before Convention can commence.

Since it is usually the union’s executive body which is held responsible for arranging the Convention *Agenda*, two of its members will rise at the appropriate times to move a motion to adopt it. They will make similar motions regarding the *Rules of Order*, and the composition of the Convention Committees. Once each motion is accepted as “in order” by the Convention Chairperson, the motions are open to debate and amendment. The mover, the seconder, or the Chairperson may reply to any direct questions put to them by the delegates.

When these preliminary matters are finished, Convention then begins to consider those matters submitted by the Executive and Locals. Each matter comes before Convention in the form of a recommendation from one of the Convention Committees. Due to their importance to the ongoing operation of the Union, matters relating to its By-Laws and finances are normally dealt with as a priority.

Elections

The election of Union Executive Officers, and the election of delegates to the PSAC Convention, takes place on the last day of Convention. A future circular will explain the election procedures.

The next issue in this series will concern “THE CONVENTION RESOLUTION”