

UNW

Action Update



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Message from the President

Hello members!

In case you missed it, I hope you had a chance to review [my message](#) at the beginning of the year.

As I discussed in my message, I want to reemphasize the importance of an open door policy and transparency at all levels of the UNW.

We were very glad to see members participate in our initial survey on Training and Education. Another survey about ["Communications"](#) is now available and we hope to hear more from members about how we can better connect within the union. So please complete the survey and share among your colleagues!

Your feedback is extremely important and helps us know whether or not we are reaching you.

Finally, this is of course the time of season where we honour First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples for National Aboriginal Day. Our Indigenous peoples not only add to the quality of our Northern workforce, but are an integral part of the diversity and richness of our society. We also mark Canada Day and I hope you are able to take the time to enjoy the national holiday with friends and family.

Until next time,

Todd Parsons
President, UNW



June 30, 2017

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"The Mission of the Union of Northern Workers is to inspire, engage and empower workers and community through quality education, effective representation, model public service and political action."

UNW Members
Discounts

Mark's Work
Warehouse
Clothes That Work.

UNW News

Bargaining Highlights

Please stay tuned to the [Bargaining Updates](#) section of the website.

We know members would like to know what is going on with GNWT and NTPC bargaining.

The bargaining teams have been working hard for the last few months to come up with a fair solution to bridge the gap between the parties. Getting dates to return to the table for both groups has been a challenge.

The employer in both cases is refusing to move on their monetary proposal of 0 %, 0 %, 1 %, 1 % and very little in the way of non-monetary improvements.

Please talk to your bargaining team members if you have any questions.

UNW Communications Survey

Thanks to the respondents the first survey of the summer on Training and Education. Over the coming months, we will be periodically sending more surveys out to members.



A survey about UNW [Communications](#) is now available.

Please share with union colleagues and coworkers and encourage them to send us their email addresses to be included in these notifications.

Josie Gould Memorial Scholarship

A promotional graphic for the Josie Gould Memorial Scholarship. At the top left, a white starburst contains the text "Scholarship deadline June 30, 2017 See website for details!!". At the top right, a red rounded rectangle contains the website "www.unw.ca". The main title "Josie Gould Memorial Scholarship" is in large white font on a dark blue background. Below this, on the left, is a quote from Veronica Speers in a white rounded box. In the center is a photograph of Veronica Speers, a woman with dark hair, wearing a black lab coat and blue gloves, standing next to a piece of laboratory equipment. To the right of the photo is a light blue rounded box containing her name "Veronica Speers" in large bold font, followed by her title "Medical Laboratory Technologist" and employer "Stanton Health Authority". At the bottom right is the UNW logo, a red circle with a white starburst and the text "Union of Northern Workers" and "A Component of the PSAC".

The deadline to apply for the Josie Gould Memorial Scholarship is June 30, 2017 at 5 p.m. To learn more details about how to apply please visit our [website](#).

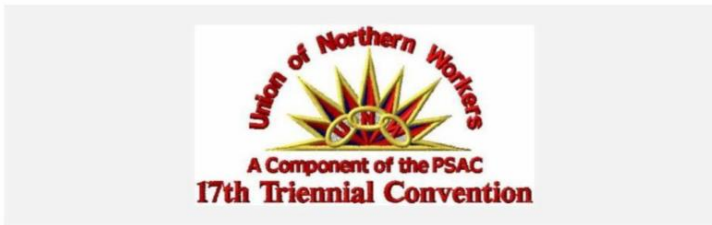
Local Presidents' Meeting



It's that time again! Local presidents will be getting together under one roof for the annual [Local Presidents' Meeting](#). The meeting will take place at the UNW North Star Building, July 8-9, 2017.

Since 2002, Local presidents have met annually at headquarters to network, and discuss common goals and concerns.

UNW 17th Triennial Convention



The UNW 17th Triennial Convention is just around the corner!

The event is being held at the Chateau Hotel in Yellowknife Oct. 27 to 29, 2017.

Here are some important dates to remember!

- **July 28, 2017** - All names of observers must be submitted to DFA by this date.
- **July 28, 2017** - Resolutions from the Executive must be submitted to the DFA by this date.

Please continue to watch the [Convention page](#) for more updates!

National Day of Mourning



The National Day of Mourning, which is held on April 28 every year, is an important date for the UNW. Since 1984, the day has commemorated those who have been killed, injured or disabled in the workplace.

President Todd Parsons, left, and First Vice President Gayla Thunstrom were among those from the UNW who attended the ceremony this year at the NWT Legislative Assembly. The event drew close to 100 people and featured the family of the late David Vinnicombe.

Vinnicombe, 19, was the only worker added to the Worker's Safety and Compensation Commission's Day of Mourning book after he died on a worksite in Inuvik in 2016.

To see more photos from the event, please click [here](#).

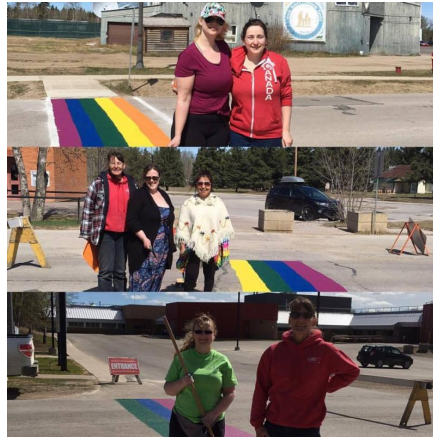


In Fort Smith, members of the UNW also marked the Day of Mourning. A moment of silence was held and a free chilli lunch was provided. Pictured from left are Marina Devine, Brad Brake, Lois Mezenberg, and Mary Elizabeth Cochrane Macdonald.

Community notes



Workers from the Village of Fort Simpson rallied outside Council offices earlier this month to raise awareness about their difficult round of negotiations with their employer.



In May, members and volunteers in Fort Smith came together to paint rainbow sidewalks in anticipation for the Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (May 17). Rashmi Patel, EVP said she was grateful for community support and patience while the roads were blocked for a short time. Special thanks to the Town of Fort Smith for support and Lois Mezenberg for organizing.

Members from Locals 2 and 12 took part in the Pride parade organized by P.W.K. High School's SAGE (Straights and Gays for Equality) GSA on Sunday June 4th.

The Fort Smith Regional Office has moved. It is still in the McDougal Centre, but it is now in the office formerly occupied by Victim Services.

Local 11 hosted a membership barbecue on June 16 at noon and at midnight. It was a fun event and the Local signed up a number of Rands to Full Membership.



For updates on what is happening at the UNW, please join our [Facebook page!](#)

Regulations and Bylaws

In coming issues of "Action Update", we will be highlighting sections of the UNW Regulations and Bylaws to assist the membership. This month we will be focusing on Locals Bylaw, Section 6.

To learn more about the UNW [Regulations](#) or [Bylaws](#), please visit our website.

Bylaw 12c- Local Affairs - Communications - Section ii

The UNW Bylaws provide specific direction on how communications materials are to be presented to the public. Specifically, in Bylaw 12 (C) - Local Affairs - Communications Section II, all items that are prepared on behalf of the UNW should be reviewed by headquarters. The purpose of this bylaw is so that all messaging is coming from a central source and that content is factual, appropriate and legal to distribute. This includes (but is not limited to) material for Web sites and social media, flyers, posters,

Training and Events

Training with Tina

Local 1 had three members attend the courses [UNW-Your Union](#) and [UNW-Shop Steward](#) training on the weekend of May 27 and 28.

The three participants from Local 1 had lively conversation, many questions, and great new ideas that may benefit all members of the Union in the future.

If you have ideas and wish to learn more about your Union, unions in general, or wish to become more involved, please keep an eye on our [website](#) for upcoming training opportunities.

You may also contact your Local's executive members or your Service Officer for more information on how you can become involved.



**Tina Korycki,
Service Officer**

Grievance Achievements

Success! Arbitration Award - Misuse of Relief Workers (GNWT)

The Arbitrator found there to be a breach of the Collective Agreement and directed the Employer to conduct an audit.

Please see the [Summary](#) and [Full Decision](#) on our [Grievance Decisions](#) section of the website.

Contact Us

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