

1006Alive

UFCW Canada Local 1006A • Union News

VOL 10, NO 2, SUMMER 2025

***"A union means protection
and a voice." – page 4***



**BUY CANADIAN
BUY UFCW MADE**

Support Members Across the Country – page 15



Negotiation Highlights – page 10



Wayne E. Hanley,
President

Kevin Benn,
Secretary Treasurer

Glacier Effs-Samuel,
Recorder

Head Office

70 Creditview Road
Woodbridge, ON L4L 9N4

Our union office is located on the traditional territory of the Mississauga. UFCW Canada Local 1006A would like to recognize and honour the Indigenous people in Canada who continue to live and work on these lands.



**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**

Affiliated With

The Ontario Federation of Labour
The Canadian Labour Congress

www.ufcw1006a.ca
1.800.637.5936
ufcw@ufcw1006a.ca



1006Alive
UFCW Canada Local 1006A • Union News

Mail Publication Agreement No: 40065747

UFCW Canada Local 1006A © 2025



1006A's Indigenous committee and union staff take part in an Indigenous culture workshop.



1006A marks April 28, the National Day of Mourning, in Woodbridge for workers killed, injured or experiencing illness because of work.



UFCW members volunteer their time to elect worker-friendly candidate Sandy Shaw in the Ontario provincial election.



1006A's Women's Issues Network (WIN) activists discuss gender-equity advocacy work.



1006A won union member Sunday's WSIB appeal for entitlement to loss of earnings and healthcare benefits while he was off work with an injury. Sunday, a grocery worker from Mississauga, is pictured here (2nd from left) with 1006A's WSIB department.



PROUD TO BE CANADIAN. PROUD TO BE UNION.



Wayne E. Hanley (he/him)

*President, UFCW Canada Local 1006A
International Vice-President, UFCW*

This summer, more Canadians than ever are choosing to buy Canadian and travel within the country.

In the wake of American aggression and trade wars, Canadians are uniting to support each other and the country we love with courage, compassion and resilience.

We know these are difficult and uncertain times for many of our members and their families and we want you to know we continue to protect your interests in workplaces across Ontario.

UFCW Canada is leading the way in standing up for our members through our Buy Canadian campaign (pg. 15). Our national union is home to more than 250,000 workers across Canada, including many who work in the food, retail, manufacturing, processing, and hospitality sectors. This is the time for all of us to support each other by buying UFCW-made products and services, vacationing at UFCW-represented hotels and eating at UFCW-represented restaurants. As workers grapple with reduced hours and potential layoffs, it's important more than ever to support Canadian workers and Canadian-made products and tourism.

On the provincial and federal levels, we are ensuring elected officials know about the concerns and struggles of our members, who work in industries affected by the tariff wars.

As we are an international union, UFCW members and leadership are fighting and lobbying politicians across the United States on behalf of Canadians. Collectively, we are ensuring Canadian issues and concerns are being heard.

To this day, the goal of the current American administration has remained unchanged: to weaken our country economically through unnecessary trade wars, divide and misinform our population and annex our country. Given multiple opportunities to back down, the White House has stood by their threats and continues to undermine our country's sovereignty.

The fact is tariffs come with real life consequences for workers on both sides of the border. The American administration continues to play games with tariffs, which go up and down and are on and off depending on the whims of one man. The end result is maximum disturbance, instability and turmoil for millions of workers in Canada and the United States.

Canadians are known for being peaceful and respectful – however, we also know how to stand up for ourselves, elbows all the way up.

Canada is one of the best countries in the world, and I'm proud to be Canadian, now more than ever.

In these times of uncertainty and difficulty, the security and stability of UFCW union representation is more important than ever.

Union contracts empower workers with greater job protection, compared to non-union workers, during the most volatile times.

In good times and in turbulent times, the work of the union continues.

We continue to make life better for our membership, by negotiating fair contracts (pg. 10), and helping workers achieve unionization (pg. 17).

We continue to empower stewards with the skills and knowledge they need to help members resolve workplace issues (pg. 12).

We continue to stand up for injured workers and members' health and safety at work.

I'm proud of all that we continue to achieve together. While we face some challenging times ahead, I know we can get through it together, as union members and as Canadians.

Your union is here for you. As always, if you have any issues or concerns at work, please contact your union representative.

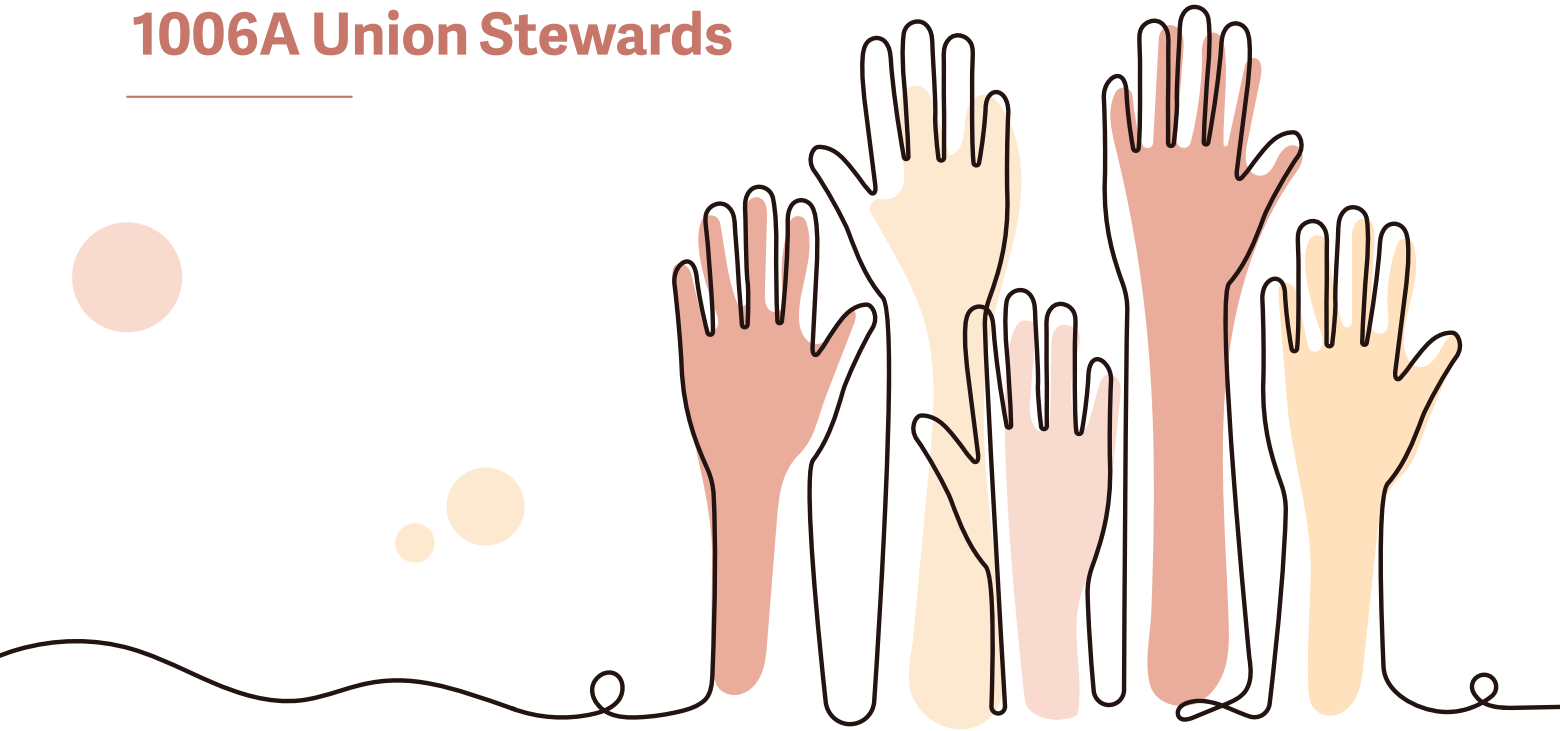


Here for you as always. Contact Your Union Rep.

www.ufcw1006a.ca/unionrep

Summer 2025 **1006Alive** 3

1006A Union Stewards



Going Above and Beyond to Help Members

Across Ontario, nearly 700 local union stewards volunteer their time and energy to uphold workers' rights and create fairer workplaces and communities.

"I want to thank our stewards for their exceptional work on behalf of our membership," said President Wayne Hanley. "You are making a difference and changing lives for the better."

1006Alive met with five union stewards to find out how they are creating change within their workplaces.

As a steward at Ryder Supply Chain Solutions Canada, Michael Creary is always looking out for his co-workers.

"Helping people has always been something that I like doing," Michael said. "Being a 1006A steward has made it easier. Helping people should be something everyone wants to do at some point."

Michael said UFCW has a positive impact on his life. Workers at the Ryder warehouse joined Local 1006A in 2019.

"UFCW has been able to help me to secure fairness for folks, and with the union, people are able to make issues known," Michael said. "It's a comforting feeling to know you have an organization like UFCW, which is willing to go above and beyond to help people."

Members come to Michael with questions about many issues, including overtime, vacations and job protections.

"It's about helping people understand their rights."

He is proud of the union's role in helping two members, who had applied for and were awarded new positions at the company. After the members were trained, the company, citing policy, decided to withdraw the positions on their start date.

"We found that was a bit egregious – when the members first approached me, they were upset," Michael said. "In their mind, they thought this was done – an irreversible decision by the company – but not so with UFCW."

After Michael listened to the members, he contacted his union representative. The union worked hard to resolve the issue, taking the case to arbitration. Eventually, the positions were reinstated.

"I was elated because with UFCW, they have the option for resolution," said Michael, adding that when the workplace was non-union, workers did not have a recourse.

Michael said there is no better feeling than being a UFCW member and a steward.

"When you have someone come up to you about some difficulties they are going through and you can offer advice and information to alleviate their concerns, and then, it actually works, it makes you feel good," Michael said. "UFCW is almost like an extension of my family – you never feel alone."

A full-page photograph of Michael Creary, a man with a beard and mustache, wearing a dark baseball cap and a dark button-down shirt over a dark t-shirt. He is standing in a warehouse with tall shelves of cardboard boxes in the background. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a gentle smile. His left hand is in his pocket, and he holds a pen in his right hand.

Michael

Continued on Page 6



1006A Union Stewards Going Above and Beyond to Help Members

Sarita Ramnarine is proud to be a UFCW 1006A steward.

At Hampton Inn and Suites by Hilton in Markham, Sarita helps members with a wide range of issues, from seniority rights to scheduling to bereavement.

"I feel great when I am able to help members," Sarita said. "I work as hard as I can for the membership and I am proud of myself."

Recently, Sarita was able to assist a member whose seniority rights were not being respected. The member was not given extra hours, despite being higher on a seniority list than another member. Under the union contract, the member with more service was entitled to the shift.

"When the member approached me, she was feeling hurt but I told her not to worry about it and then I spoke to our union representative and management," she said. "When we resolved the issue, she was thankful. I felt great."

As a steward, she says she is always learning a lot as she helps members.

"The union has made a big difference in my life and I am proud to be a union member. We have our rights – if anything happens, we reach out to our union representative and we solve the problem."



Sarita

Kimberly Campbell knows first-hand the difference the union makes.

"When I was facing bullying and harassment, the union stepped in and helped me tremendously," she said. "It was a relief to know the situation was taken care of."

At the Toronto Loblaws store where she works, Kimberly uses her knowledge and experience to look out for her co-workers, as they navigate different issues including hours and harassment.

"I became a steward to help my co-workers," she said. "Having a union means that members have help with the issues they face. For me, the union advantage is to have a strong collective agreement for hours of work."

She is proud of the role that she and her fellow stewards play in the workplace.

"Stewards are mediators and activists," she said. "When I help my co-workers, it gives me a sense of accomplishment that I was able to help in their time of need."



Kimberly

Jacqueline Fraser is proud to follow in the footsteps of her father, who was a former steward for UFCW.

"My father really believed in helping people," Jacqueline said. "He really instilled in us how important the union was for job protection and your rights. From him, I learned how much power you can have with one voice, added to another voice, added to another voice, and together, we become so powerful."

At the No Frills store where she works, Jacqueline is driven by her passion to help others. She does what she can to help her co-workers, including those who are working at their first job and others, who are new to the country.

"When people come to me, I want to give them as much knowledge as I can so they understand their rights," she said. "I want them to know how much the union can protect them."

Jacqueline said union representation is vital as workers' rights are under threat.

"Today, we see businesses and people whittling away workers' rights," she said. "If we don't have a union out there working for us, being a voice for us, we will be taken advantage of."

Jacqueline has gained more confidence through her role as a steward, through union training and meeting new people. She is thrilled to be part of the 1006A family.

"A union means protection and a voice," she said. "A union means strength, power, and knowledge."



Jacqueline

Edward Brown strives to be a voice for his co-workers at OTG at Toronto Pearson Airport.

As a steward, he helps members with scheduling, health and safety issues, seniority and human rights.

"I feel satisfaction when I am there to help somebody who is in need," Edward said.

Brown still remembers helping a member, who was having difficulty getting paid for their bereavement leave.

"When the member came to me, they were upset due to the fact they were grieving, and they weren't getting their bereavement paid."

Edward launched into action. He listened to the member and then reached out to the HR department. Thanks to Edward's work, the issue was resolved.

"The member was relieved and satisfied and they got the fairness they deserved," Edward said. "I was happy the member's rights were upheld and they got what they were supposed to get under the union contract."

Edward said he is proud to be a union steward.

"To me, UFCW means opportunity and fairness for all."



Edward



THE RISE OF DISINFORMATION & THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH

Disinformation is everywhere, and it is putting democracies around the world at risk.

From Britain to the United States, false and misleading information is having an impact on elections and in turn, people's lives. Canada is no exception.

After Canada's 16-month public inquiry into foreign interference, Commissioner Marie-Josée Hogue reported earlier this year that the greatest threat is disinformation as it "threatens the very existence of our democracy." In fact, she further reported that our country does not have the tools to combat disinformation, whether it's foreign or domestic.

From Facebook to X, Canadians are being targeted by sophisticated social media campaigns, which utilize fake profiles and bots (automated programs) – often generated by overseas actors with an agenda. As a result, we are seeing an onslaught of messages, with false or misleading information on everything from health, finance to politics.

Part of the issue is that Canadians, like much of the world, are increasingly turning to social media for information instead of traditional media outlets, like newspapers and TV stations. Many do not realize the memes, videos, and graphics that they encounter may be deliberately designed to manipulate them.

"The consequence of disinformation is immense as it could lead Canadians to develop false impressions of political, financial and health issues and lead them to ultimately, make decisions against their best interests," said President Wayne Hanley. "As citizens, it's important to pause, think critically and consider further investigation of the information we find on social media and realize just because it is online doesn't mean it is true. The standards for accuracy are lower to non-existent compared to traditional media."

Recent reports indicate disinformation is currently being pushed by Facebook groups, which have been repackaged to promote Canada as the 51st state.



COMBATING DISINFORMATION

1 Always Check the Source: Who is saying what and why are they saying it? It's important to know who is creating the information. Search with Google and Wikipedia to find out more information about the organization or account that is promoting any information. Having thousands of followers doesn't mean an account is providing you with accurate information.

2 Fact-Check the Information: You can fact-check by searching for news stories on the same subject. If trusted news sources are reporting the same story, you know it is more likely to be true. You can also use fact-checking resources from well-established reputable newswires: Associated Press – AP (apnews.com/ap-fact-check), Agence France-Presse – AFP (factcheck.afp.com) and [the Canadian Press \(thecanadianpressnews.ca/fact_checking\)](https://thecanadianpressnews.ca/fact_checking)



3 Pause if a Social Media Post Triggers an Emotional Response or Makes a Bold Claim: If the post triggers an emotional response or sounds too good to be true, ensure you double-check the information. A UN campaign is encouraging social media users to pause to interrupt the emotional impact of social media posts and to take a deep breath to trigger critical thinking.

Other online groups are widely spreading disinformation regularly, and have amassed a massive number of followers. For example, on X (formerly Twitter), researchers found coordinated attempts from hundreds of thousands of accounts to tarnish Prime Minister Mark Carney with disinformation and promote Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre in the leadup to the last federal election.

As more people spend time online and by themselves, they are more susceptible to disinformation. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) reports that social isolation is a key factor that leads to people believing in conspiracy worldviews: "Loneliness can motivate people to connect with a community, gaining a sense of social identity... Online conspiracy groups can offer that sense of connection and belonging."

To combat misinformation, the CMA encourages social media users to think critically, work on building relationships offline and reach out for help.

"With the proliferation of social media, the need for accurate information is more important than ever," President Hanley said. "It's our role as citizens to be aware and to double-check the information that we are receiving on these platforms."

4 Beware of Fake Accounts: Ask yourself if it is a real person or a real organization that is posting. Social media users often do not realize how widespread fake accounts are and the power they have to shape people's opinions. Common features of fake accounts include fake photos (taken from legitimate users or online photos), frequent typos and spelling errors, low engagement but high number of followers, and one-sided political views. Use Google Lens to check if a photo is fake (lens.google).

5 Watch Out for Similar Messages: When you see thousands of similar comments about a politician or a policy issue, pause and think about whether there is a coordinated effort to manipulate voters. In these cases, real people are often not the ones who are posting, but rather bots.

6 Stop the Spread: If the content looks suspicious, don't spread it further. Report it to the social media platform.

7 Back to the Basics: In a world of disinformation, rely on traditional media as they have standards and a responsibility to truthful information. Check out CBC News, CTV News, CP 24, Global News, the Toronto Star and Globe and Mail for information on issues that impact your lives.

8 Deep-Fake: With the use of AI on the rise, it's easy for people and groups to create fake images, videos and stories. Ensure you always double-check and investigate further before making up your mind.

Information Courtesy of the Government of Canada and the UN.



Members Making Gains

"UFCW representation empowers workers to transform their rights and livelihoods for the better. When members are united and strong, they build power to achieve gains, improve their rights and transform their workplace."



Wayne Hanley
President

Best Western – Leamington



UFCW 1006A members at the Best Western hotel in Leamington voted to accept a new contract.

The term of the contract is March 1, 2025 to February 29, 2028 and covers 36 members.

"We got a great deal and I was super happy with it," said Sara Bruner, a member of the negotiating committee. "We saw wage increases and a lot of positives – members were happy with it. It's nice to be able to go to our members and show that we achieved a great contract."

The negotiating committee included members, Sara Bruner and Union Representatives Joe Blythe and Greg Penner.

For Bruner, union representation in the hotel industry makes a big difference.

"There is strength in numbers with the union," she said.

Highlights include, wage increases of 11 per cent over the term of the union contract and improvements to hours of work, call-in and overtime provisions, and workload management.

Family Services of Peel – Mississauga



UFCW 1006A members at the Family Services of Peel ratified a new union contract with significant gains.

"I think it is one of the best contracts we have had," said Pauline Mathew, a member of the negotiating committee. "The union did a good job and people are happy with it. It was not an easy negotiation and I really appreciate the union staff for supporting us through this process."

The term of the contract is from April 8, 2025 to April 7, 2028 and covers 24 members.

The negotiating committee consisted of members, Kritika Arora, Pauline Mathew and Union Representatives, Daiana Dumitru and Amanmeet Singh.

Highlights include wage increases of 10 per cent over the term of the contract, one additional paid health and wellness day and improved language regarding sick leave accrual.

Ottawa Food Bank – Ottawa



UFCW 1006A members, who work at the Ottawa Food Bank, have ratified their new union contract.

"It was a pretty good contract," said Shawn Larocque, a member of the negotiating committee.

"The reaction from the membership was positive overall. It was a tough set of negotiations."

The term of the contract is from May 16, 2025 to May 15, 2028 and covers 10 members who work as drivers, warehouse workers and coordinators.

The negotiating committee included member, Shawn Larocque and Union Representative John Conway.

Highlights include yearly wage increases over the term (14 per cent increase for workers in-scale, and 9 per cent increase for workers at the end rate), two additional special leave days and improved bereavement leave.

HMS Host – Toronto Pearson Airport



UFCW 1006A members at HMS Host at Toronto Pearson Airport have achieved a new contract with gains.

The contract term is January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2028 and covers approximately 800 members.

“It was a fair contract especially with the way the economy is right now,” said Michelle Pow.

“The contract was beneficial to the membership because we maintained what we had and we also made gains.”

Pow said it was good the contract was negotiated before the tariffs were implemented, especially since it is a US-based company.

“Securing what we had was very important considering what is happening with the tariffs right now.”

The negotiating committee included members, Nikki Barless, Carmen Daus, Darrin Miller, Karriannel Miller, Michelle Pow and Karleen Smith and Executive Assistant to the President, Frank Ragni and Union Representatives, Glacier Effs-Samuel and Joshua Robichaud.

Highlights include substantial wage increases of 28 per cent over the term of the contract, improvements to RRSP matching contributions and an increased shoe allowance.

TOK Transit – York Region



UFCW 1006A members at TOK Transit, who work as bus drivers and mechanics for York Region Transit (YRT), have ratified a new union contract with several gains.

The term of the contract is from February 25, 2025 to February 24, 2031 and covers 290 members.

“We are satisfied and happy with the contract given the economic turmoil and global uncertainties,” said Leo Colamartino, a member of the negotiating committee.

“It is good to know that we have the security and guarantee of having a job. We worked hard to achieve the contract. Negotiations were long and involved a lot of back and forth, but we are pleased that we came to an agreement with the company.”

The negotiating committee included, members, Leo Colamartino, Paula Dinnall, Emmy Hendrickx, Conrad Poon, Sheera Sadhra, Kokulan Shanmugathas and Executive Assistant to the President, Frank Ragni, Union Representatives, Glacier Effs-Samuel, Kallisha Hoyes and Joshua Robichaud.

Highlights include a nearly 25 per cent wage increase over the contract term, break premium increases and an increased RRSP entitlement.

Unifirst – Mississauga (Dunwin and Orbitor)



UFCW 1006A members working at UniFirst laundry and uniform services on Dunwin and Orbitor in Mississauga have negotiated gains in their new union contract.

“It is an amazing contract and the members were happy with it,” said Patricia Fortune-Wilson, a member of the negotiating committee. “The union really fought for us.”

Fortune-Wilson said she was satisfied with the improvements made to wages, sick days, pension and the non-monetary aspects of the contract. “The union did a good job.”

The term of the union contracts is from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2028 and covers 24 members at the Orbitor location and 82 members at the Dunwin location. While they are two bargaining units, the terms of the agreement are the same for both facilities.

The negotiating committee for both locations included members, Daljit Chahal, Patricia Fortune-Wilson, Munish Rana and Sheela Sivanesan and Union Representatives, Jonathan Lobo, Diana O’Brien and Amanmeet Singh.

Highlights include wage increases of nearly 13 per cent over the term of the union contract, strengthened discrimination/harassment language and an additional paid sick day.



www.ufcw1006a.ca to read more about the gains 1006A members are making.



Empowering Change Through Education

Even after many years of instructing local union stewards, Lorrie Russell loves to see the flicker in participants' eyes as they walk out of Stewards' Training.

"It's incredible to see the difference between when they walk in and when they walk out," she said. "You can see the light bulb turning on. They are empowered because they attained knowledge – they are ready to go out and fight for themselves and their co-workers. They are ready to protect everyone in the workplace."

This spring, Local 1006A trained nearly 200 stewards from across Ontario. The local union's education and training program empowers activists with the knowledge and skills to help their co-workers.

"It means a lot to have the opportunity to educate stewards about something I truly believe in – the union," said Lorrie, who takes time away from working at No Frills to teach fellow members.

Classes took place from April 8 to May 21 at the union office Training Centre.

"I want to recognize the exceptional work of our instructors, who continue to empower, educate and strengthen our steward base and our union through their efforts," said President Wayne Hanley.

The local union scheduled eight different courses for the 2025 spring session, including *The Steward Course: An Introduction*, *Understanding Human Rights and Handling Tough Issues*.

"With training, our stewards learn information that they can use in their everyday lives and in their workplaces. I love being able to share the knowledge I have gained through instructing these courses," said Lorrie. "Even after so many classes, there is always a new question that comes up with each group, as workplaces change and adapt through the years."

Penny Patterson, a long-time instructor who works at a Your Independent Grocer, said being an instructor with the local union means a lot to her.

"I am proud and thankful for the opportunity to make a difference through education and training," she said.

Penny still remembers attending her first training session in Toronto as a new steward 27 years ago.

"It opened up the world to me," Penny said.

As a steward, she made lifelong friendships through the local union's training courses and annual Stewards' Conferences.





"Being with like-minded people, you have the opportunity to develop lifelong bonds," Penny said. "The camaraderie and the bonds that you make when you do live training cannot be replaced. In these environments, it is easy to be yourself because you know you are going to be accepted no matter who you are."

As an instructor, Penny said she keeps learning from the stories, ideas and experiences that other stewards share during the courses.

"We are all growing, learning and changing," she said. "Everybody is a student of the world, who you are now isn't who you were 20 years ago, 10 years ago, or even 5 years ago."

Stewards were thrilled with the spring training courses.

"I've gained knowledge about workers' rights, handling grievances, and how to support my co-workers effectively," said Asal Sedighinejad, who works at Loblaw's and became a steward to stand up for fairness and to build a better workplace. "Stewards' Training is essential and helps build a more informed and united workforce. It empowers members and strengthens our union."

President Hanley commended members for participating in the training.

"We are proud of our incredible stewards for their hard work and dedication to building fairer workplaces and to making life better for their fellow workers," said Hanley. "Our dynamic training program provides our steward base with the skills, knowledge and tools to improve and protect our members at work. I want to thank our stewards for volunteering their time and energy to take part in this important training opportunity and for their tireless work on behalf of our membership every day."

Hira Zeshan, who works at Swiss Chalet, said she developed a better understanding of the union contract through Stewards' Training.

"I gained more knowledge on communication, problem solving, teamwork and leadership," she said. "I was inspired to become a steward by a desire to stand up and advocate for workers' rights and to make sure the work environment is safe and healthy."

She said it's very important for the union to offer Stewards' Training.

"Effective training empowers union stewards to represent members fairly, understand the collective agreement and have the knowledge to handle the complexities of workplace issues."

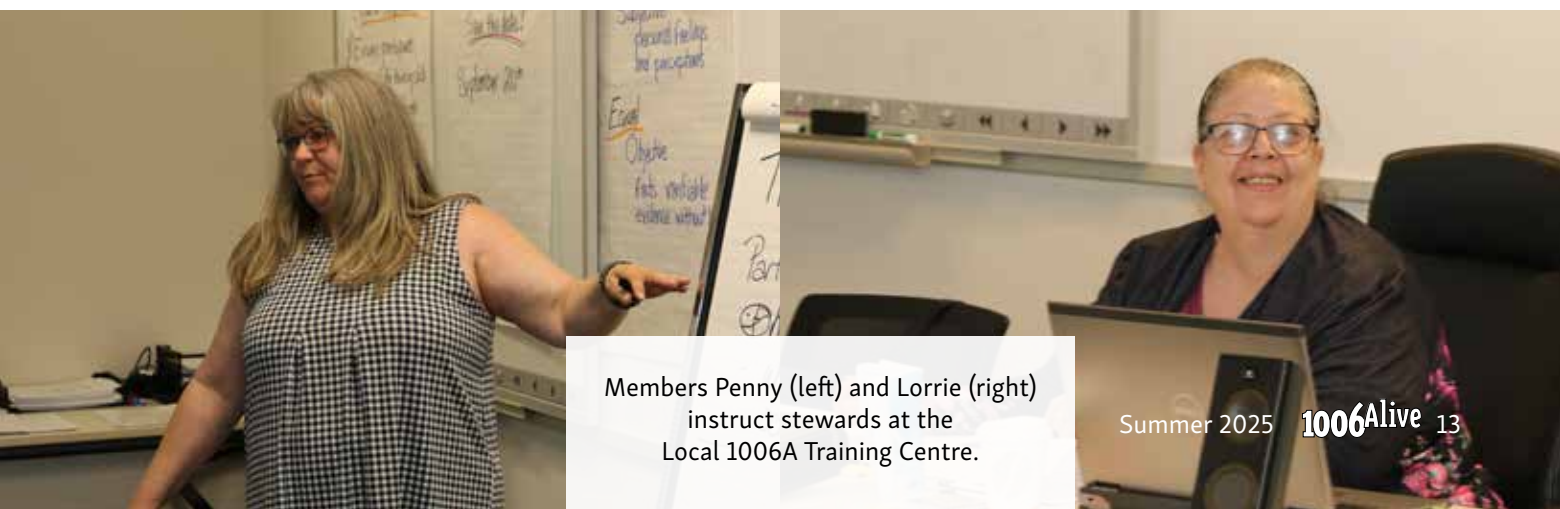
Satwinder Singh, who works at Pliteq, noted that Stewards' Training makes a difference, ensuring member complaints and grievances are reported.

"During training, we learn about responsibilities – what to do and what not to do – but also get a chance to meet experienced stewards and learn about different workplaces."

Lisa MacLeod, who works at No Frills, said Stewards' Training taught her about the role and expectations of a steward in the workplace.

"Being given the tools to do the best you can, in any role or job is always valuable – never stop learning," she said. "I was inspired to be a steward because helping people to understand their rights at work or having a safe person to talk to is important to me."

To learn more about Stewards' Training, please contact Rick Young at ryoung@ufcw1006a.ca



Members Penny (left) and Lorrie (right) instruct stewards at the Local 1006A Training Centre.



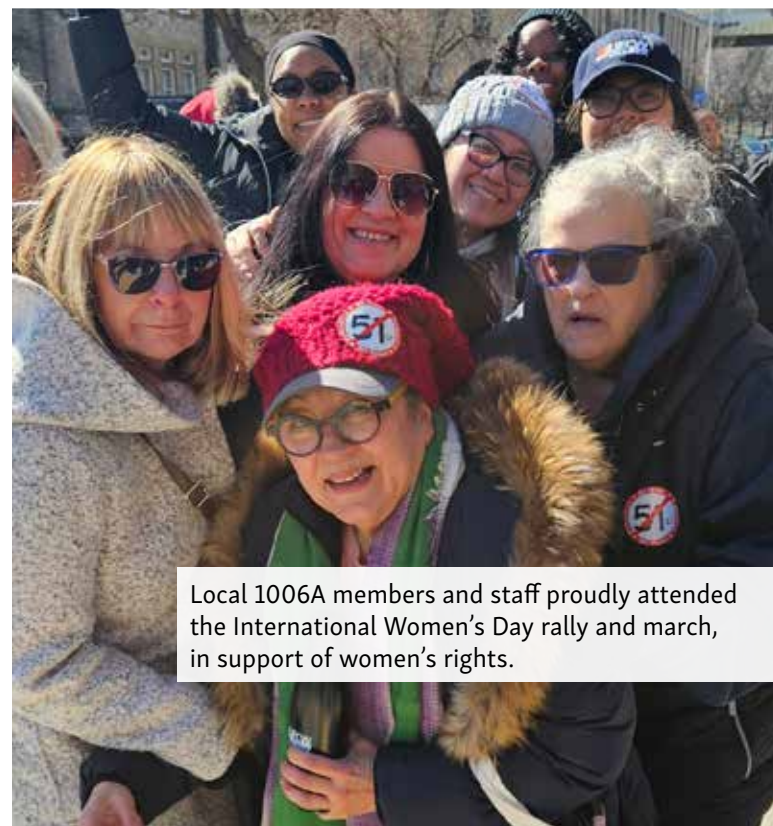
1006A stands up for equity and inclusion at Pride events in Toronto, Kingston and Brockville.



In support of gender equality, Local 1006A attended the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, along with UFCW Canada and activists from around the world.



May 5 is the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people. It is also known as Red Dress Day.



Local 1006A members and staff proudly attended the International Women's Day rally and march, in support of women's rights.



Stewards learn new skills to help their co-workers at the Local 1006A Training Centre.



**BUY CANADIAN
BUY UFCW MADE**

Support UFCW Members Across Our Country

As the United States continues its trade war, the protection of our members' jobs and livelihoods is our number one priority.

Along with advocating for our membership at Queen's Park and Parliament Hill, we are encouraging all people to buy UFCW Canada-made and Canadian products and services.

This means checking the label and buying Canadian products and services. It means eating at restaurants and staying at hotels where our union members work.

"Buying Canadian is about coming together to support and protect each other," said President Wayne Hanley. "It's about showing how proud we are to be Canadian and demonstrating our commitment to all workers and their families across this great country. The tariff war is being used to economically weaken Canada and we must do what we can to buffer against these attacks and protect our members."

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT



UFCW 1006A is proud to represent hundreds of members at 40+ Swiss Chalet locations across Ontario. You'll also find our members working at Baton Rouge in Ottawa and Red Lobster in Burlington. Support our members in the hospitality and service industry by eating where our members work.



If you are catching a flight at Toronto Pearson or Billy Bishop Airport, support our members who are preparing the food and working at restaurants, coffee shops and lounges.



UFCW 1006A is proud to represent thousands of members working in 50+ hotels across Ontario. Support UFCW 1006A members by staying at union-represented hotels. 1006A members can be found working in hotels in London, Windsor, Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, Guelph, Brampton, Simcoe, Sarnia, Mississauga, North York, Oakville, Bancroft, Brantford and more. If you are vacationing in Ontario. Speak with your Union Rep to find out about 1006A hotels at your destination.

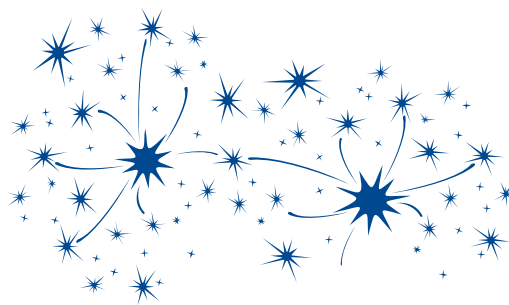


**UFCW Canada members proudly produce
many of the nationally recognized food
brands right across the country.**

- Unico Tomato Sauces
- Janes Chicken (Sofina Foods)
- Primo Pasta
- Robin Hood Flour
- Unico Pasta
- Cadbury Dairy Milk Bars
- Covered Bridge Potato Chips
- Old Dutch Potato Chips
- PC Decadent Chocolate Chip Cookies
- VH Sauces
- IOGO Yogurts
- Lactantia Butter
- Liberté Dairy Products
- Natrel Cheese
- Coca-Cola
- Naya Natural Spring Water
- Pepsi
- Schweppes
- Dr. Oetker Frozen Pizzas
- McCain Pizza Pockets
- Pillsbury Pizza Pops



**The Full List of UFCW Canada
Made Groceries:**
www.ufcw.ca/ufcwmade



Congratulations Gord & Diana!



After more than 48 years in the labour movement, Regional Director Gord Albert has retired.

Gord's journey in the labour movement began as a deli clerk at an Ottawa Loblaws in 1976. Soon, he became a deli manager and worked in several stores throughout Ottawa. In the mid-1980s, he became a union steward, a decision that would change his life and the lives of local union members and their families.

"Anyone who takes on the role of union steward does it because they see co-workers who are being taken advantage of, who don't know what to do or who are intimidated by management," said Gord. "Helping those individuals is just the right thing to do."

Hired on as a Union Representative, he serviced and negotiated contracts for a variety of workplaces and sectors, from retail stores to warehouses to hospitality to restaurants.

Gord was also well respected as an Instructor for the local union's Stewards Training program and for the last three years worked as Regional Director for the Eastern area of the province.

"Working at the union gave me the ability to help," said Gord. "Seeing the gains made for the members, whether individually or collectively, brings a sense of satisfaction. Even the smallest issue, a union representative deals with, is a large issue for the member – resolving it and seeing that member happy is worth more than most would think."

"I have made so many connections over the years," Gord said. "I will miss the members and certainly the local union's leadership and staff and their support over the years."

Gord said it feels exciting and scary at the same time to retire.

"It seems that change always comes with a little uncertainty – retirement is a big change."

When Diana O'Brien started with Loblaws in 1980 as a part-time cashier, she couldn't have predicted where life would take her. Forty-five years later, she has retired as a Union Representative with UFCW 1006A.

"It gave me a sense of pride and accomplishment to have been part of our union, and to make a difference in the lives of our members," she said.

Since becoming a union member, Diana worked at nine stores in a variety of roles, which included grocery clerk, dairy clerk, salad bar clerk, analyst and assistant customer service manager.

The union became a bigger part of her life in 1990 when she began attending rallies and volunteering. In 2001, she became a steward and from then, her activism blossomed. She served as a member and then coordinator of the Women's Issues Network and an instructor for the local union's Stewards' Training program. She also worked at the union information booths at Loblaws Great Food and Superstore.

Ten years ago, she became part of the local union staff.

"I always wanted to help members and being a Union Representative gave me a greater ability to make an impact," she said.

Diana also showed her passion, serving as the coordinator for Leukemia Fundraising initiatives for the local union. In every role, she worked to foster and grow member activism within the local union.

"I will always remember these moments." She will also miss the relationships that she built with staff. "I am going to miss the people I worked with – we were co-workers and we were friends."

In her retirement years, her plans are simple. "I am looking forward to relaxation and quality time with my husband."

*"I want to thank
Gord and Diana
for their lifelong
dedication to our
union – thank
you for making a
difference in the
lives of so many
members"*

*– Wayne Hanley,
President*



ONTARIO WORKERS VOTE TO JOIN UFCW 1006A

UFCW 1006A continues to grow in strength and numbers, as more workers across Ontario vote to join our union.

This year, our local union welcomed new members from Transition House Coalition of Northumberland, Courtyard by Marriott on Creekbank Road in Mississauga and DiFranco Security Services.

"On behalf of UFCW 1006A, I'm proud to congratulate and welcome our newest members from these workplaces," said President Wayne Hanley. "UFCW 1006A is dedicated to improving our members' rights and livelihoods and ensuring they have a voice in their workplace. Member unity and support will be vital as we now set our focus to preparing the groundwork to negotiate a first union contract."

At Transition House Coalition of Northumberland in Cobourg, the local union now represents 19 members, who are Shelter Services workers. Key issues that led to workers joining UFCW 1006A included health and safety, job security, wages and benefits.

At Courtyard by Marriott on Creekbank Road in Mississauga, the bargaining unit consists of 30 members, who work in a variety of roles, including Housekeepers, Housepersons, Maintenance, Front Desk, Bistro, Driver and Auditors.

They joined the local union because of concerns with wages and were seeking strong union representation. The former union for the bargaining unit at the hotel was CLAC and the membership was unhappy with them and sought UFCW 1006A representation.

At DiFranco Security Services, the local union now represents approximately 30 members who work as security guards at condos and office buildings for concierge services and security patrols. Workers wanted to improve their workplace and the key issues leading to unionization, included hours, wages, favouritism and treatment.

"Our new members showed determination and solidarity to achieve union representation," said Lesley Prince, Organizing Director. "It was inspiring to see the workers come together to improve their rights, working conditions and achieve fairness for each other."

If you are interested in learning more about joining our union or know someone who is, please contact our organizing team.



www.ufcw1006a.ca/join
gounion@ufcw1006a.ca



President Hanley joins union staff and members rallying for a fair union contract for members at Courtyard and Residence Inn by Marriott on Creekbank Road in Mississauga.

General Membership Meeting

YOUR UNION IS CALLING



Tuesday, August 19 at 7 pm



Join us for the latest news
and information.

**+ Members can enter our contest to win
a Tablet Computer**

Members will have the opportunity to hear about initiatives of the local union and ask questions.

We will call members' home and/or cell phone numbers to connect you to the meeting.

**Our call will come from "UFCW Your Union"
1-877-591-4449 – simply pick up to participate.**

If you miss the call, dial in — 1.877.229.8493 and enter ID Code 118307.

Update your contact info

www.ufcw1006a.ca/update
or 1.800.637.5936



Congratulations to our April 2025 Meeting
Contest Winner Laura from Arc the Hotel in Ottawa!



**Add our meeting
phone number to
your contacts so you
don't miss the call!**



RETIREMENT

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN AFTER WORK?

You are never too young to start planning for retirement.

In fact, the younger you are, the better it is for you to create a plan for your future and take advantage of the benefits of compound interest as time is on your side.

In a recent Canadian Retirement Survey, nearly 60 per cent of Canadians indicated they do not believe they can afford to retire at 65.

Many reported they are struggling with the high cost of living, from housing to food, economic uncertainty and cuts to government services. With the amount of disposable income shrinking, the ability to save for the future has significantly been affected. These challenges can take a toll on us, as we grapple with the stress, fear and anxiety of retirement planning. The lack of non-union employers willing to provide decent wages and pensions has compounded these issues.

Instead, many Canadians now believe their financial situation will mean they have no choice but to continue to work during what should be their golden years.

With Canadians living longer, they will also have to save more for the future than previous generations may have needed to.

In Canada, unionized workers are more likely to have pensions, fairer wages and benefits compared to their non-union counterparts.

Our members may participate in a variety of pension plans, depending on the workplace. Some members may have the opportunity to participate in union-negotiated, RRSP programs.

While some plans automatically enrol members, others require members to opt in to joining. I recommend that you review your union contract and speak with your Union Representative to ensure that you are taking advantage of any retirement security provisions outlined in your contract.

Many members will also qualify for other government benefits in their retirement, such as the Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) and Old Age Security (OAS).



**60% of Canadians
do not believe
they can afford to
retire at age 65.**

Aside from these plans, it's beneficial for you to work towards maintaining your own personal saving and investing plan. This includes regular contributions to a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP), Tax Free Saving Account (TFSA), personal savings or other investments.

Altogether, a workplace pension plan, CPP, OAS, and your own personal investments and savings form the foundational pillars of a strong retirement plan.

I encourage you to learn more through webCampus, a free online union education program for union members. WebCampus offers courses to educate members about financial basics, money skills, retirement planning and pension planning.



Kevin Benn (he/him)

**Secretary-Treasurer,
UFCW Canada Local 1006A**

This is a great resource to help you understand the process of preparing for your retirement.

The Government of Canada also offers online information portals to help you plan for your senior years.

Finally, it is vital that you determine as best as you are able to, and on an ongoing basis, the annual income you expect you will need in order to live the life you wish to in your retirement.

It's equally vital that you learn what you can expect to receive upon your retirement from the CPP, OAS and workplace pensions plan if you are participating in one.

With that in mind, you can best determine and manage the contribution amount into your personal savings strategy to compliment or top up your other sources of pension income and meet your retirement income goals.

Once you decide the time is right and you are ready to retire, you must notify your pension plan(s) of your retirement date. You should do this well in advance of the date – it can sometimes take months for a pension plan to process an application.

While retirement may seem like a problem for another day, I strongly encourage you to get started now if you haven't already, no matter what age you are. Look back, time moves very quickly. The point at which you may wish to retire can arrive faster than you think.



proudly supporting our members



\$1006 Union Scholarships

42 available for members and dependents

**Apply
Today**



www.ufcw1006a.ca/scholarships



MAIL PUBLICATION AGREEMENT # 40065747