

# **UFCW Canada Local 1006A**

## **General Membership Meeting Minutes**

### **January 18, 2022 - 7 p.m.**

### **Telephone Telephone Hall**

President Wayne Hanley chaired the general meeting. Recorder Glacier Effs-Samuel hosted and began the meeting by welcoming members.

1. Members voted to approve the minutes of the last telephone town hall general meeting held October 19, 2021.
2. Members were informed that the minutes of this meeting will be posted for review on the local union's website and voted on for adoption at the next telephone town hall general membership meeting.
3. President Wayne Hanley updated members on the latest union news.
  - a. Several 1006A negotiations are set to take place in 2022, including one of our largest bargaining units, No Frills, affecting 12,000 members. President Hanley urged members to be active, involved and informed during the negotiation process. Member engagement is vital to improving union contracts.
  - b. UFCW 1006A won an arbitration case which positively impacted nearly 15,000 members at National Grocers Co (Loblaw's Maple Grove Distribution Centre), Loblaw Great Food stores & Real Canadian Superstore. The union's victory led to the recognition of The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 30, as a statutory holiday for our

members. Affected members were paid out by the end of 2021.

- c. Since the last telephone town hall, 1006A's Organizing Department has organized workers at Sessions Cannabis, Steamworks Baths, our fourth Tokyo Smoke location, and two Plateau Cannabis locations.
- d. 1006A has awarded and distributed 42 scholarship cheques, worth \$1006 each, to our members and/or dependents to help them achieve their dream of post-secondary education.
- e. Led by our Women's Issues Network (WIN), 1006A observed the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence from November 25 to December 10. Union members and staff in Ottawa, Pembroke and Whitby volunteered their time to create shoe boxes full of gifts for local women's shelters.
- f. 1006A's Education Department trained nearly 60 stewards through 3 virtual introductory sessions in November.
- g. The local union's Health and Safety Department held a well-attended interactive Zoom seminar on 'Critical Injuries' for members, stewards, and joint health and safety committee members.
- h. President Hanley paid tribute to Alfredo Di Febo, a long-time member of the local union's Executive Board, who suddenly passed away. Alfredo's contributions and service to the membership will always be remembered.
- i. President Hanley spoke about the impact of the COVID-19 virus and variants on the membership. Members are understandably exhausted, but President Hanley urged members to continue taking steps to be safe to protect themselves, co-workers, and loved ones.
- j. Getting vaccinated, properly masking, getting the booster shots, following public health guidelines are the ways to keep our hospital ICUs from being overwhelmed and our healthcare

system from being strained and unable to deal with non-covid health issues that arise.

4. 1006A General Counsel Michael Hancock was the guest speaker for the town hall and discussed mandatory vaccination policies at work.
  - a. He spoke about the latest updates and news regarding mandatory vaccination policies, the possibility of claiming EI benefits for employees terminated due to a mandatory vaccination policy and delved into recent decisions by the courts on this subject.
  - b. Hancock said what is clear is that the courts are not going to act to prevent employers from enforcing their policies - even if that enforcement leads to mass terminations - and that policies may have to be litigated one by one until we have a much clearer picture of the law.
  - c. Hancock said, from a legal standpoint, the option that poses the least amount of risk to employment is being vaccinated. It also happens to be the option that provides the greatest protection for our members and our communities.
5. Membership Contest - members were given the opportunity to enter a draw for a tablet computer. The winner was posted on [www.ufcw1006a.ca](http://www.ufcw1006a.ca) (Lynn Guathier from Loblaws Great Food).
6. Questions and comments about specific workplace issues were all forwarded to the appropriate union representative for follow up.

7:41 PM - Meeting Adjourned

A full transcription and recording of the meeting are available to members online at [www.ufcw1006a.ca](http://www.ufcw1006a.ca)