

UFCW Canada Local 1006A

General Membership Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2020 - 7 p.m.

Telephone Town Hall

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

1. Members voted to approve the minutes of the telephone town hall general meeting, held on August 18, 2020.
2. Members were informed that the minutes of the meeting will be posted for review on the local union's website and voted on for adoption at the next telephone town hall general meeting.
3. President Wayne Hanley updated members on the latest union news, and reported:
 - a. Thousands of members in the hospitality and service sector have been hard hit by COVID-19. More than 5,800 members were laid off during the peak of phase one of the pandemic. 3,500 members currently have not returned to their jobs.
 - b. Local 1006A staff continue to do all they can to protect our members during this difficult time, including pressing employers on health and safety protocols.
 - c. More than 125 members have contracted COVID-19. President Hanley encouraged all members to remain vigilant during this second wave.
 - d. Our Health & Safety department has offered three online seminars to provide activists and members with the knowledge and skills they need to address pandemic related issues at work.

- e. Highlights of our Local 1006A membership mask survey were presented. More than 45% of our members who participated in the survey reported that they have been confronted by a member of the public who refuses to wear a mask. Remember, it's the employer's responsibility to ensure that members of the public are wearing masks within the workplace. 40% of the participants reported that their employer had not created a policy or procedure to deal with customers who refuse to wear a mask. Members are encouraged to get in touch with their union representative or health and safety department to have this corrected.
4. Member Emily Derouin shared her experience of contracting COVID-19 at work. She credits her union being a great help in navigating the WSIB and ultimately getting her case allowed. President Hanley reiterated the importance of documenting everything when facing a health and safety issue at work, especially during COVID-19.
5. Members Kallisha Hoyes and Rechev Browne were interviewed by Recorder Glacier Effs-Samuel on their thoughts on the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement for racial equality and justice. They called for members to educate themselves on the issues Black Canadians face and suggested they could be allies in the movement by calling out racial injustice.
6. President Wayne Hanley continued his report:
 - a. Outlined Local 1006A's commitment as a BLM ally in the collective struggle for equality. Local 1006A has a BLM banner on ufcw1006a.ca as an expression of solidarity with the movement.
 - b. Local 1006A continues see strong interest from workers looking to improve their working conditions. The Organizing Department has successfully organized:
 - i. 40 workers at Indigo bookstore at Square One in Mississauga

- ii. 21 workers from Park Lawn Preschool Humber Bay Childcare Centre in Toronto
 - iii. 51 workers from Frulact in Kingston
 - c. Local union negotiation teams have continued to do great work under difficult circumstances (virtual meetings etc.) due to COVID-19. Many agreements are in the collective bargaining process.
 - d. The scholarship program saw 370 applications this year. They are currently being processed. The 2020 winners will be announced shortly.
 - e. In response to the pandemic restrictions, the Local 1006A Education and Training department is working with UFCW Canada to adapt in-class steward training courses to online sessions.
 - f. October is Women's History month, a time for all of us to reflect on the contributions that women have made to building our great union, our workplaces, and our communities.
7. Membership Contest – members were given the opportunity to enter a draw for a tablet computer. The winner was chosen and posted on ufcw1006a.ca (Ellen Prium from No Frills in Stratford).
8. Questions – All member questions and comments were forwarded to the appropriate union representative for follow up.

7:46 PM – Meeting Adjourned

A full transcription and recording of the meeting are available to members online at www.ufcw1006a.ca