

UFCW Canada Local 1006A
General Membership Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2020 - 7 p.m.
Telephone Town Hall

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

1. Members voted to approve the minutes of the last telephone town hall general meeting, held on April 18, 2020.
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 meeting.
3. The 2019 audited financial report was presented by Secretary-Treasurer Benn., Members were informed about the local union's finances, including revenue and expenses. Members voted to approve the 2019 audited financial report as presented.
4. Rick Young, UFCW Canada Local 1006A Health and Safety Representative, spoke to the membership about the responsibility of mask enforcement, and the union's early advocacy on this protective measure.
 - a. The enforcement of regional bylaws on masks is the responsibility of the employer and that they, as per the Occupational Health and Safety Act, should take every precaution reasonable to protect our members' health and safety. This includes protecting our members from bullying and harassment from customers who take exception to wearing masks.
 - b. it's not our members' role to police the general public's behavior or to enforce public bylaws. If a member is

confronted by a hostile member of the public, a member of management or a supervisor should be contacted immediately. It's very important that our members review and familiarize themselves with our employer's policies and procedures so that they know what the expectations are.

- c. Masks work. Widespread mask wearing is effective in preventing the transmission of COVID-19. The presumption should be that everyone is a potential carrier of the virus and masks are an effective tool that prevent us from unknowingly exposing others to the hazard of the virus.
5. President Wayne Hanley updated members on the latest union news, and reported;
- a. That the impact of COVID-19 will be felt for years by members who work at hotels, restaurants and airport-food service. More than 5,800 members were laid off during the pandemic.
 - b. That workers are facing serious challenges, including concerns about finances, reduced hours, worries about health and safety and separation from loved ones.
 - c. That the UFCW Canada Ontario Provincial Council advocated on behalf of members at the Ontario government standing committee on finance and economic affairs. Union representatives urged the Ontario government to take concrete action to protect the physical, the mental and economic security of union members and of all workers.
 - d. That UFCW Canada national president, Paul Meinema, spoke to members of parliament and the house committee about how disappointed UFCW was about the cancellation of the COVID-19 pandemic pay. The union's position is: Pandemic pay must stay, it must become permanent, and must be increased.
 - e. The union has utilized virtual online conferences and meetings to connect with activists and members and ensure members' health and safety. This includes celebrating Pride virtually in

2020, and holding online Health and Safety seminars for activists.

- f. Negotiations continue on, with members ratifying new contracts at Ryder Truck Rentals, Tremblett's YIG, at Residence Inn by Marriott – Mississauga-Airport location, NexCycle, the TelePartners Call Centre and Jan's Valu-Mart.
 - g. President Hanley welcomed new members from NexCycle (Guelph) and Frulact Canada (Kingston). NexCycle provides glass recycling solutions. Frulact Canada handles the wholesale distribution of dairy products and processes fruits for dairy based products.
 - h. 1006A's WSIB department is successfully assisting members who contracted COVID-19 through workplace transmission, and ensuring they are getting paid what they are due under the WSIB benefits. Our local had one of the first workers to be approved for WSIB for contracting COVID-19.
6. UFCW Canada Director of Education Marv Funk provided members with tips and strategies to maintain their mental health during the pandemic.
- a. UFCW Canada partnered with the Canadian Mental Health Association to develop three courses: Understanding what mental health and illnesses are, how mental illnesses affect workers and what happens when you need to deal or support someone who is going through the illness. UFCW Canada also offers 15-minute modules to help members with their mental health.
7. Membership Contest – members were given the opportunity to enter a draw for a tablet computer. The winner was chosen and the notice was posted on ufcw1006a.ca (Kathy Kehoe from RCSS in Newmarket).

8. Questions – Throughout the meeting, three questions were answered. All other questions and comments were all forwarded to the appropriate union representative for follow up.

7:45 PM – Meeting Adjourned

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