

UFCW Canada Local 1006A General Membership Meeting
November 19, 2025
Telephone Town Hall Event Transcript

Glacier Effs-Samuel:

Hi, everyone. My name is Glacier Effs-Samuel, Recorder of your union, and I will be your moderator for tonight's call. It's great to see so many members joining us this evening for our final telephone town hall general membership meeting of 2025. Thank you. We have lots of updates to share with you. Find out about our scholarship programs, learn about our free online courses. Plus, if you stay on the line with us for the entire call, you'll have the opportunity to enter our membership meeting contest for a chance to win a Samsung tablet or a pair of Toronto Maple Leaf tickets. We'll have more details on that contest later on. We've dialed thousands of members from different workplace, sectors, and cities. So, thank you for your patience while we were connecting earlier.

Tonight, we'll hear from President Wayne Hanley about the latest union news and member opportunities. We'll also hear from our special guest, Ryan O'Quinn, a national director at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada. We'll discuss the Labor of Love campaign, a new initiative which honors and celebrates 40 years of partnership between UFCW Canada and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada, a partnership that has helped save thousands countless of lives across the country. Tonight, we also hope to hear from you. Telephone operators are standing by to take down your questions and pass them on to us. If you want to ask a question, all you have to do is press star three on your phone keypad.

Make sure you give your full question, your name, and where you work to the telephone operators who will pass your question on to us. Again, if you want to ask a question, just press star three on your telephone keypad. Questions about individual workplace issues will be forwarded to a union representative who will contact you no later than tomorrow night. As we have done in our past meetings, we'll post an audio file, meeting transcript, and meeting minutes on our union website. During each telephone town hall general membership meeting, members vote to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting. So, we're going to get started on that right now.

So, the question before you is we'll be taking a vote for the adoption of the minutes of the telephone town hall general membership meeting as posted on our local union's website. The meeting was held on August 19, 2025. Use your telephone keypad to participate in the vote. Again, the question is, do you approve of the minutes of the telephone town hall general membership meeting held on August 19, 2025 ? Press one if you approve of the minutes of the August 19th, 2025 meeting, or press two if you do not approve of the minutes of the August 19, 2025 meeting. Once again, press one if you approve of the minutes or press two if you do not approve of the minutes.

As we wait for the results, we'd like to remind you that our union magazine 1006Alive is being sent to our homes this December. Our magazine showcases the incredible work of our union, highlighting voices, faces, and stories of our members. In addition to in-depth features on our union's success, we also provide you with the latest news and opportunities from members within the local union. If you have changed your address, email, or cell number, visit our union website to update your information so that you continue to receive our latest magazine, email, and phone calls. Our website address is ufcw1006a.ca. Once again, the address is ufcw1006a.ca.

The results for the minutes of the August 19, 2025 telephone town hall meeting are coming in now and the minutes have been approved, 92% approval. So, thank you for voting. I'd like to remind members that the telephone operators are standing by for your questions. Again, to ask a question, just press star three on your phone keypad. Also, a quick reminder of our membership contest. Members who stay on for the entire call will have a chance to enter or draw to win a Samsung tablet or a pair of Toronto Maple Leaf tickets.

UFCW Canada Local 1006A General Membership Meeting
November 19, 2025
Telephone Town Hall Event Transcript

I want to say congratulations to Halina from Loblaws Great Food in Toronto who won the tablet at our August 2025 meeting. So, again, stick around for a chance to enter the contest. Now it's my honor to introduce the president of our union, President Wayne Hanley for the State of our Union.

Wayne Hanley:

Well, thank you, Glacier, and welcome, everyone, and thank you for joining us here at our last town hall meeting of the year. To kick things off tonight, I'm pleased to announce that we're launching a new membership contest in 2026. This initiative is about recognizing our amazing members who are working hard every day to serve their communities. We want to highlight your stories. Entering the contest will be easy. By visiting our website in January, you'll be able to share your story on how being a member of 1006A has made a difference in your life. Then every month during 2026, we will be awarding \$100 President's Choice gift card for a winning member's entry. Selected stories will be published in our magazines, on our websites, and social media.

The 12 monthly winners will be entered into a grand prize for \$300 in President's Choice gift cards, and that final draw will take place in January of 2027. So, be sure to visit our website in January for more details. Now, before our report on the initiatives and achievements since our last call, I'd like to remind everyone of a very important event that our Women's Issues Network participates in each year. As we reach the middle of November, we prepare to observe the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, running from November 25 to December 10. According to the United Nations, one in three women are affected by violence. The theme for 2025 is Unite to End Digital Violence Against All Women and Girls.

Digital violence includes online harassment, stalking, threats, bullying, misogynistic forms. Year after year violence is a heartbreaking reality for women and children in Canada and around the world, many of whom suffer in silence. It is clear that collective action is needed to combat all forms of violence, and that is why we encourage all members to observe this time in their way. During the 16 days of activism, 1006A Women's Issues Network members are undertaking initiatives in their workplaces to raise awareness. If you'll participate in the 16 days of activism, share your photos with us. Send them to communications@ufcw1006a.ca.

Collect photos will be showcased on our social media accounts again from November 25 to December 10, and I hope you all consider supporting this important cause. Now, since our last meeting, we are proud to announce the 42 recipients of the UFCW 1006A 2025 Union Scholarship Program. Now, if you and your dependents are enrolled in a post-secondary education, you know very well about the cost and the burden this can be on an individual or a family. Applying for a 1006A scholarship is another way that members can connect with their union. Since the inception of the program in 2003, our union has helped hundreds of members and their family members achieve their dream of post-secondary education.

I want to thank all of our members who applied and encourage those whose name was not on the list this year to try again next year. Applications for 2026 scholarships will be open on our website now. During negotiations, we always encourage members to get involved as your participation and support are critical to achieving a strong contract. I'm proud to report that our negotiating committees made up of union members and staff continue to achieve strong gains and protections for our members. Together, we're transforming worker rights and livelihoods and building fair workplaces.

Since our last call, we have achieved fair contracts at the Hilton DoubleTree in London, at The Talbot Manor Retirement Home in St. Thomas, Transition House Coalition in Northumberland in Coburg, at the

UFCW Canada Local 1006A General Membership Meeting
November 19, 2025
Telephone Town Hall Event Transcript

Marriott Courtyard in Mississauga, at the Hilton Spark Hotel in Oshawa, the Residence Inn by Marriott in Mississauga, in the Comfort Inn in London, Essex Linen in Windsor, security guards at VP Protection, and the Darling Rendering Plant in Dundas have all concluded successful negotiations. I want to thank our members for their support and congratulate our negotiating committees for their hard work on behalf of our members. Your contributions are truly making a meaningful difference.

As for organizing new workplaces, I'm inspired by the determination and unity of workers from H&M Store at Dufferin Mall and from Dom Amodeo Produce at the Ontario Food Terminal who recently voted to join our union. Our union continues to grow in size and strength because of their efforts and the hard work of our organizing department. Congratulations to these workers and welcome to our union. Our stewards continue to show dedication and commitment to our members by participating in the local union's comprehensive training program that empowers them with the knowledge and skills that they need to help their co-workers.

Fall training session continues to be a great success with 200 stewards participating throughout October and November. Our registration for the spring stewards training sessions will take place in early January of next year. For any stewards on the call tonight, please watch for an email or a letter in your mailbox with more information. Along with our stewards training, we had our Annual Stewards Conference, which was a huge success again this year. In September, we welcomed more than 250 stewards from across Ontario for a day of education, inspiration, and empowerment where we could honor and celebrate the exceptional work that our stewards do day in and day out.

At the conference, our Membership Achievement Awards recipients were announced and you can read more about the awards in the conference in our 1006Alive magazine that should be arriving at your home in the next couple of weeks or you can go to our union website. We continue our political advocacy in November when 1006A members and staff met with MPPs in Queen's Park to raise concerns and issues of importance to our members and their families. We wanted to ensure that elected officials from all parties heard from workers and not just from the corporate lobbyists.

1006A members shared their experiences and thoughts on how to tackle the affordability crisis, improve workers' safety laws, and the need to protect the public services that we all depend on. Thank you to our members for your participation and your advocacy. Finally, I want to recognize the efforts of our members who volunteer their time to be part of the Local Union's Women's Issue Network, the 1006Outreach, the Indigenous Committee, and Young Workers Initiatives. Your work is strengthening our union in creating fair, safer, and more inclusive workplaces and communities. On September 30, our local union members and staff observed the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Together, we remember the missing children and survivors of the residential schools and we stood in solidarity with families and communities. 1006A remain steadfast in continuing our work to empower and support members who are part of the indigenous community. This October, members of 1006 Outreach joined UFCW union activists from across the United States and Canada for UFCW Outreach first-ever education conference. As always, we are proud to empower our members from the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and to stand together for equality and justice for all. Now, before concluding my report tonight, I'd like to ask all of you on the call to take the opportunity to have a say in the future of your union education and take a moment to complete the UFCW Canada's National Education Survey.

The information collected will allow UFCW Canada to design education and training programs that respond to actual challenges, advocate for stronger support from employers in government, and build more accessibility into learning opportunities. Visit our website for the survey link and those that submit will be eligible to enter or draw to win one of four \$50 grocery gift cards. Finally, I want to thank all of

UFCW Canada Local 1006A General Membership Meeting
November 19, 2025
Telephone Town Hall Event Transcript

you for being with us here on the call tonight and being part of the 1006A family. We're always here to help you. If you have any issues at work, please contact your union representative.

Once again, you can find their contact information on your union bulletin board at the workplace or on your union website, ufcw1006A.ca. On that note, I'll turn it back over to you Glacier for an important discussion with our very special guest.

Glacier Effs-Samuel:

Thank you, Wayne. Again, I'd like to remind everyone on the call tonight that operators are standing by. To take your questions, just press star three on your phone to ask a question. Now, it's my pleasure to introduce Ryan O'Quinn. Ryan is a national director with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada. He works closely with the national organization, corporations, and philanthropists. He's been serving the blood cancer community for over seven years. Ryan, thank you for taking the time to join us this evening.

Ryan O'Quinn:

Thanks so much, Glacier, and thank you so much to President Hanley for having me here this evening. It's an honor to have an opportunity to connect with your members. So, thank you to everyone for being on the call tonight.

Glacier Effs-Samuel:

Thank you. All right, so let's get started. Ryan, I wanted to ask you, can you tell us about the historic partnership between UFCW Canada and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada? What is the impact that UFCW members have had?

Ryan O'Quinn:

Absolutely, and great question. So, thankfully, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada has been the charity of choice of UFCW Canada since 1985. So, this has been and continues to be the most enduring and impactful partnership that we have as an organization. It's hard to imagine, but over the past four decades and prepare yourselves, UFCW members have actually raised us more than \$54 million in support for the blood cancer community. So, this makes UFCW our most significant and longstanding partner. I know everyone listening probably wants to applaud, but I know we're not supposed to unmute ourselves, but that's something that you should be immensely proud of.

\$54 million is incredible. Through this remarkable support, we've been able to fund life-enhancing, life-saving research, vital programs and services for patients, their families, truly when they need it the most. I'm proud to say this year alone, we actually are funding 36 researchers in the Province of Ontario, and that doesn't include all of the rest of the researchers across Canada, which includes 60 total projects and an estimated \$8.5 million investment into blood cancer research. So, truly UFCW Canada and its membership make this possible.

So, the UFCW members have contributed to one of the greatest success stories in cancer research and that there's one thing I want you to take away from this call tonight, fit. In the past 20 years, blood cancers have seen the greatest increase in survival rates than in any type of cancer. So, there's proof in the pudding. The investments made in research are saving lives. These incredible advancements would not be possible truly without the passion, generosity, and commitment of your members nationwide.

UFCW Canada Local 1006A General Membership Meeting
November 19, 2025
Telephone Town Hall Event Transcript

Glacier Effs-Samuel:

Wow. I mean, when you hear that amount, I'm so proud and in awe of all these incredible contributions that UFCW 1006A and all of UFCW Canada members have made over the years. It's really inspiring and it's saving lives. So, Ryan, you gave a great presentation at our Stewards Conference in September, and you spoke about the Labour of Love campaign. Would you share with us what the campaign is all about?

Wayne Hanley:

Yeah, absolutely, Glacier. So, 2025 marks a massive and significant milestone for both the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada and UFCW. It's our 40th anniversary. It's a ruby anniversary. Over these four decades, our partnership has generated tremendous results for people affected by blood cancers. So, thanks to the unwavering commitment, especially from 1006A members, countless individuals and their families, we're giving more memories, more milestones, and more moments of celebration that might otherwise have been lost. So, in recognition of the \$54 million raised through our incredible partnership, we're launching tomorrow a Labour of Love. So, this is the title of our campaign.

The name is an obvious heartfelt nod to the tireless fundraising efforts and the deep compassion UFCW members have shown for the blood cancer community. But what's amazing is through this campaign, we're going to be sharing powerful stories of loss, survivorship, and triumph, highlighting the many, many inspiring ways that UFCW members have critically raised needed funds for our organization. We're talking bottle drives in Ontario for the Ride to a Cure event. I love that you guys did this, the motorcycle event they used to do organized by 1006A members, just amazing. If I had a motorcycle, I would've been joining you, but we're shining a light on the creativity, on the generosity, and the unity that defines this partnership.

We're going to be releasing a commemorative booklet as well that celebrates families and their members and the diverse locals across Canada that have made this partnership possible over the past 40 years. So, I think it just needs to be stated that this is more than just a campaign, it's a celebration. It's a thank you for the compassion and the extraordinary difference that your members have made in the fight to end blood cancers once and for all.

Glacier Effs-Samuel:

Wow. Yeah, I mean, I also remember the Ride for a Cure that we used to do, and even though I don't have a motorcycle, but I loved when we did that fundraising and also the Light the Night. Okay. So, the launch of this campaign is very exciting for our membership. I love the name, which you'll be featuring in our December issue of our 1006Alive Magazine. So, Ryan, can you share a specific success story or a key achievement that the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada is proud of from this past year?

Ryan O'Quinn:

Sure. Yeah, absolutely, Glacier. I mean I already stated it, but the investment of 8.5 million over the past two years in research is a key achievement. I know I've already referenced it, but I just want to reiterate that that has been absolutely so significant. But there's something else that I wanted to share with the membership tonight, and that's our travel to treatment initiative. We know cancer is hard and specifically studies have been done that show that the minute that you get a cancer diagnosis, it's approximately \$33,000 that it costs a family. The costs are immense. There's so much complexity and stress that comes with that.

UFCW Canada Local 1006A General Membership Meeting
November 19, 2025
Telephone Town Hall Event Transcript

For too many Canadians, especially those living in rural communities, this means financial strain, disruption to your work, your home life, painful separation from your family, community supports. We have a vast country, we all know that. But these challenges really translate into real inequality. Where you live actually determines quite easily or how difficult it is to receive life-saving treatment. So, recognizing this, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society has set out to better understand and to address the critical issues. So, our travel to treatment initiative, it's built around three key steps. One is we have to validate the travel to treatment issue, fully understand it, document those lived experiences, and then work towards changing that system.

So, as a first and significant step, we've completed a national study across Canada with over 500 adults who've had to travel outside their hometowns for a blood cancer treatment. This study documents their experiences truly in depth, so the financial, the emotional, and the social toll of travel care. So, these findings, we'll be presenting them and publishing them in 2026, and they will serve as a powerful evidence for advocacy for policy change in this country. So, our goal is to ensure that decision makers recognize and address these inequities so that access to travel treatment and public reimbursement of cancer drugs are guided by fairness, compassion, no matter where a person lives in Canada.

Glacier Effs-Samuel:

Wow. Thank you, Ryan. That is such a wonderful new initiative and necessary. Now that I think the question on everyone's mind is right now is how can we get involved volunteering or supporting the fight against blood cancer? Are there specific fundraising events or campaigns that people can participate in?

Wayne Hanley:

Great question, and I love this question. There's always opportunities for people to get involved and there's always opportunities for people to raise critically needed funds. I mean, the first thing I'm going to say is every single dollar counts. Make no mistake about it, no matter how big, no matter how small, I can authoritatively say it makes a difference. So, first, you can just join the fundraising activities that are happening at your union. So, I understand that the recent Stewards Conference through your various initiatives, you actually ended up raising a great amount of money, \$6,545 for blood cancer research. That's amazing.

So, I just want to take this quick opportunity to say thank you so much to everyone for participating in that, for donating, for being so generous and just being at that conference. It was just amazing how many folks came up to us directly to share their experiences and their connections to blood cancer. It was really powerful. Second is that the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada, we're here to guide and support any fundraising initiative that you want to do in your community. So, because I oversee the UFCW relationship across Canada, I have some insight into what happens at a variety of locals. So, we can adopt ideas that are coming from other locals where we can enhance any efforts that's happening in your workplace.

This could be anything from as simple as a barbecue outside your store to tapping into your own personal interests and finding a fundraising opportunity there or even implementing a payroll deduction campaign in your workplace there. There's a lot of opportunity for fundraising and for connecting with the community and just we're there to help you every step of the way, should that be your wish. So, to do so, you can connect with a team member of mine. Her name is Cristina Cinquanta and her email is cristina.cinquanta@lls.org.

UFCW Canada Local 1006A General Membership Meeting
November 19, 2025
Telephone Town Hall Event Transcript

Then finally, and if you gave me 20 more minutes, I can keep going, but I want to be super respectful of your time. But finally, we hold our signature event and you referenced it tonight, Light the Night, just truly the most magical and moving event that happens across this great country. It's our flagship fundraising event, but it's more than just fundraising. It's about connecting with community, and it's about providing hope and resilience to people who've been affected by blood cancers. So, each year people carry illuminated lanterns.

We have red for supporters, white for survivors, and gold for those who walk in memory. That symbolizes the hope and unity in the fight to end blood cancer. So, it's pretty powerful. When our survivors light up those white lanterns and they're surrounded by thousands of people holding a red lantern, showing that they support them, it's truly moving. So, teams of participants, they raise funds, they get creative, they rally their communities, move their co-workers, their friends, and their families to walk together in solidarity. So, this is a fall event.

So, it's just concluded, but it's actually a great time to be talking about it because depending on what you want to do and how you want to get involved, now is actually a great time to start thinking about the ways you could connect with your community. So, next year in Ontario, we will have events in London, Ottawa, and Toronto, and we absolutely invite every single member of 1006A and any member in the community who wishes to be there to support the blood cancer community. Just before I sign off, I just want to really fully reiterate two things. The first, if you know anyone who's been impacted by a blood cancer diagnosis, please tell them to get in touch with us.

We have free educational resources and materials to support them in their greatest time of need. So, bloodcancers.ca, get in touch with us, we're there to help them. Number two, every single dollar makes a difference no matter how big or small. UFCW 1006A members have truly been a driving force in the quest to end blood cancers. I can't thank President Hanley enough for his great leadership and the amazing team at 1006A. Thank you so much and thanks for having me here tonight.

Glacier Effs-Samuel:

Oh, thank you so much, Ryan. I can attest to the Light the Night walks that we've done over the years and they're really inspiring. I encourage any of our stewards members listening if you want to participate. It's a remarkable event. Also, I have firsthand knowledge of the funds raised at our Stewards Conference and how our stewards were so happy to participate in the fundraising activities. I want to thank you again for joining us today and participating in discussion.

Wayne Hanley:

Absolutely. An honor and a pleasure, Glacier. Happy to be here anytime, and we look forward to connecting with your membership anytime we can. Thank you so much.

Glacier Effs-Samuel:

Thank you. Okay, so now, Wayne, do you have any questions that need to be addressed?

Wayne Hanley:

The questions we receive, like usual, Glacier, are really fact-specific to an individual in their location. There is one question about how do I apply for the tickets for the laptop and the two tickets... I know you'll get to that in just a minute. So, I'd like to take just a moment and wrap up here from my end. Thank you again, Glacier. I also thank Ryan for joining us for the discussion on Labour of Love campaign.

UFCW Canada Local 1006A General Membership Meeting
November 19, 2025
Telephone Town Hall Event Transcript

Ryan is someone who has so much passion for his job and what he does. It's easy to get excited and involved in the programs that the LLSC has. The Labour Love Campaign is a great initiative which really highlights life-saving differences that our members are making in the lives of those diagnosed with blood cancers.

Stay tuned to our website for more information on fundraising events throughout 2026. I think I'll sign off tonight by thanking you for all of you for being part of the 1006A family. On behalf of the staff and executive board, I do want to wish you and your loved ones a joyous holiday season. This will be our last meeting before 2026, and I'll also take this moment to just wish everybody a happy New Year and a great 2026. 1006A, I will commit we'll continue to work hard to transform our workplaces and communities for the betterment of you and for the betterment of our communities. With that, Glacier, back to you.

Glacier Effs-Samuel:

Thank you, Wayne. So, as Wayne mentioned, for those with questions that were sent in, your union rep will be getting back to you within 24 hours. You can find your union rep by visiting our website, which is www.ufcw1006a.ca, and just click on the Find Your Rep button. Also, remember that an audio file and a transcript of tonight's meeting will be posted on our website for your convenience. As well, the minutes of tonight's meeting will also be posted for your review and to be approved during the next meeting, which is scheduled for January. What is the date for the next meeting? February 19th, 2026. So, mark your calendar. So, now we have one more piece of business to take care of, which is our membership contest.

So, our last poll question will enter you into the draw off to win a Samsung tablet or a pair of Toronto Maple Leaf tickets. To enter, simply press one on your telephone keypad and the winner will be announced on our website tomorrow at 3:00 PM. Once again, to enter the contest for either the Samsung tablet or a pair of Maple Leaf tickets, press one on your phone. Our website again is ufcw1006a.ca. That is ufcw1006a.ca.

For those that would like to leave us a question or comment, please stay on the line and we will wrap it up for tonight. I want to thank everyone again for joining us for this important town hall. I hope everyone has a wonderful evening, wonderful holidays, and we'll see you in the new year. Again, February 19 will be the next telephone town hall. Meeting adjourned, everyone.