

April 2, 2024

**TO: Local Union Presidents, Recording Secretaries, Unit Chairpersons, Women's Committee Chairpersons, Employment Equity Representatives, Women's Advocates, Regional Council Women's Committees**

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## **Unifor Women's Conference August 18 – 21, 2024 Women Rise**

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Greetings,

We are thrilled to announce the upcoming 2024 National Women's Conference!

This year's theme, "Women Rise" celebrates the countless instances where women have overcome adversity, shattered glass ceilings and forged paths of progress. We rise in our leadership, activism, education and by lifting sisters up. It serves as a call to action to dismantle barriers, challenge stereotypes and advocate for gender equality and justice.

The theme invites reflection on the journey of women's empowerment while acknowledging both the progress we have made and the ongoing challenges that persist. We celebrate the wins of Reproductive Justice in a National Pharmacare program that includes contraception. We will hear results of the union's 3-year partnership with Western University's Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children (CREVAWC) on how sexual harassment and violence impacts workers.

As we gather to celebrate our victories and the resilience of women in our union this year, we will have Unifor National President, Lana Payne, join us to share her reflections on the hard work she has been doing to build a more equitable union for us all.

Over the past two years we have worked hard to elect feminist governments, build more gender inclusive contract language at the bargaining table, add more Unifor Women's Advocates to our workplaces, and bring women to the table in decision-making spaces.

This year we will focus on the important work needed to end gender-based violence with a focus on political change. The Reflection Walk will give participants a deeper understanding of feminist issues as we explore and learn from each other in small groups.

We have an exciting agenda that will reinvigorate our courage and determination to push forward collectively.

As always Sisters, there is much work to be done together!

Sisters, this conference will be a chance for us all to recharge and soak up the sisterhood as we prepare for the work ahead of us.

Together, let's build our solidarity, share our stories and empower each other to demand the rights and recognition we deserve in shaping a movement that puts the needs of working-class women front and center.

The 2024 Unifor Women's Conference will be held at the Unifor Family Education Centre in Port Elgin, Ontario starting Sunday, August 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. and ending Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at noon.

The registration desk will be open on Sunday from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. and room check-in begins at 3:00 p.m. New delegate orientation will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Sisterhood Room.

As always, this conference fills up quickly. Please submit your registration forms early to avoid disappointment.

Please contact the Women's Department at [women@unifor.org](mailto:women@unifor.org) if you require additional information. We are looking forward to a great conference.

In solidarity,



**Tracey Ramsey**

Director, Women's Department

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cc: Leadership

**The opening plenary will be at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 18, 2024.  
A full agenda will be provided upon registration at the conference.  
Registration Deadline: Friday, July 19, 2024.**



## Conference Details

### Registration

Registration for the Women's Conference will be online. Locals can register their participants by visiting: <https://register1.unifor.org/>. By now, Local Union Presidents have received their 2024 online username and password. If you are unable to find your registration information, please email [registration@unifor.org](mailto:registration@unifor.org) and it will be resent. The registration deadline is **Friday, July 19, 2024**.

### Reservation

The attached Family Education Reservation Forms must be completed and sent to the Unifor Family Education Centre directly to secure your accommodation no later than Friday, July 19, 2024.

## Conference Registration Fee:

Payment of \$60.00 is required for the conference kit materials (by separate cheque made payable to Unifor Family Education Centre)

## Accommodation Fees:

All rates quoted are based on three (3) nights accommodation, beginning with dinner on Sunday and up to and including lunch on Wednesday.

Shared Room with another Delegate	\$735.00
Single Room (Only available to families)	\$960.00
Children (12+)	\$225.00
Children (5-11)	\$150.00
Children (1-4)	\$ 60.00
Children (under 1)	No Charge

If rates are being paid by the INDIVIDUAL rather than the local or organization, please contact the Unifor Family Education Centre Reception at 1-800-265-3735 or 519-389-3221. Taxes will be applicable. The local can submit payment for a single room only (exempt from taxes). The delegate can provide a personal Visa, American Express or MasterCard for the family charges.

NOTE: Check-in Sunday August 18, 2024 at 3:00 pm and check-out is on Wednesday August 21, 2024 at 10:00 am.

## Additional Guest:

For accommodation arrangements other than those outlined above, please contact Reception for pricing at 1-800-265-3735 ext. 3221.

## Payment Methods:

All room and board fees must be paid in advance.

Cheque – forward two separate cheques to the Unifor Family Education Centre, one for the conference registration fee (\$60.00) and the other for accommodation costs.

Cheques can be made payable to the Unifor Family Education Centre and mailed with the enclosed reservation forms directly to the Unifor Family Education Centre, 115 Shipley Ave., Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C5.

Credit Card – record the credit card number and expiry date on the Reservation Form and submit via email to [confcentre@unifor.org](mailto:confcentre@unifor.org) or by fax to 519-389-3222, or mail in. Or, call the centre – 1-800-265-3735 ext. 3221 or 519-389-3221 to provide the credit card information required.

### **First Come, first served basis:**

Registration and accommodations for the conference will be handled on a first come, first served basis. To participate in the conference, delegates must have accommodations at the Centre. If the Centre is fully booked, the Centre will advise you that your accommodations may be off-site. For those delegates required to stay off-site, please note that it is still mandatory to purchase the meal plan and to check in with the Front Desk at the Unifor Family Education Centre.

### **Cancellations:**

Cancellations must be made in writing 48 hours prior to 3:00pm on August Sunday 18, 2024 and can be emailed to [confcentre@unifor.org](mailto:confcentre@unifor.org) or faxed to 519-389-3222. Failure to cancel within the 48-hour time period will result in a billing for the first nights' accommodation costs.

### **Child Care:**

Child care is available for children 0-12 years of age, for the children of eligible delegates during the conference hours only – if numbers permit. To ensure a spot in the program, please submit your reservations as early as possible and no later than Friday July 19, 2024.

Child Care facilities will be provided for children of eligible delegates during conference hours only. This does not include Grandchildren, Godchildren, Nieces, Nephews, Friends, etc. **Delegates requiring child care must pre-register no later than July 19, 2024.** Please have the delegates complete the attached childcare form and email to [fecchildcare@unifor.org](mailto:fecchildcare@unifor.org). Payment must be sent to the Family Education centre with the reservation forms.

## Teen Program:

We are pleased to announce that the Teen Program will be available during the 2024 Women's Conference!

If you wish to register your teenagers between the ages of 13 to 16 please complete the form found [here](#).

To download a full copy of the call letter or to access the required forms for the Unifor Family Education Centre please visit the [Unifor Women's Conference Event Page!](#)

## Travel:

A shuttle has been arranged shuttle from the Delta Hotels by Marriott Toronto Airport (655 Dixon Road) and from Toronto Pearson Airport, Terminal 1, Ground Level, to Port Elgin. Pick-up times are listed below. Space is limited, please complete the attached link by July 19, 2024, <https://form.jotform.com/240873625277060>, to reserve your space.

Sun. August 18, 2024	12:30pm	Driverseat Shuttle Pick-up at Delta Hotel
Sun. August 18, 2024	12:30pm	Driverseat Shuttle Pick-up at Terminal One
Wed. August 21, 2024	12:30pm	Driverseat Shuttle Pick-up at Port Elgin

During the conference, there will be shuttle busses travelling to and from hotels in Port Elgin and Southampton in the morning and the end of the conference each day to assist participants without vehicles. There will also be a ride board for posting transportation requests.

## Summary of Deadlines:

Please make note of the important deadlines for the upcoming Women's Conference.

Friday July 19, 2024	On-Line Registration Form must be completed
Friday July 19, 2024	Reservation Forms must be submitted to Family Education Centre
Friday July 19, 2024	Child Care Reservation Form must be submitted to <a href="mailto:fecchildcare@unifor.org">fecchildcare@unifor.org</a>

Friday July 19, 2024	Shuttle Reservation Form must be submitted to <a href="mailto:women@unifor.org">women@unifor.org</a>
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**Accessibility:**

Unifor seeks to make all union meetings and events accessible and barrier free. If you require accommodation for a human rights related need (Visual, Hearing, Mobility, Endurance, Assistance) we invite you to provide us with your relevant information so that we can take all reasonable steps to address any barriers to your participation. Please email requests to [women@unifor.org](mailto:women@unifor.org)

**COVID-19 Protection:**

The health and safety of our members and staff during the Conference is a priority. The COVID-19 virus is still present and requires all of us to work together to ensure that everyone participating in the event, as well as their families and loved ones, are kept safe. Unifor has adopted a union-wide comprehensive policy on COVID-19 prevention for Unifor events. All public health guidelines as outlined by the Regional Public Health Unit will be followed for this event.