

March 6, 2025

TO: Local Union Presidents, Recording Secretaries, Pride Committee, Unit Chairpersons



For 2SLGBTQIA+ Unifor members

Greetings,

Unifor's National Pride Conference is returning, bringing together 2SLGBTQIA+ members from across the country for a weekend of learning, solidarity, and action. This bilingual event is designed for two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (2SLGBTQIA+) members to gain skills, build knowledge, and strengthen our collective power.

Allies play a crucial role in our fight for equity, but this conference is a **closed space** for 2SLGBTQIA+ Unifor members to strategize, connect, and build a more inclusive movement together.

The Fight for Our Rights

We are at a critical moment in history. Across Canada and around the world, far-right

movements are mobilizing to strip away 2SLGBTQIA+ rights, erase queer and trans visibility, and defund essential services.

- Municipal councils, school boards, and library boards are under attack, with extremists pushing to ban books, restrict gender-affirming care, and shut down spaces for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth.
- Workers' rights and 2SLGBTQIA+ rights are being threatened together, as anti-union forces and anti-2SLGBTQIA+ forces share common goals of dismantling protections for marginalized communities and isolating us as individuals.
- We are fighting to make progress, and also to defend the rights we have already won—and to push back against policies and rhetoric designed to isolate, intimidate, and erase our community.

This conference will focus on building the knowledge, skills, and networks we need to resist these attacks, protect our rights, and fight for a just and inclusive future.

Delegates will hear from leading activists, Unifor leaders, and community organizers through:

- Plenary sessions addressing the rise of the far right and its impact on our communities
- Breakout workshops with hands-on training and strategy development
- Networking and social events to build solidarity and community

Pride Activist Course – 5-Day Education Opportunity

The Unifor Education Department is hosting a 5-Day Pride Activist Course May 25 to 30th, 2025 in the lead-up to the conference. This intensive course provides an in-depth opportunity to develop activism skills, deepen knowledge on 2SLGBTQIA+ worker rights, and prepare for the work ahead in our communities and union locals.

For more information on the Pride Activist Course, visit:

<https://www.unifor.org/resources/education/pel>

A Message to Our Allies: How You Can Support

We know that many Unifor allies want to attend and show support, and we deeply appreciate your ongoing commitment to equity and justice. While the Pride Conference is a closed space for 2SLGBTQIA+ members, there are other ways to stay engaged and take action.

Learn how to be a stronger ally with Unifor's Online Allies Course

The Unifor Education Department has developed a 90-minute online module specifically for allies who want to increase their understanding and support of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

Take the Allies Self-Directed Module here:

www.unifor.org/resources/education/courses/allies-mini-self-directed-module-olallies

This course provides practical tools on:

- Understanding allyship and its role in social justice
- Supporting 2SLGBTQIA+ members in workplaces and communities
- Standing in solidarity year-round, beyond Pride month

Your allyship is essential in the fight for equality, and we encourage you to take the course, apply the knowledge, and stand with us in solidarity every day.

The conference and workshops will be bilingual and, as always, this conference fills up quickly. Please submit your registrations early to avoid disappointment. The registration deadline is May 9, 2025. A payment of \$80.00 is required for the conference kit materials.

The conference begins at 7:00 p.m. Friday, May 30th and ends at 12:00 p.m. Sunday, June 1st, 2025. Registration takes place on Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. New delegate orientation will be held from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Please contact Sarah McCue at sarah.mccue@unifor.org or Billy O'Neill at billy.oneill@unifor.org if you require additional information.

Let's come together to organize, strategize, and take action—see you in Port Elgin!

In solidarity,

Tricia Wilson
Director, Equity
& Racial Justice

Sarah McCue
Equity Liaison – LGBTQ

Billy O'Neill
Equity Liaison - LGBTQ



cc: National Officers, Executive Assistants, Assistants to the National Officers and Senior Directors, National Executive Board, National Representatives, National Coordinators, Port Elgin Reservations, Laurie Wright

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Conference Registration & Details

Online Local Registration & Family Education Centre Reservation Form

Registration is a two-part process. First, please register for the conference by visiting [REGISTER HERE](#).

Next, please complete the [Family Education Reservation form](#) and return it directly to the Family Education Centre via email: confcentre@unifor.org;

Important: A reservation form for every participant must be completed and signed.

Registration deadline is Friday May 9, 2025. The Centre will not be able to accommodate late reservations.

Conference Fee

A conference fee of \$80.00 is required for the conference kit materials. All payments for accommodation, meals and the kit materials can be paid by credit card on the reservation form or by cheque mailed to:

Unifor Family Education Centre
Attention: Reservations
115 Shipley Avenue, Port Elgin, ON, NOH 2C5

Check-In/Check-Out

Check-in starts at 3:00pm Friday, May 30th. Check-out should be done before 10:00am on the date of departure (Sunday, June 1st, 2025).

Transportation To/From Toronto Pearson International Airport

For those requiring transportation to and from the Unifor Family Education Centre and Toronto Pearson Airport, the departure shuttle is set for 1:00pm on Friday, May 30th from the airport and the return trip is set for 12:30pm, Sunday, June 1st from the Unifor Family Education Centre. Make sure you arrange your flights according to the bus schedule. The trip is approximately 3 hours each way.

Space is limited, please complete the attached link by May 9, 2025, [CLICK HERE](#), to reserve your space.

Child Care

Free child care is available for children 0 – 12 years of age, of eligible delegates during the conference hours only, if numbers permit. Delegates will be eligible for child care providing they are a single parent, or a parent not accompanied by a spouse or companion. Where both parents are registered delegates, they will also qualify for childcare. Child care registration forms are enclosed. Please make your child care reservations as early as possible.

Delegates requiring childcare must pre-register no later than Friday, May 9th, 2025.

Include the childcare form with the conference registration form that is returned to the Unifor Family Education Centre. Child Care may be cancelled if there is an insufficient number of children registered by the deadline. If you have any questions regarding child care, please call 1-519-389-3233 or email fecchildcare@unifor.org.

Cancellation Policy

Failure to notify the Centre (by email or phone call) of cancellations 48 hours prior to the event will result in the first day's room rentals and/or first night's room and board being charged.

Accommodation Packages (Room & Board)

All rates quoted are based on two (2) nights accommodation, beginning with dinner on Friday and up to and including lunch on Sunday.

Shared Room with another Delegate	\$510.00
Single Room (Only available to families)	\$660.00
Children (5-12)	\$100.00
Children (1-4)	\$ 40.00
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 Friday, May 30th, 2025, at 3:00 pm and check-out is on Sunday, June 1st, 2025, at 10:00 am.

First come, first served basis

Registrations and accommodations for the conference will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to participate in the conference, delegates must have accommodations at the Centre. If the Centre is fully booked, the Centre will advise you and you (or your local) will be responsible for making alternative arrangements. For those delegates and family 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.

Meals

All meals are included in the overnight rate for all guests and will be served cafeteria style, starting with supper on the day of check-in and end with lunch on the day of check-out. **If any participants require special meal requirements or have any dietary concerns (food allergies), please advise us in advance of your arrival, by completing the attached Medical or Religious Meal Request form.**

Questions

If you have any questions regarding registration or if your local requires additional assistance, please contact Korin.Drew@unifor.org.

Complete call letter and forms can be found by visiting
<https://www.unifor.org/news/events/pride-conference-2025>

