

April 16, 2018

**TO: Local Union Presidents, Recording Secretaries, Industry Council Executives,
Regional and Industry Directors, Council Chairs and Unit Chairpersons**

Unifor's First Ever Conference on

Automation, New Technology and the Future of Work
August 15, 2018 – Halifax Convention Centre

How will workers be affected by new technology? It's up to us!

The world of work is changing rapidly. New technologies are being developed and deployed at a pace that is sometimes abrupt and often alarming. Advanced robotics, automated vehicles, platform applications and artificial intelligence are just a few of the technologies that are transforming our workplaces, our relationships and our day-to-day lives.

Our workplaces and our work are all susceptible to disruption. Disruption has the potential to affect the quality and quantity of work in Canada in substantive and meaningful ways in the years ahead. In addition to the changing the nature of work, the expansion of services such as Uber in Canada have exposed major loopholes in government regulation and the popularity of some services, like Netflix, has forced regulators to simply stay on the sidelines.

At the same time as disruption is posing a threat, it can also pose opportunities. New technologies have the potential to enhance connection between people, disrupt the power dynamics that run our workplaces and the country. It can also improve how work is organized and reduce physical stress.

Join Us!

Join us at the Unifor Automation, New Technology and the Future of Work conference where we will explore how the nature of work is changing in workplaces across the country and learn how some workers are taking a stand and fighting back to ensure their voice is heard; to ensure their needs are met; to ensure their well-being is kept in mind.

Conference attendees will also have the opportunity to engage with experts; discuss how automation and new technology are affecting your workplace today; learn what is similar and what is different to

past waves of technological change; and develop tools and strategies to fight back against the worst of what technological change has to offer while maximizing the benefits.

The conference will take place in Halifax at the Halifax Convention Centre, 1650 Argyle Street on August 15th, 2018 in the lead up to Canadian Council. The conference will begin at 9am-5pm and culminate in an evening event featuring some straight talk about the future of work and an address from National President, Jerry Dias.

Attendees are invited to participate in the entire day. Some attendees (including the NEB, national staff and some industry councils) will have meetings that conflict with one or more of the sessions. If you have interest in the event and conflicting meetings, please indicate so on your registration form. We will accommodate you so that you can participate in this important conversation.

If you have any questions about plans for the conference please contact Kaylie Tiessen at Kaylie.Tiessen@unifor.org or at 416-718-8497.

Space is limited - register today!

Please register your attendance by 5:00 p.m. ET on Thursday, July 12, 2018. There is no registration fee for this conference however pre-registration is required. Please send your registration forms to Linda.McCrorie@unifor.org. Attendees are responsible for booking their own travel and accommodations.

Accessibility

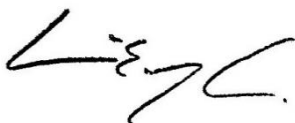
Unifor seeks to make all union meetings and events accessible and barrier free. If you require accommodation for human rights related needs, we invite you to provide us with your relevant information so that we can take all reasonable steps to address any barriers to your participation in your Union. Please email requests to Linda.McCrorie@unifor.org or fax to: 416-495-6552.

Child Care

Child care will be provided during conference hours only. Child care registration forms are enclosed. Please make your child care reservations as early as possible and no later than July 12, 2018.

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,



Bill Murnighan
Director, Research Department

BM:KT:lmc/cope-343

cc: Front Office, National Representatives, NEB, Laurie Wright

Attached: Conference pre-registration form, child care registration form