1. **Recommendation on trade agreements**

I recommend that Unifor Ontario activists, in accordance with the direction set by the National Executive Board, work with our allies across Canada and around the world to advocate and campaign for a just and balanced world trade system. A system that reverses the trend of corporate-rights agreements and that is guided by core progressive principles of democracy, justice and sustainability.

I further recommend that Unifor continue its opposition to the Harper government’s proposed free trade agreements with Europe, Korea, the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Foreign Investment Protection Agreement with China (that would lock in investor rights for at least 31 years) and that our union demand the removal of investor-state dispute settlement mechanisms (including NAFTA’s Chapter 11) from any existing or proposed trade agreements.

2. **Recommendation on 2015 federal election**

The 2015 Federal Election will be a priority for Unifor. This is an important task before us and we must work to ensure the defeat of the Harper government. Therefore, I recommend the following:

A. That local unions work actively to implement the Canadian Council recommendation on the upcoming federal election;

B. That local union leadership and activists fully participate in the CLC regional political action conferences as well as the Unifor caucus meetings, which will be held prior;

C. That local union leadership and activists fully participate in Unifor’s one-day political action tools-based workshops held across the region;

D. And that an Ontario federal election working group be established that will include participation from the Ontario Political Action standing committee.
3. **Recommendations on Ontario Federation of Labour**

I recommend that Unifor’s Ontario local unions who have not affiliated to the Ontario Federation of Labour do so, and that locals send full delegations to the OFL convention in 2015. I further recommend that local unions that are partially affiliated increase to full affiliation.

4. **Recommendation on labour law reform**

I recommend that Ontario Regional Council calls upon the Government of Ontario to commence a labour law reform process early in 2015 with a mandate to modernize labour relations in Ontario, strengthen the institutions of collective bargaining, and support all Ontario workers to exercise their democratic right to join a union and engage in free collective bargaining.

I recommend that the ORC Executive work with Unifor National to develop a comprehensive submission to the government based on these priorities:

A. New organizing rules to allow for freedom of association without interference, intimidation or obstruction by employers.

B. Successorship laws to ensure continuity of bargaining rights after changes in business arrangements such as transfer of ownership or reorganization of production, including successorship for contract workers to protect union security and the gains made in bargaining when a contract is retendered and awarded.

C. Sectoral rights and standards to ensure minimum conditions for all workers, and sectoral certification to extend collective bargaining to historically under-represented sectors with low wage competition and smaller workplaces.

D. Plant closure legislation to address disinvestment by global corporations as a bargaining tactic or reprisal to workers for asserting their rights, and to provide third party arbitration when closure agreements cannot be negotiated.

With this goal in mind, I recommend that the ORC work with the OFL and coordinate efforts to ensure that Ontario labour has a strong consensus and clear priorities for labour law reform.

I further recommend that Ontario local unions continue the Rights at Work campaign to inform members of the continuing threats to trade union rights and engage members in advocating for strengthened labour rights to create a stronger and more equitable economy.
I also recommend that Ontario local unions discuss labour law reform in Ontario at their earliest opportunity and forward their proposals for labour law reform to the Ontario Regional Director. I encourage them to send examples drawn from their experience of how workers’ rights, job security and safety are not being achieved because of Ontario’s economic realities and existing labour legislation.

I further recommend that Unifor work to ensure that labour law reform in Ontario also addresses rights and employment standards for all Ontario workers and in particular the rights of part time, temporary and precarious workers.

5. **Recommendation on violence against women and missing and murdered aboriginal women and girls**

I recommend that the Unifor Ontario Council, continue to support the struggle to stop violence against women in all its forms by:

A. Promoting and utilizing the data that will be released on December 6, 2014 –marking the 25th anniversary of the Montreal Massacre, on “Can work be safe, when home isn’t”.

B. Supporting “Shine the Light on Woman Abuse” and “Light the Night Against Violence” campaigns. Both campaigns call for the lighting of buildings and communities across Canada with the aim of raising awareness around gender-based violence every day.

C. Support further calls for action on the violence against aboriginal women and girls, by joining The Native Women’s Association of Canada in its demand for a National Inquiry into the missing and murdered aboriginal women and girls and that aboriginal women are included in the design, decision-making process and implementation of this inquiry.

6. **Recommendation on donation to women’s shelters and food banks**

I recommend that the Ontario Regional Council, on an ongoing basis, match the annual donations of the Social Justice Fund made to Women’s Shelters and Food Banks across the province in December of each year, with the approval from the Executive Board.