

Bylaws

NATIONAL RETIRED WORKERS COUNCIL

*Retired from the job,
not the fight!*



unifor

Retired**Workers** | Membres**retraités**



unifor

Retired**Workers** | Membres**retraités**

Unifor Retired Workers Department

For more information visit our website:

unifor.org/retirees

Contact us:

1-800-268-9040 ext. 240

retirees@unifor.org

BYLAWS

NATIONAL RETIRED WORKERS COUNCIL

ARTICLE 1 – Name

- a) As per Article 12, of the Unifor National Constitution (*hereinafter referred to as the “Constitution”*), there shall be an organization named, National Retired Workers Council.

ARTICLE 2 – Objectives of the National Retired Workers Council

- a) As per Article 12 (23), the National Retired Workers Council shall amongst other endeavours:
1. Elect a Chairperson, who will be a member of the National Executive Board.
 2. Consider resolutions submitted by Local Chapters and Area Councils.
 3. Promote the policies and participate in the programs of the National Union.
 4. Advise the National Executive Board on issues that affect retired workers within the union.
 5. Work to advance the interest of the retired workers in our communities.
 6. Engage in the political, educational and organizing campaigns of the National Union.

ARTICLE 3 – Representation to the National Retired Workers Council

- a) Each Local Union Retired Workers Chapter shall be entitled to one (1) retired worker delegate.
- b) Each Local Union Retired Workers Chapter having more than one thousand (1,000) retired workers shall be entitled to one (1) additional retired worker delegate for each one thousand (1,000) retired workers or major fraction thereof; providing however, that where appropriate, the National Executive Board may approve additional representation.
- c) Each Retired Workers Area Council established by the National President shall be entitled to three (3) retired worker delegates and each additional Retired Workers Area Council established by the National Executive Board shall be entitled to one (1) retired worker delegate.
- d) Each Local Union shall be entitled to one (1) delegate to be designated by the President of the Local Union, who is not retired.

ARTICLE 4 – Meeting(s)

- a) As per Article 12 (24) of the Constitution, the National Retired Workers Council shall meet annually and the event will be translated and interpreted in Canada's two official languages.
- b) At least seven (7) days notice shall be given for calling special meetings of the National Retired Workers Council.
- c) Those members in attendance at a meeting will constitute a quorum.
- d) A written financial report of the National Retired Workers Fund will be given to the delegates at each National Retired Workers Council meeting.
- e) All questions of a parliamentary nature shall be decided in accordance with Bourinot's Rules of Order, with the exception of meetings, which shall be conducted in accordance with the Unifor Rules of Order.

ARTICLE 5 – Power Of Administration

- a) The delegates assembled are the highest authority of the National Retired Workers Council. The National Retired Workers Council shall be empowered to act subject to the Constitution.
- b) Between National Retired Workers Council meetings, the National Retired Workers Council Executive shall be empowered to act on behalf of the National Retired Workers Council to the extent urgent business requires prompt and decisive action, subject to the general policies established by the Council and with their subsequent approval.
- c) Between meetings of the National Retired Workers Council Executive, the Chairperson of the National Retired Workers Council, in consultation with the Unifor National President, the Director of the Retired Workers department and the National Retired Workers Council Executive, shall be empowered to act on behalf of the National Retired Workers Council, subject to general policies established by the Union.



ARTICLE 6 – National Retired Workers Council Executive

- a) As per Article 12 (25) of the Constitution, a National Retired Workers Council Executive shall be established and shall meet quarterly.
- b) The composition of the Executive shall reflect the regional, gender and equity principles of the National Union.
- c) The Executive shall be composed of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary and seven (7) members-at-large. The Executive positions shall be filled at the annual meeting of the National Retired Workers Council immediately following the convention of the National Union.
- d) As per Article 12 (31) of the Constitution, each member of the National Retired Workers Council Executive is automatically a delegate to the Convention and the Canadian Council, with voice and vote.
- e) As per Article 12 (32) of the Constitution, the Chairperson of the National Retired Workers Council Executive or her/his designee is automatically a delegate to each Regional Council, with voice and one vote.
- f) Duties of the National Retired Workers Council Executive shall be those usually associated with these positions. Principal duties are:
 - Chairperson: shall preside at the council and executive board meetings.
 - Vice-Chairperson: shall assume the duties of the Chairperson in their absence.
 - Secretary: shall keep the minutes of the National Retired Workers Council and executive board meetings. The Secretary will handle all correspondence addressed to the National Retired Workers Council Executive.
- g) The Unifor National Executive Board shall consult with the National Retired Workers Council Executive concerning retired workers programs and policies and such matters that affect the welfare of retired workers.

ARTICLE 7 – Representation to the Unifor National Executive Board and Regional Councils

- a) As per Article 12 (29) of the Constitution, the Chairperson of the National Retired Workers Council Executive will be an automatic member of the National Executive Board.

ARTICLE 8 – Retired Workers Council Executive Positions and Elections

- a) The Retired Workers Council Executive Board and members-at-large will be elected by the National Retired Workers Council. The term will be for three (3) years.
- b) Members who wish to stand for any position on the Retired Workers Council Executive must be elected as a delegate by their Local Union Retired Workers Chapter or Area Council to the National Retired Workers Council.
- c) Each member standing for election, for the above positions, will be afforded two minutes to address the delegates.
- d) Voting shall be by secret ballot, unless there is no contest, in which case, election may be by acclamation. For positions where only one (1) is to be elected a candidate must receive the majority of the votes cast to be declared elected. For the members-at-large positions, where more than seven (7) candidates stand for election, the seven (7) candidates receiving the most votes will be declared elected.
- e) If the position of the Chairperson becomes permanently vacant, the Vice-Chairperson, as per Article 12 (30) of the Constitution, will serve as the interim Chairperson until the next annual meeting of the National Retired Workers Council, at which time an election will be conducted to fill the vacancy.
- f) For all other vacancies the National Retired Workers Council Executive shall have the authority to appoint a retired member on the Committees referred to in Article 9 of these Bylaws. The selection of this appointee shall be from the list of elected delegates attending the preceding National Retired Workers Council.

ARTICLE 9 – Committees

- a) In addition to the positions as set out in Article 6 (a), the National Retired Workers Council will elect a Retired Workers Recreation Chairperson for a three (3) year term. The election for this position will be held in conjunction with the National Retired Workers Council Executive election on a separate ballot.
- b) The Retired Workers Recreation Chairperson will be an automatic member of the National Recreation Committee if the National Recreation Committee's Council Bylaws allow for such a provision.
- c) Including the positions as set out in Article 6 (a) and Article 9 (a), the National Retired Workers Council will elect the following committees for a three year term: Credentials Committee consisting of three (3) members, and Labour Day Parade Committee consisting of seven (7) members.
- d) A member of the Retired Workers Council Executive shall chair these committees.
- e) As per Article 8 (b), members who wish to stand for these committees must be elected as a delegate to the National Retired Workers Council, by their Retired Workers Chapter or Area Council.
- f) Members elected to the above positions must be a delegate to each National Retired Workers Council in order to fulfill their respective term. Any vacancies to these committees will be filled, as per Article 8 (f).
- g) The composition of the above committees shall reflect the regional, gender and equity principles of the National Union.

ARTICLE 10 – Resolutions Committee

- a) The National Retired Workers Council shall have a Resolutions Committee consisting of ten (10) members; of which eight (8) shall be elected from the Retired Workers Area Councils. A member of the Retired Workers Council Executive will chair the committee meeting. The Chairperson of the Retired Workers Council Executive shall be a member of the committee.

- b) The composition of the Resolutions Committee shall reflect the regional, gender and equity principles of the National Union.
- c) The National Retired Workers Council Resolutions Committee shall meet each year in July to review the resolutions submitted by the retired workers chapters, area councils and the council executive.
- d) Any vacancies to the Retired Workers Council Resolutions Committee will be filled by a representative from the respective area council for the balance of the term.

ARTICLE 11 – RESOLUTIONS

- a) Resolutions to be submitted to the annual Retired Workers Council must first be approved at a meeting of the Local Union Retired Workers Chapter or Area Council.
- b) All Resolutions must be forwarded to the National Retired Workers Department before the deadline of June 30th. The resolutions will then be forwarded to the National Retired Workers Resolutions Committee for review and recommendation to the National Retired Workers Council.
- c) Where resolutions are written by the National Retired Workers Council Executive or the Resolutions Committee, these may proceed directly from the Resolutions Committee to the annual Retired Workers Council.
- d) All resolutions approved at National Retired Workers Council must be submitted by the National Secretary-Treasurer who will then submit them to the National Executive Board and/or appropriate Convention/Conference.
- e) All resolutions from the National Retired Workers Council to be forwarded to the Unifor Convention or Collective Bargaining Conference must comply with Article 6 (c) 1, of the Constitution.
- f) National Retired Workers Council delegates will place a restriction on the amount of time speakers can hold the floor on a resolution.

ARTICLE 12 – AMENDMENTS

- a) The Constitution of the National Retired Workers Council shall be the Constitution of the Unifor National Union and these Bylaws shall be in all respects subordinate to said National Constitution and all applications and interpretations thereof.
- b) These Bylaws may be amended by presenting a motion in writing to the National Retired Workers Council Executive. The amendments will then be presented to the National Retired Workers Council. Amendments must be approved two-thirds (2/3) of those present at the National Retired Worker Council. The amendments or the new Bylaws are not effective until approved by the National Executive Board.