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June 24, 2025

TO: Local Union Presidents, Recording Secretaries, Unit Chairpersons

# Unifor Black, Indigenous and Workers of Colour Conference September 26 – 28, 2025 "Rooted in Resistance: Healing, Justice and Solidarity"

### Greetings,

We are thrilled to announce the upcoming 2025 National BIWOC Conference!

This year's theme is "Rooted in Resistance: Healing, Justice and Solidarity", exploring how the struggles of racialized workers and migrant justice are connected, and moving together toward reconciliation and collective healing.

In our diverse society, understanding and supporting cross-cultural dynamics is essential. This conference will allow delegates to gain valuable perspectives on anti-racism, politics, mental health, and cross-cultural support. Participants will hear and connect with activists and advocates who share a commitment to these important causes to gain strategies and resources to implement in their communities.

The BIWOC Conference will be held at the Unifor Family Education Center, in Port Elgin, Ontario, starting Friday, September 26, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. and ending Sunday, September 28, 2025, at noon.

#### **Elections:**

There will be elections at the BIWOC conference for the following two (2) positions on the National Executive Board:

- Black and Workers of Colour Representative
- Indigenous Representative

The registration desk will be open on Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and room check-in begins at 3:00p.m.

We anticipate that the conference will fill up quickly, so please register and submit your reservation forms early to avoid disappointment.

To register for the conference, you must complete the online registration process by visiting: <a href="https://register1.unifor.org/">https://register1.unifor.org/</a> AND you must complete and submit the reservation form for the Unifor Family Education Centre.

To download the full version of the Call Letter, click <u>here</u>. For updated information and copies of all the required forms visit the BIWOC Conference <u>Events Page</u>.

Please contact the Human Rights Department at <a href="https://humanrights@unifor.org">humanrights@unifor.org</a> if you require additional information.

We are looking forward to a fantastic conference.

In solidarity,

### Tricia Wilson

Director, Equity and Racial Justice

TW/kdcope343

cc: Leadership



The opening plenary will be at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, September 26, 2025. A full agenda will be provided upon registration at the conference. Registration Deadline: Friday, August 22, 2025.

### **CONFERENCE DETAILS**

### Registration

Registration for the BIWOC Conference will be online. Locals can register their participants by visiting: <a href="https://register1.unifor.org/">https://register1.unifor.org/</a>. By now, Local Union Presidents have received their 2025 online username and password. If you are unable to find your registration information, please email <a href="mailto:registration@unifor.org">registration@unifor.org</a> and it will be resent. The registration deadline is <a href="mailto:Friday">Friday</a>, <a href="mailto:August 22">August 22</a>, <a href="mailto:2025">2025</a>.

You must register for this conference through the online registration process AND submit your reservation forms to Port Elgin.

### Reservation

The <u>Family Education Reservation Form</u> must be completed and sent to the Unifor Family Education Centre directly to secure your accommodation no later than Friday, August 22, 2025.

You must reserve your accommodations at the Unifor Family Education Centre by submitting your form to <a href="mailto:confcentre@unifor.org">confcentre@unifor.org</a>.

## **Conference Registration Fee:**

Payment of \$80.00 is required for the conference kit materials (by separate cheque made payable to the Unifor Family Education Centre).

### **Accommodation Fees:**

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

Shared Room with another Delegate \$510.00 Single Room (Only available to families) \$660.00

Teens (12+)	\$150.00
Children (5-11)	\$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, September 26, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. and check-out is on Sunday, September 28, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

### **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 (\$80.00) and the other for accommodation costs. Cheques are to be made payable to the Unifor Family Education Centre and mailed with the reservation forms directly to the Unifor Family Education Centre, 115 Shipley Ave., Port Elgin, ON NOH 2C5.

**Credit Card** – record the credit card number and expiry date on the Reservation Form and submit via email to <a href="mailto:confcentre@unifor.org">confcentre@unifor.org</a> 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 managed 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 3:00 p.m. on September 26, 2025, and can be emailed to <a href="mailto:confcentre@unifor.org">confcentre@unifor.org</a> 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, August 22, 2025.

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 August 22, 2025**. Please have the delegates complete the attached childcare form and email to <a href="mailto:fecchildcare@unifor.org">fecchildcare@unifor.org</a>. 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 2025 BIWOC Conference!

If you wish to register your teenagers between the ages of 13 to 16 please complete the form found <u>here</u>. Please note that if your teenager plans to visit the Centre with you, they must be registered for the teen program.

To download a full copy of the call letter or to access the required forms for the Unifor Family Education Centre please visit the <u>Unifor BIWOCs Conference Event Page!</u>

### Travel:

A shuttle has been arranged 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 Friday, August 22, 2025, SHUTTLE RESERVATION FORM, to reserve your space.

Fri. September 26, 2025	12:30pm EST	Driverseat Shuttle Pick-up at Delta Hotel
Fri. September 26, 2025	12:30pm EST	Driverseat Shuttle Pick-up at Terminal One
Sun. September 28, 2025	12:30pm EST	Driverseat Shuttle Pick-up at Port Elgin



### **Summary of Deadlines:**

Please make note of the important deadlines for the upcoming BIWOC Conference.

Friday, August 22, 2025	On-Line Registration Form must be completed.
Friday, August 22, 2025	Reservation Forms must be submitted to Family Education Centre
Friday, August 22, 2025	Child Care Reservation Form must be submitted to fecchildcare@unifor.org
Friday, August 22, 2025	Shuttle Reservation Form must by submitted to humanrights@unifor.org

## Accessibility:

Unifor seeks to make all union meetings and events accessible and barrier free. If you require accommodation for a human right 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 <a href="mailto:humanrights@unifor.org">humanrights@unifor.org</a>.

## **COVID-19 and Respiratory Viruses Policy:**

If you are feeling sick, please do not come to the Centre. If you start to feel sick while at the Family Education Centre, notify the front desk immediately. Please stay in your room and arrangements will be made for you to return home. If you need further guidance on the severity of your symptoms, please complete the <u>self-assessment tool</u> and follow the guidelines.