

May 1, 2026

TO: Local Union Presidents, Recording Secretaries, Unit Chairpersons, Women's Committee Chairpersons, Employment Equity Representatives, Women's Advocates, Regional Council Women's Committees

**Unifor Women's Conference
October 4-7, 2026
Resist. Rise. Reimagine.**

Greetings,

We are thrilled to announce the upcoming 2026 National Women's Conference!

This year's theme, *Resist. Rise. Reimagine.* is a call to stand together united to protect our rights and to demand gender justice. As backlash grows, it threatens the progress we have made towards equity and equality. We are living in a moment where the progress union women fought hard to win is being challenged. It is more important than ever to join in solidarity to protect the gains of the feminists who came before us and carry their momentum into the urgent fights ahead.

Achieving gender justice requires constant action. At this year's conference, we will dig into the campaigns that matter. We will talk about the real progress we have made in declaring Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic, and how we keep that momentum going across the country. We will recognize the importance of reproductive justice, child care and the gender pay gap in all our lives. We will name and challenge the rise of anti-feminist forces that are trying to roll back our rights, and we will build strategies to push back.

As we gather to learn and strategize, Unifor National President, Lana Payne, will join to share her reflections on the urgent issues facing sisters and siblings across our union. From heightened risks of job insecurity to the impact of job losses and shifts on the gender pay gap, we will explore how to ensure that a "made-in-Canada" future is also a feminist future.

We will mark the National Day for Action for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Gender Diverse People in Canada that will include a rally into Port Elgin to raise awareness while standing in solidarity.

Gender justice does not happen by accident. It takes action. It takes organizing. It takes all of us.

We have an exciting agenda that will provide sisters and siblings with concrete steps to take when they return to their locals and communities with moments for sisterhood and solidarity.

We will resist the forces attempting to hold us back.
We will rise in the face of injustice.
And we will reimagine what is possible for working class women across the country.

There is still so much work ahead of us. And I know we are ready for it.

The 2026 Unifor Women's Conference will be held at the Unifor Family Education Centre in Port Elgin, Ontario starting Sunday, October 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. and ending Wednesday, October 7, 2026, at noon.

Room check-in begins at 3:00 p.m.

On-site registration will be open on Sunday from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

New delegate orientation will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Sisterhood Room.

As always, this conference fills up quickly. Please submit your registration forms early to avoid disappointment.

Please contact the Women's Department at women@unifor.org if you require additional information. We are looking forward to a great conference.

In solidarity,



Tracey Ramsey
Director, Women's Department

TR/kdcope343

cc: Leadership

**The opening plenary will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 4, 2026.
 A full agenda will be provided upon registration at the conference.
 Online Registration Deadline: Friday, September 4, 2026.**



Conference Details

Registration

Registration for the Women’s Conference will be online. Locals can register their participants by visiting: <https://register1.unifor.org/>. By now, Local Union Presidents have received their 2026 online username and password. If you are unable to find your registration information, please email registration@unifor.org and it will be resent. The registration deadline is **Friday, September 4, 2026**.

Reservation

The attached Reservation Forms must be completed and sent to the Unifor Family Education Centre directly to secure your accommodation no later than Friday, September 4, 2026.

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 three (3) nights' accommodation, beginning with dinner on Sunday and up to and including lunch on Wednesday.

Shared Room with another Delegate	\$795.00
Single Room (Only available to families)	\$1,020.00
Children (13+)	\$225.00
Children (5-12)	\$150.00
Children (1-4)	\$ 60.00
Children (under 1)	No Charge

NOTE: Check-in is Sunday, October 4, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. and check-out is on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Payment Methods:

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 can be made payable to the Unifor Family Education Centre and mailed with the enclosed reservation forms directly to the Unifor Family Education Centre, 115 Shipley Ave., Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C5.

Credit Card – record the credit card number and expiry date on the Reservation Form and submit via email to confcentre@unifor.org or by fax to 519-389-3222, or mail in.

Accommodations

On-site accommodations for the conference will be handled on a first come, first served basis until we reach capacity. Accommodation details will be provided after the conference registration closes. By registering and submitting your reservation form, you agree that you will accept the accommodations offered with an understanding that many participants will be booked off-site. To participate in the conference, locals must register their delegates through the online registration system and submit a reservation form for accommodations to the Port Elgin front desk. As in years past, the Women's Conference fully books the Centre, which results in off-site accommodations which is administered through the Centre's front desk. We have successfully secured off-site accommodations in Port Elgin and Southampton. There will be a shuttle service provided for all locations. Please note that if off-site accommodations are needed (due to space restrictions), they will be arranged by the Port Elgin staff. If you prefer to stay off-site, please indicate this on your reservation form.

Cancellations:

Cancellations must be made in writing 48 hours prior to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 4, 2026, and can be emailed to confcentre@unifor.org 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 September 4, 2026.

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 childcare must pre-register no later than September 4, 2026.** Please have the delegates complete the attached child care form and email to fecchildcare@unifor.org. 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 2026 Women's Conference!

If you wish to register your teenagers between the ages of 13 to 16, please complete the form found [here](#).

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 September 4, 2026, <https://form.jotform.com/260756618656065>, to reserve your space.

Sun. October 4, 2026	12:30pm	Driverseat Shuttle Pick-up at Delta Hotel
Sun. October 4, 2026	12:30pm	Driverseat Shuttle Pick-up at Terminal One
Wed. October 7, 2026	12:30pm	Driverseat Shuttle Pick-up at Port Elgin

During the conference, there will be shuttle busses travelling to and from hotels in Port Elgin and Southampton in the morning and the end of the conference each day to assist participants without vehicles. There will also be a ride board for posting transportation requests.

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 women@unifor.org.

Health and Wellness Policy

Prior to travelling to Port Elgin, we ask all participants to self-assess for cold and flu symptoms. If you have any symptoms, or are feeling ill, please cancel your attendance by

contacting the Front Desk. If you start to feel sick while at the Family Education Centre, please notify the front desk immediately, remain in your room and arrangements will be made for you to return home.

Summary of Deadlines:

Please make note of the important deadlines for the upcoming Women's Conference.

Friday Sept. 4, 2026	Online Registration must be completed by the local
Friday Sept. 4, 2026	Reservation Forms must be submitted to Family Education Centre
Friday Sept. 4, 2026	Child Care Reservation Form must be submitted to fecchildcare@unifor.org
Friday Sept. 4, 2026	Shuttle Reservation Form must be submitted to women@unifor.org