



unifor

Ontario Regional Council
Conseil régional de l'Ontario

Unifor Ontario Regional Council

December 1-2, 2023

Shaw Centre

Ottawa, Ontario



A Message from your Ontario Regional Council Chair and Director

Dear Unifor Ontario Local Unions;

We are pleased to announce the 2023 Ontario Regional Council will be held in-person at the Shaw Centre, Ottawa, from December 1 – 2, 2023.

This year marks significant milestones for Unifor and its members. Together, our union celebrated a decade of unity and strength and a decade of impactful, trailblazing dialogue through the Ontario Regional Council.

This year's council will focus on meaningful discussions on issues paramount to our members in Ontario, including the privatization of our health care system, the transformative shifts anticipated in the auto sector, and strategies for fostering a stronger, more organized and mobilized membership. Through conversations hosted by leaders, speakers, and peer activists, delegates will have the opportunity to explore, learn, and contribute to our collective goals and our plan to achieve them.

We encourage locals to support the participation of equity deserving members by selecting equity representation (Women, Black, Indigenous and Workers of Colour, Workers with disAbilities, LGBTQ and Young Workers 35 and under) as part of their delegation. As part of our ongoing commitment to equity, we are requesting that locals utilize the special delegate entitlement allotted under the ORC bylaws.

Additionally, in accordance with council bylaws, ORC will be holding elections to fill vacancies for the remaining 2 year term in the following positions: ORC Member-at-Large (1); Political Action Standing Committee (1); Health, Safety and Environment Standing Committee (1), and LGBTQ Standing Committee (1).

There is no registration fee for Ontario Regional Council, but registration is required in advance and will take place via our online registration system. Your local's registration information has been sent via email.

Share our history! Locals are invited to [submit up to 5 \(five\) photographs](#) that represent 10 years of ORC! Photographs must be sent in digital format, in the highest resolution. The deadline to submit photographs is Friday, October 27, 2023.

We hope to see you in Ottawa!



Shinade Alder
Ontario Regional Council Chairperson



Samia Hashi
Ontario Regional Director

Tentative Agenda

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

- Presidents Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 30, 2023

- Industry / Sector Meetings
- Standing Committee Meetings
- ORC Registration begins at 12:00 p.m.

Friday, December 1, 2023

- ORC Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.
- Call to Order at 9:00 a.m.
- Regional Director's Report
- ORC Financial Report
- Debate on Recommendations & Resolutions
- Guest Speaker (s)
- Evening Social Event

Saturday, December 2, 2023

- ORC Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.
- Call to Order 9:00 a.m.
- Nominations & Elections
- Debate on Resolutions and Recommendations
- Guest Speaker (s)
- SJF 10th Anniversary Celebration



Registration

Registration this year will be entirely online. Please visit <https://register1.unifor.org>. The registration deadline is November 10, 2023.

Your Local's registration information has been sent via email. As the head of the delegation, it is the President's responsibility to register all members of a Local's delegation.

To register your delegation, select one of the following events:

1. ORC Presidents Meeting November 29, 2023
2. Ontario Regional Council December 1-2, 2023

To register for multiple events, please log out and log back in to select the next event on the home screen.

Locals are encouraged to register a full delegation along with Special Delegates (keeping in mind our equity seeking groups) and observers for this year's ORC. Please remember that when registering your delegation online, you must identify if a delegate plans to attend an equity caucus. Any members who self-identify will be kept confidential. All equity caucuses are for members who self-identify with an equity seeking group.

Important Notes!

Current members of the Ontario Regional Council Executive and Standing Committees must be registered as part of your Local's delegation, as a delegate from your local.

If you require a change to your Local's registration, to apply for Special Delegates, or you experience any difficulties with your registration, please send an email to Catarina.Xhuli@unifor.org.

Delegation Designations

Delegates are the only members of the delegation to get both voice and vote at Council. Each local has a limited number of delegates based on the following calculations:

- local unions with 1 to 250 members - 1 delegate
- local unions with 251 to 500 members - 2 delegates
- local unions with 501 to 750 members - 3 delegates
- local unions with 751 to 1,000 members - 4 delegates
- local unions with 1,001 to 1,250 members - 5 delegates

Plus one additional delegate for each additional 250 members. Please refer to council bylaws for information on amalgamated local unions. [ORC bylaws can be found here on Unifor.org](#).

Special Delegates get voice but no vote at council. This may include members of your executive, unit chairs or members of equity seeking groups (BIWOC, Young Workers, Workers with disAbilities, LGBTQ or Women.)

Observers have no voice or vote at council and may be members who do not qualify as special delegates. Locals may register multiple observers.

Elections

In accordance with council bylaws, ORC will fill vacancies for a remaining 2 year term.

Positions to fill as follows:

- ORC Members-at-large – 1
- Political Action Standing Committee – 1
- Health, Safety and Environment Standing Committee – 1

Equity Standing Committees:

- LGBTQ – 1*

NOTE: Equity Standing Committee positions will be filled by peer election during their designated equity caucus meeting. Please refer to your council agenda upon registration for caucus dates and times. Elections happening on the floor of council will take place Saturday, December 3. Registration and changes to delegate status will be closed one hour prior to voting.

Formal nominations for the ORC Executive and Standing Committees will take place during the Council. As per our bylaws (Article 5: Elections):

...a delegate nominating another delegate may make a brief statement, and all candidates shall have an opportunity to address the delegates.

Please note that nominees should ensure they have the support of their Local President prior to accepting a nomination. The home locals of members of the ORC Executive and Standing Committees must commit to financial support for the term, including costs associated with sending you to ORC as part of their delegation for your term.



Resolutions

General Resolutions

General resolutions to be considered by the Ontario Regional Council must be received no less than 15 working days prior to the opening of council.

The general resolution deadline is November 10, 2023. We encourage you to send your resolutions prior to this date. Delegates are entitled to be on the resolutions committee. If you would like to be considered for the resolutions committee, please email Catarina.Xhuli@unifor.org no later than November 10.

Bylaw Amendments

Please note that in accordance with ORC By Laws, Article 9: Amendments:

The bylaws of the Regional Council may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote to approve a resolution of a local union or a recommendation of the Executive Committee provided that all local unions have been given 30 days notice of a resolution or recommendation to amend the bylaws.

In order to comply with Article 9, any resolutions pertaining to bylaw amendments must be submitted no later than November 1, 2023. Locals would then be given notice no later than November 3, 2023. Resolutions may be submitted via email to Catarina.Xhuli@unifor.org

Please refer to the sample resolution on page 8 for a clear language explanation of how to compose your resolution.

Tips for making resolutions clear for everyone to understand:

- Cover only one main issue per resolution.
- Use sentences that are clear, direct and short.
- Use words that your readers will easily understand – avoid jargon, abbreviations and acronyms.
- Be specific. Explain what you want to see happen: What you want to change, how you want it done, who you want to do it, and when you want it to happen.



Sample Resolution



Ontario Regional Council Sample Resolution

Unifor Ontario Regional Council Will:

1. Encourage all Ontario locals to use the recommended format for resolutions; and
2. Encourage all Ontario locals to keep resolutions at 200 words or fewer

Because:

- The resolutions committee need proper signatures to know the resolution comes from a local and has been approved; and
- Using simple words like “will” and “because” helps delegates understand the resolution, especially new delegates

Submitted by Unifor local:

Jane Smith, President

John Smith, Recording Secretary

Accommodations and Travel

Hotels

A block of rooms has been reserved at each of the following hotels:

Lord Elgin

100 Elgin St., Ottawa

A rate of \$195.00 per night for a Classic Room.

Please make your reservations under the **Unifor Ontario Regional Council December 2023**

Block by calling the hotel at 1-800-267-4298 or by emailing groups@lordelgin.ca.

The cut-off date to reserve in the block is October 30, 2023.

Fairmont Chateau Laurier

1 Rideau Street, Ottawa

A rate of \$259.00 per night for a Fairmont Room.

Please make your reservations under the **Unifor Ontario Regional Council December 2023**

Block by calling the global reservations centre at 1-800-441-1414.

The cut-off date to reserve in the block is October 30, 2023.

The Westin Ottawa

11 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa

A rate of \$229 per night for a Traditional Room.

Please make your reservations under the **Unifor Ontario Regional Council December 2023**

[Book your group rate for Unifor 2023 Ontario Region Council online.](#)

The cut-off date to reserve in the block is October 30, 2023.

Travel

Air Canada Discount

Air Canada has offered savings to our delegates who will be traveling by air. If you wish to take advantage of these savings, please contact Air Canada at 1-888-247-2262 (in Canada), TTY 1-800-361-8071 (hearing impaired) or online at aircanada.com. In all cases, please quote promotional code **MYXVJ7G1**.

VIA Rail Discount

Via Rail has offered 5% off the best available fare in Economy, Economy Plus, Business, Business Plus and Sleeper Class. If you wish to take advantage of these savings, please contact VIA Rail at 1-888-842-7245 (in Canada), TTY 1-800-268-9503 (hearing impaired) or online at viarail.ca. In all cases, please quote promotional code **811133**.

Summary of Deadlines

Please make note of important deadlines for this upcoming ORC

November 1, 2023	Bylaw Amendment Resolutions Deadline
November 1, 2023	Child Care Registrations Deadline
November 10, 2023	Resolutions Deadline
November 10, 2023	Event Registration Deadline

Information from this call package may also be found on the [ORC December 2023 event page](#).

Accessibility

Unifor seeks to make all union meetings and events accessible and barrier free.

If you require accommodation for a human rights 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 Catarina.Xhuli@unifor.org

In addition, if anyone in your delegation has any allergies, dietary concerns or restrictions, please contact Catarina.Xhuli@unifor.org.

Child Care

Child care will be provided during business hours of the ORC. Included with this package, you will find the Unifor Child Care Registration Form. The form must be completed and returned no later than November 1, 2023.

Please complete the child care registration form attached and send to the attention of Laurie Wright at the Unifor Education Centre by fax: (519) 389-3544 or email fecchildcare@unifor.org.

COVID-19 Protection

The health and safety of our members and staff during the Canadian Council is a priority. The COVID-19 virus is still present and requires us to work together to ensure that everyone participating in the event, as well as their families and loved ones, are kept safe. Unifor has adopted a union-wide comprehensive policy on COVID-19 prevention for Unifor events. Full vaccination and mask-wearing is strongly encouraged for all individuals in attendance. All public health guidelines as outlined by the regional public health unit will be followed for this event.