

**February 18, 2026**

To: Local Union Presidents, Secretary-Treasurers and Financial Secretaries

---

**Unifor National Health & Safety Conference 2026**  
**Root Cause, Real Change: Building Safer Workplaces**

**April 10-12, 2026**

Unifor Family Education Centre, Port Elgin, Ontario

---

Greetings,

We are excited to announce the 6<sup>th</sup> Unifor National Health and Safety Conference “Root Cause, Real Change: Building Safer Workplaces” will take place Friday, April 10 to Sunday, April 12, 2026, at the Unifor Family Education Centre in Port Elgin, Ontario.

**The conference begins at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2026, and ends at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 12, 2026.**

**On-site registration begins on Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Strong workplace inspection and investigation skills are essential to protecting workers and preventing injuries and illnesses. This conference will highlight the critical role these skills play in identifying the *root causes* of unsafe conditions—not just the symptoms—and in developing effective corrective actions that eliminate hazards and create safer workplaces for workers across Canada.

The conference will equip delegates with:

- Proven strategies to challenge employers.
- Practical tools to thoroughly identify and assess hazards.
- The expertise to drive meaningful change.

Building on strong health and safety foundations, participants will strengthen their ability to enforce rights, hold employers accountable, and establish safer working conditions for our members from coast to coast to coast.

## What to Expect

Delegates will participate in plenary sessions and educational workshops that provide interactive learning opportunities, practical inspection and investigation techniques, thought-provoking exercises, and informed dialogue. These sessions are designed to strengthen health and safety activism and enhance delegates' confidence and effectiveness in the workplace.

## Our Objective

The objective of this conference is to deepen delegates' understanding and capacity to confront workplace hazards, challenge employer practices, and build alliances with broader public campaigns.

Above all, the conference aims to prevent occupational injuries and diseases by empowering delegates to identify hazards at their source and ensure strong, lasting corrective measures are put in place.

## Registration

Registration for the Conference will be online. Locals can register their participants by visiting: <https://register1.unifor.org/>. If you are unable to find your registration information, please email [registration@unifor.org](mailto:registration@unifor.org) and it will be resent.

**Registration deadline: March 20, 2026.**

## Conference Registration Fee

Payment of **\$80.00** is required for the conference kit materials. This can be paid by credit card with the card information provided on the Reservation Form or by cheque. Please mail a separate cheque made payable to the Unifor Family Education Centre prior to the conference or provide it to the Front Desk at check-in.

## Additional PEL Courses Directly Available Following the Conference

In the interest of continuing your Health and Safety knowledge journey, we have coordinated additional Health and Safety related PEL courses to run directly following the conference. The PEL courses that will be offered are the 40-Hour Health and Safety course and our newest course, 40-hour Occupational Hygiene Course. Both will run from April 12<sup>th</sup> until April 17<sup>th</sup>.

This is a great opportunity for locals to send members and use their Paid Education Leave Funds. You can access the schedule [here](#).

## Reservation at the Family Education Centre

The Family Education Reservation Forms must be completed and sent to the Unifor Family Education Centre directly to secure your accommodation. **The reservation deadline is March 20, 2026.**

The registration form can be found [here](#).

### First Come, First Served Basis

Registration and accommodations for the conference will be handled on a first come, first served basis. Locals must complete both the online registration and submit their forms to the centre to secure their spot in the conference. If the conference exceeds capacity, we will contact the locals to arrange for outside accommodations.

### Accommodation Fees

All rates quoted are based on one 2 nights accommodation, beginning with dinner Friday night up to lunch on Sunday.

Single Occupancy	\$680.00
Double Occupancy	\$530.00
Delegate and Spouse	\$830.00
Children (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, please contact the Unifor Family Education Centre Reception at 1-800-265-3735 or 519-389-3220. Taxes will be applicable. The delegate can provide a personal Visa, American Express or MasterCard for the family charges.

Note: Check-in is Friday, April 10, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. and check-out is Sunday, April 12, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

### Payment Methods

All room and board fees must be paid in advance.

Paying via cheque: please forward two (2) 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.

Paying via credit card: record the credit card number and expiry date on the Reservation Form and submit via email to [confcentre@unifor.org](mailto:confcentre@unifor.org) or by fax to 519-389-3222, or mail in.

## **Cancellations**

Cancellations must be made 48 hours prior to 3:00 p.m. on **April 10, 2026**, by phone at 519-389-3200 or by email at [confcentre@unifor.org](mailto:confcentre@unifor.org). Failure to cancel within the 48-hour time will result in a billing for the first nights' accommodation costs.

## **Child Care**

Childcare is available for children 0-12 years of age, for the children of eligible delegates during the conference hours only. This does not include Grandchildren, Godchildren, Nieces, Nephews, Friends, etc. To ensure a spot in the program, please submit your reservations as early as possible. The childcare reservation deadline is **March 20, 2026**. Please have the delegates complete the attached childcare form and email it to [fecchildcare@unifor.org](mailto:fecchildcare@unifor.org).

NOTE: Minors that do not qualify for childcare are not permitted to be on the Centre unless they are under the supervision of a guardian not participating in the conference.

## **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.

## **Accessibility**

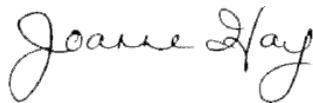
Unifor seeks to make all union meetings and events accessible and barrier free. If you require accommodations for human rights related needs, we invite you to provide us with your relevant information so we can take all reasonable steps to address any barriers to your participation in your Union. Please email requests to [jessica.havell@unifor.org](mailto:jessica.havell@unifor.org).

## Summary of Deadlines

Please make note of the important deadlines for the upcoming Health and Safety Conference.

Date	Item
Friday March 20, 2026	Online registration must be completed
Friday March 20, 2026	Reservation forms must be submitted to the Unifor Family Education Centre
Friday March 20, 2026	Child Care Reservation Form must be submitted

In solidary,



Joanne Hay  
Director, Health, Safety, and Environment Department

cc: Leadership, National Representatives, National Coordinators, Health, Safety, Environment Dept. Sarah Hamilton, Jo-Anne Cameron, Port Elgin Front Desk, Laurie Wright, Laura Garvey-Doucette

JH/jw:cope343