

October 2015

Welcome to the Echo Newsletter!

This newsletter is developed BY and FOR Unifor young workers all over the country. Our goals with this newsletter are to connect and engage young workers in the life of the union, provide you with useful information and point you to upcoming actions and events that you can go to in your community. We're glad to have you on the list - stay tuned for more updates!



Young workers canvass during the Young Workers Seminar in August 2015, Toronto, ON

T-minus 18 days to the Federal Election

We're into the final blitz leading up to the 2015 federal election. You may know this, but young workers traditionally have a lower voter turnout than older demographics. Guess what? When they do vote, young workers tend to vote for candidates and parties that are more in line with the priorities of working people. Don't let others speak for you! Read up, get informed, and October 19: GET OUT AND VOTE!

5 things you can do:

- 1 Make sure you can vote. Check or update your voter registration [online](#).
- 2 Bring a friend. You can even [vote ahead](#) of time if you want to help out on election day.
- 3 Help out with a local campaign. Check the local candidates in your riding and drop by their campaign offices. Everyone needs help to make phone calls, canvass the area, or do other tasks.
- 4 Visit the [Unifor Votes](#) website for tons of information, tools and updates.
- 5 Participate in the October 5th Day of Action to get the youth vote out!

October 5 Day of Action!

We are inviting you to participate in a Youth Vote Day of Action on October 5th. The federal election is coming up soon - and we want to ensure as many young people as possible are out to vote on October 19th and in advance! Only one-third of eligible young people voted in the 2011 federal election, yet over 80% of young people in this country believe a change in government would be a good idea. If more young people vote in this election, our generation can be game-changers.

How will we get out the youth vote? What can you do? Research and experience show that canvassing and face-to-face contact are the best ways to get young people out to vote - meaning we have to be out there talking to our friends and family about the upcoming election and why it's important to vote.

[Read more and share the October 5 call to action.](#)

What you can do...

- [Pledge](#) your vote. Commit to cast your ballot and get others to do the same.
- Attend one of the confirmed Unifor events listed below.
- Organize your own event in your workplace or community on October 5. Make sure you let us know what you're planning so we can invite others: youngworkers@unifor.org!
- Take it to social media! If there's no event near you, take a selfie with a sign that says "I'm voting because..." and post it as your Facebook profile picture (and tweet it) using the hashtags: #youthvote #iwillvote #elxn42. Get others to do the same.
- [Go vote!](#)

Confirmed Unifor Events - Day of Action

EDMONTON - Come canvass with Jerry Dias and other Unifor members in Edmonton Centre for Gil McGowan. October 5th, meet at the campaign office - 10459-124 Street from 6pm - 9pm.

TORONTO - Labour canvass targetting: Toronto Centre (Linda McQuaig), University Rosedale (Jennifer Hollett) & York South (Mike Sullivan). October 5th at the United Steelworkers Hall, 25 Cecil St. from 4:30 - 8:00 pm. [Register here.](#)

WINDSOR - Come out and help with Unifor member Tracey Ramsey's campaign! 71 Talbot Street North, Essex at 3:30pm.

VANCOUVER - Come canvass with Jerry Dias and your BC Unifor team on **October 6th** in the Burnaby South riding for Kennedy Stewart. Meet at 7643 Royal Oak Ave. from 6pm - 9pm.

Add your event to this list! Send us the details at youngworkers@unifor.org.

2015 Young Workers Seminar at Ryerson University, Toronto, ON

Approximately 70 young Unifor members from across Canada attended a 'We Will Vote' conference in Toronto to discuss election organizing strategies, youth mobilization in the upcoming federal election, and issues like good jobs, affordable education, child care, and retirement security.



Amy Huziak from the Canadian Labour Congress gave a presentation on retirement security, and Lyndsay Macdonald, from the Child Care Advocacy Association spoke about the 'Vote Child Care 2015' campaign and the need for affordable child care for working parents and carers.

"We currently don't have any sustained earmarked federal funding for child care," said Macdonald. "We're tracking what the parties are offering."

Other speakers included Unifor Economist Jim Stanford, who gave a presentation on Prime Minister Stephen Harper's failed economic record, and Unifor President Jerry Dias spoke about the need for young workers to become active in politics. "It's young people that are bearing the brunt of the Conservatives' policy failures," said Dias.

The conference, which was held from August 7th to 9th, concluded with a training session and neighbourhood canvass, alongside Toronto Centre NDP candidate Linda McQuaig.

Meet your National Young Workers Committee

The Regional Council Young Workers Committees are elected out of the delegates to the young workers committee at the Council. We advise and give guidance on policy and action to advance the social and political goals of Unifor. We work to engage activists who are young workers in the locals and communities while aiming to promote Unifor's equality measures through campaigns, events, forums and education programs. Our goal is to build a stronger base of young worker activists in all locals.

Atlantic Region

Luke Woodworth Local 4005
Suzanne MacNeil CFU
Amanda Young Local 21 21

Québec Region

François Arsenault Local 698
Michel DuCap Local 6003
Mylène Brault Local 62

Ontario Region

DJ Lacey Local 200
Alison Buckner Local 2002

Prairie Region

Jennifer Mestrovic Local 468
Ashley Wright Local 191
Jesse Allaman Local 3003

British Columbia

Ashleigh Rennie Local 111
Simon Lau Local 2002
Cody Crick Local 1115

Get in touch!

Have a story to tell? Are young workers at your local being AWESOME? Need more information about an issue or situation you care about? Let us know!

“ We are being attacked on all sides and I think it's time to become more active, more united.”

What's happening around us calls for something different.

- Hailey King, Unifor member

Young workers who don't have a union, or even a workplace, can join Unifor. Our union will work to secure employment, fair wages, dignity on the job, and more.

UNIFOR
theUnion | lesyndicat

Unionism done differently
Find out more at www.unifor.org

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