



Toyota Workers Closer than Ever to Joining Unifor!

The campaign at Toyota in Cambridge and Woodstock is stronger than ever! Support for joining Unifor is growing every day and more and more Toyota workers are signing up with Unifor, but just as importantly, they are talking union to each other and going public with their support in their workplace.

Support has reached a record high with 2700 Toyota workers signed up.



Their outspokenness is paying off. A dedicated group of Toyota workers have been doing what has never been done before: they are standing at the plant gate doors handing out leaflets & cards, collecting signed cards and building support and confidence - with the strong support of Unifor members, MO's and the Organizing Department. They have been wearing CAW shirts in their workplace and are now wearing Unifor shirts, as well as helping to distribute shirts to other supporters. And they are talking union to each other. Their co-workers are witnessing first-hand what we have been saying all

along: supporting a union in their workplace is everyone's legal right!

If we can do it at CAMI, then you can do it at Toyota too!

Support has reached a record high with 2700 Toyota workers signed up, and still more doing so every day.

Just last week a telephone town hall was held featuring Jerry Dias, Jim Stanford and John Aman. Hundreds of workers called in to listen and to ask Jerry questions about Unifor and the benefits of being able to bargain a collective agreement that

would outline their working conditions at Toyota.

Dan Borthwick, chairperson at CAMI Unifor Local 88 also took part in the town hall and spoke about the gains that they were

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Look Who's Joined!

Since the creation of Unifor, we've organized new workplaces from a variety of sectors:

- **Biolab** – Chicoutimi, QC
- **Servisair** – Toronto, ON
- **Servisair** – Montreal, QC
- **Hanson Pipe and Precast Ltd** – Uxbridge, ON
- **Nasittuq Corporation** – Ellesmere Island, Nunavut
- **Plantegenet Printing** – Plantegenet, ON (near Ottawa)
- **Telecon Canada** – various, ON
- **Team Solutions** – Kingston, ON
- **Toromont Cat** – Vaughan, ON
- **Prince George Retirement Residence** – Lucan, ON

Over 800 new members have joined Unifor since our formation!

Toyota Workers...

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recently able to make at the bargaining table. A key and relevant issue for the Toyota workers was our success in dealing with the supplemental workers. Dan's message was clear, "If we can do it at CAMI, then you can do it at Toyota too!"

Stay tuned... 2014 will bring new hope and a brighter future for Toyota workers and Unifor together!

Two new National community chapters approved

Unifor has formally approved two new National community chapters at the meeting of its National Executive Board in November. The NEB granted charters to two groups who become Unifor's first official community chapters.

The first group is the Canadian Freelance Union (CFU) who represents self-employed media and communications workers, and has been working as a local union of the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union (CEP) since October 2009. The CFU represents just over 250 members who work as freelance media workers, graphic designers, photographers, illustrators, editors, authors, writers, public relations practitioners, I.T. workers, owner-operators, freelance translators and more. They work to build solidarity and improve the working life of freelancers by providing helpful benefits and services.

The second group is the Unifor Unifaith Community Chapter, representing ministers and other workers employed by the United Church of Canada. The group has been organizing to get formal certification since November 2004. Together they hope to improve the working conditions in their workplaces and build connections and support among their membership.

Unifor is working with several other groups who are working to form community chapters, many of which will be associated with local unions.

Community chapters are Unifor's new way to reach out to non-traditionally organized workers. The flexible format allows groups of precarious and non-unionized workers to set common goals and work through the union to build their power.

More information can be found at
www.unifor.org/communitychapters

Contact the Organizing Department: 1-877-495-6551 or join@unifor.org

Worth the Wait

Following a successful organizing drive in 2011 at Omni Television in Toronto, an interim certificate was issued by the Canada Industrial Relations Board (CIRB). However, a number of disputes with respect to scope were still outstanding. Those issues were eventually resolved in February 2013 and a final certificate was issued.

The workers were not deterred by the long wait though: first contract negotiations were recently concluded and a Memorandum of Agreement was reached Sept 27,, 2013 with Rogers Broadcasting covering 41 OMNI Television News employees. Unifor Local 723M reports that acceptance was over 90% of members who voted. The four year agreement includes cost of living adjustments of 1.5%, 2%, 2% and 2% annually through 2016 as well as step increases on wage schedules for most of the members. The average increase is 19.5% for the life of the agreement. Terms and conditions will be the same as is presently enjoyed by existing Rogers Citytv/OMNI Television members.

The bargaining unit comprises reporters, anchors, writers, assignment editors, commercial producers, commercial coordinators, production assistants, and promotion producer/editors who work in the ethnic language news room and commercial production departments for OMNI Television, a division of Rogers Media. Congratulations, brothers and sisters!

Under Pressure

Back in 2010, the workers at Hanson Pressure Pipe, who manufacture large pressure pipes and large bridge girders in Uxbridge, Ontario, made an unsuccessful attempt to join the CAW. The company ran an aggressive campaign to keep the union out and promised the workers they would make all the changes they wanted. They even created an association to give workers a “contract” that they assumed would satisfy them, but soon enough the workers came to realize they did not have a real say in their working conditions and had no legally binding way to grieve unjust discipline.

This time when they approached our union they were resolved not to believe their employer’s false promises. They voted and were certified as new Unifor members in Nov, 2013.

The even better news? Hanson Pressure Pipe is expected to grow in the very near future with the contract to build the bridge girders for highway 407.



Unifor wants to welcome our newest 50 members working at Alert at Ellesmere Island in Nunavut. CFS Alert, Nunavut is the most northern permanently inhabited settlement in the world. It is situated on the northeastern tip of Ellesmere Island in the Canadian Arctic, approximately 817 km from the geographic North Pole at coordinates 82°28' N, 62°30' W. For more info visit <http://jproc.ca/rrp/alert.html>.

Servisair "Above the Wing" Workers in Toronto and Montreal Choose Unifor!

This past summer a year-long process came to a successful conclusion for over 600 Servisair workers, who work "above the wing" as customer service agents in both the Toronto and Montreal airports. Back in May 2012, Servisair purchased Handlex. Both companies provide ground handling services for airlines at various airports throughout Canada.

Unifor already represented Servisair customer sales agents at Quebec City and both Servisair and Handlex customer sales agents in Vancouver, so they were largely unaffected. However at the Toronto and Montreal airports, we represented the Handlex agents while the Servisair agents were represented by another union.

This meant they would get a vote to choose which union they wished to be represented by moving forward. Despite being outnumbered by 2-1 in Toronto, after a strong and energetic campaign by our committee members at Local 2002, we were successful in both above-the-wing votes! We want to welcome our new Unifor members in the air transportation sector, a sector that continues to grow across Canada.

A True Team Solution

Recently workers at Team Solutions in Kingston voted to join our union. These workers do industrial cleaning in workplaces around the Kingston area. Some of the jobs include removing asbestos from facilities and the workers were doing the jobs without the proper protective equipment needed to ensure that their health was protected. If they dared to complain, they would be made to sit at home while management did their jobs. Needless to say, the lack of dignity and respect, along with the unfairness of not having any raises, they knew they had to do something to make a difference. Unifor already represents workers at Team Industrial who do industrial cleaning in Chrysler Canada workplaces.

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Facebook
at "Unifor Organizing"

Who do you know that needs a union?



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or

join@unifor.org

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