



General Membership Meeting

Wednesday December 18, 2024 - 5:00 PM

Zoom Meeting Link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88253703253?pwd=2y2dKrEXqp27v84WuQAmt5POmmXdrE.1>

Registration access to Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApc-qgrz4iGNyiKuLinyzxkeNRjzproW7p>

You must be a Member of Local 6008 to register for our Meetings.
Registration for access to our General Membership Meeting is Mandatory.
Registration provides you with one login link only.
If you share your link, only the first person into the meeting will be allowed.
Sharing your registration link indicates that you forfeit your right to attend the meeting.
Registration will close December 17th at 11:59 PM.

Call in details

Call - 647-558-0588 OR 647-374-4685

Meeting ID: 882 5370 3253

Passcode: 748478

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Agenda

Roll Call
Anti-Harassment
Approval of Agenda
Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
Financial Report
Trustee Report
Completion of New Business from previous membership meeting
Committee Updates
New Local Business
Adjournment

www.unifor6008.com

Date: December 18, 2024

Time 5:00 PM

Roll Call

**William Reid
Simone Sladkowski
Jodi Bradshaw
Sylvia Cappellacci
Jo-Anne Harry
Parisa Pourmand
Lori Reid
David Bosveld
Iphone6J**

**Michelle Vatafu
Debra Howard
Drinda Waddell
Virginia Varela
Stephanie Brownlee
Stephanie McDonald
Carmelina Meraw
Lee Konopa**

Anti-Harassment

Anti Harassment Unifor Policy Video played. Drinda Waddell and Michelle Vatafu are our Ombuds people for this meeting. If any issues/concerns please contact one of them with your concern.



Land Acknowledgement



Approval of Agenda

Motioned by Jodi Bradshaw - Seconded by Anita Kuehr
All in acceptance - Motion Carried



Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Last minutes were September 11, 2024
David Bosveld motioned to make changes prior to accepting the minutes to omit the name of National Representatives from the minutes. Seconded by Jodi Bradshaw.
Discussions? None
Vote to motion the minutes - All approved to amend.



Financial Report

Michelle Vatafu read the Financial Reports of September through November.
Motioned by - Debra Howard Seconded by - Jodi Bradshaw
All were in favour, Motion Carried



Trustee Report

Carmelina Meraw stated that the Trustees were in on September 16, 2024 and we went through all the receipts and books and verify that the financial report is accurate.



Completion of Last Membership Meeting New Business

Committees will work with Michelle Vatafu in the next few months so we can put in consideration at the convention for changes to the constitution so that commitments are made by the National to fund Equity Audit'Committee Reports



BIWoC

David Bosveld went to the BIWoC conference. He was the only one from our Local, but it was a well attended event by Unifor Locals.

By-Law

Nothing to report

Election Committee

LK said that the vendor was just completed. Two elections planned. President and Secretary-Treasurer, both were acclaimed and there was no Election was necessary.

LGTBQ+

Nothing to report

Women's

Anna Peluso indicated that the committee collected food and dropped off to Locations in Barrie, Kitchener and Mississauga. This was distributed already. It's difficult to raise a lot with no one working in the office. Debra Howard asked if they had the names of the places that the donation was

made. Lisa Lawrie will send information to put onto the website. Drinda Waddell said that the committee was going to try to do this again in January. William Reid said it's great this time of the year. Simone Sladkowski said that there is going to be a walk in February for the coldest day of the year. The walk is in Collingwood. Jodi Bradshaw asked if the food drives were notified to the members, she hadn't heard of anything. Anna Peluso said something was posted in the office. Being in the office, not many people there so it's much less. Drinda Waddell said in January a flyer is going to be sent out to the Members and will also be posted on Website and Social Media. William Reid said that the office can be used for drop off, for outlying areas, we can have someone set up in a parking lot somewhere. Debra Howard asked for information well in advance it might assist with getting more items. Jodi Bradshaw said I know for the OCC when people are coming in. So if I know, I can then push the event.

Retiree

Nothing to report

Young Workers

Nothing to report

New Local Business

William Reid stated that we had some meetings back in October timeline. During these calls, someone had asked for more social media presence. Thanks to Jodi Bradshaw she has begun and maintains accounts for us at Facebook Instagram, and X. We are getting details now so that members know of meetings like tonight. It'll be really important for Bargaining coming soon. We will be building a mobilization team. We are going to start early first quarter in 2025. Michelle Vatafu confirmed the the links to the social media accounts within the next week. William Reid thanks Jodi Bradshaw again for such a great job and the hard work she is doing for our Local.

Simone Sladkowski was at the presidents meeting on Dec 4th at the Ontario Regional Council. Presidents were talking about things happening within their locals, the trials they experience, successes if any. One of the common denominator's for several Locals is our employer Bell Canada that is getting so nasty. The initiative cuts, mental health, some harassed. On the 6th, it was Debra Howard, David Bosveld and Simone Sladkowski. National President, Lana Payne, National Secretary-Treasurer, Len Poirier, and Quebec Director, Daniel Cloutier, spoke about the issue of intimate partner violence. There was a keynote speaker who lost her daughter last June 2023 and began Sarah Bull Foundation. Bill 173 in the house now, we hope you support this Bill.

There were elections to fill positions in standing committees for Young Workers, Worker Compensation, EFAP. Recommendations that were passed;

Parter Violence

Advocating for health in Ontario

Shaping work in Ontario

Threats from the USA for tarriffs, defending Ontario/Canada Jobs

Organizing for Ontario.

Members who were on picket lines and donations for this.

Jodi Bradshaw said that on the social media there is a link for passing bill 173. I did it myself and I just today received a reply from my MP. Conservatives are trying to block this bill.

Jo-Anne Harry said that Social Media is not something that she uses however have heard from other members that it's amazing. I just want to make sure that the Website and Social Media will match? William Reid said yes. Michelle Vatafu said that announcements and meetings would be. William Reid said that anything relevant to our Local will be on our Webpage.

Sylvia Cappellacci asked Jodi Bradshaw if she said that link for Bill 173 is on all social media accounts. Jodi Bradshaw confirmed that it was. Sylvia Cappellacci said that she is on Facebook now and cannot see it. We determined that the Facebook account Sylvia Cappellacci was looking at is our old one. Jodi Bradshaw will send Sylvia Cappellacci an invite to all social media accounts. Sylvia Cappellacci's MP is NDP and will definitely support us.

William Reid said that because of the postal strike the calendars have been delayed.

Parisa Pourmand, when we were at 6006, they sent out gift cards yearly. Is it a rumour or correct that we do not get this at this local? The next question is when we are bargaining can we ask Bell to give us the amount of the bonus at the end in the year rather than February?

William Reid said that we do a lot of SWAG like Calendars, back packs. We have a Scholarship Program for Members of our Local. We send our Members to events like the Education centre at Port Elgin, Ontario Regional Council, Unifor Convention, Unifor Conference, Picket lines. Every Local spends their Members money differently. There have been many discussions about this over the years, having Gift Cards is equivalent to to having \$30,000 just laying around in an office. Personally our Local doesn't think it's a good way to promote our Local. We prefer to promote our Local and Unifor.

Parisa Pourmand said that she prefers to have the gift card, she has a enough swag. Isn't \$30,000 for 315,000 members a small amount. William Reid said it not about 315,000 it's only the members in our Local. You see the finances. Every local spend their money differently. Other Locals don't send members to courses, conventions and our Local prefers to do this and educate the members.

The 2nd question re Bell's Bonus. This is nothing to do with the Union. Bell provides the Bonus, but you can always send an email to your manager, CP2, CP3 or CP4. We don't bargain this in the Collective Agreement.

Parisa Pourmand asked if it was true that we will be pulled back into the office once a week? Also, is there a length of time for travel? She heard that it was 2 hours, but in Winter it will be much worse. Would the business accommodate for gas prices? William Reid said that this is something you can ask your manager about. We haven't started bargaining yet.

Simone Sladkowski just wanted to also say regarding what our Local does, we have a \$200.00 retirement gift for our Members. What we have the Scholarship programs. Regarding Bargaining, everyone has their own priorities for bargaining, but respectfully, Job Security has be be #1. Workways and Increases will also be discussed. We will be asking the Members from our Local for their top 5 things to bring forward to the bargaining table. Bonus's are not bargained, but the Business has to do their year end, and then someone assesses how each job units completed and then the payouts are created. Bargaining though we are going to have to stick to the big main items.

Michelle Vatafu confirmed that the Scholarship program is awarded to 3 new members each year for the Member or their Child. The first year the 3 recipients get \$1000 each. Each year the successors receive an addition \$500 each for a total of \$2500 for each member as long as they are in University, College or Trade School. The name of the Program is Bobby Pearsall Memorial Scholarship. Bobby was the VP of our Local when he passed away. He is very special to us and it's a great way to keep his memory and legacy alive.

Jodi Bradshaw said I think our Local is a lot bigger than theirs. Michelle Vatafu confirmed that was the case. It would be \$32,000 for our Local to pay out the \$40.00 gift card per year.

Lee Konopa questioned why we have two Facebook accounts. We had one that was forever and ever and now one that was created by Jodi, isn't it confusing. William Reid said I don't know how to shut it down. We can't get into that page. There are 474 members in the old account and only 30 in the new. The new account is closed only to our members. Lee indicated that she would look into how to cancel the old account and maybe moving the members from the old account to the new one.

Stephanie Brownlee, if anyone can post to the old account and post not to post anymore to this account then Facebook should activate you as an admin with the other account and that way you would be able to get into the account.

William Reid asked if both Sherry and Jodi can work on this off screen.

Debra Howard indicated that a member posted into chat that our website be updated with the details of the social media accounts. Michelle Vatafu confirmed that it would be shortly.

William Reid conformed that there was no other new business and said thank you very much for joining and we wish you a wonderful holiday season and happiness in 2025. 2025 will be the toughest year for Bargaining. We need to get ahead of Bell and be prepared for the Collective Agreement. Every year we are losing members, our top priority has been solidarity and fight Bell to keep our jobs.



Motion to Adjourn

Motioned by Debra Howard

- Seconded by Winnie Ho