



UNIFOR
the Union | lesyndicat

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February 19, 2016

To: Local Union Presidents and Recording Secretaries

Greetings,

Unifor National Health & Safety and Workers' Compensation Conference 2016

“Know your Rights – It’s the Law” May 6-8, 2016, Unifor Family Education Centre, Port Elgin

The 2016 National Health & Safety and Workers' Compensation Conference, “Know your Rights – It’s the Law” is our forum for the exchange of knowledge, practices and experience with the aim of promoting safety and health at work and fair compensation for injured workers. We will focus on the importance of starting – and sustaining – conversations and actions about workplace prevention and compensation as the World of Work becomes more challenging, fast-paced and complex with new workplace hazards.

Four decades have passed since the Occupational Safety and Health Acts across the country were enacted promising every worker the right to a safe job. And we have made jobs safer. But our work is not done. Many job hazards remain unregulated and uncontrolled. Some employers cut corners and violate the law, putting workers in serious danger and costing lives.

In addition, over a century has passed since the enactment of the Workmen’s Compensation Act which has evolved away from the intention to provide speedy and humane justice to injured workers.

Sadly, each year hundreds of workers are killed and thousands more are injured or diseased because of their jobs. We cannot and will not allow the clock to be turned back and destroy the progress we have made to make jobs safer and save lives. Safety laws and regulations don't kill jobs—but unsafe jobs do kill workers. Justice, Dignity and Respect for Injured Workers continue to be challenges across the Workers' Compensation systems, a sharp departure from the foundation laid out by Justice Meredith.

Delegates will attend plenary sessions and workshops which offer interactive tools, information, thought-provoking exercises, informed dialogue and help develop shifts in perspective. The objective of this conference is to deepen the understanding of and capacity to deal with the issues, to build alliances with our public campaigns and above all, prevent occupational injuries and diseases.

Who should come to this conference?

Anyone, dealing with Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation claims who wants to understand the issues facing us in the continuum of injury. This includes anyone from new to seasoned H&S representative to new compensation or benefit reps; to experienced workers' compensation advocates; to local leadership. Also members of Union in Politics committees who are interested in organizing for changes to the workers' compensation system to make it meet workers' needs rather than employer's interests should attend.

Please make every effort to send delegates (leadership, political activists and benefit representatives) to this important conference.

The conference begins at 7:00 p.m. Friday, May 6th and ends at 12:00 p.m. Sunday, May 8th, 2016. Registration takes place on Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Please note: CHECK-IN time starts at 3:00 p.m. CHECK-OUT is by 11:00 a.m. on Sunday.

You will need to **fully complete** and submit the following forms:

- ✓ **Reservation Form and payment** (for on-site accommodations or meal package if staying off-site) Fax to Reservations (519) 389-3222, email: confcentre@unifor.org or Mail to Unifor Education Centre
- ✓ **Childcare forms** (one per child, if childcare is required) Fax to Laurie Wright – Unifor Childcare Port Elgin (519) 389-3544 or email: fecchildcare@unifor.org

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 22

FOR BOTH ACCOMMODATIONS AT THE CENTRE AND CHILD CARE

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE

Payment of **\$60.00** is required for the conference kit materials.

ACCOMMODATION FEES at the Unifor Family Education Centre are as follows:

Shared Room with another delegate	\$370.00
Single Room with Spouse or child age 17+	\$620.00
Single Room	\$520.00
Children, age 12-16	\$50.00 per child
Children, 11 or younger	No Charge

All rates quoted are based on two (2) nights accommodation, beginning with dinner on Friday, up to and including lunch on Sunday.

If rates are being paid by the INDIVIDUAL rather than the local or organization, please contact the Unifor Family Education Centre Reception at 1-800-265-3735 or (519) 389-3221. Taxes will be applicable. The local can submit payment for a Single room only (exempt from taxes). The delegate can provide a personal Visa, American Express or MasterCard for the family charges. The prices are as follows:

Partner or child aged 17+:	\$113.00
Child age 12 – 16:	\$ 56.50

ADDITIONAL GUESTS

For accommodation arrangements other than outline above, please contact Reception for pricing.

PAYMENT METHODS

All room and board fees must be paid in advance by cheque, Visa, American Express or MasterCard.

Cheque

Forward **two separate cheques** to the Unifor Family Education Centre, one for the conference registration fee and one for accommodation costs. Cheques are to be **made payable to the "Unifor Family Education Centre"** and mailed along with the enclosed reservation form directly to the Unifor Family Education Centre, 115 Shipley Ave., Port Elgin, ON, N0H 2C5.

Credit Card

Record the credit card number and expiry date on the Reservation Form and Email: confcentre@unifor.org, fax to 519-389-3222 or mail.

OR

Call the Centre, toll free at 1-800-265-3735 or (519) 389-3221 and provide the credit card number and expiry date.

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS

Registrations and accommodations for the Conference will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to participate in the Conference, delegates must have accommodations at the Centre. ***If the Centre is fully booked you or your local will be responsible for making alternative arrangements.***

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations must be made in writing, 24 hours prior to the Conference – email: confcentre@unifor.org or fax the Centre at 519-389-3222. Failure to do so will result in a billing for the first night's accommodation cost.

CHILD CARE

Child care is available for children 0 – 12 years of age, of eligible delegates during the conference hours only, if numbers permit. Delegates will be eligible for child care providing they are a single parent, or a parent not accompanied by a spouse or companion. Where both parents are registered delegates, they will also qualify for child care. Child care registration forms are enclosed. Please make your child care reservations as early as possible.

Please make every effort to have your local represented at this important conference.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the conference.

In solidarity,



Sari Sairanen
Director
Health, Safety & Environment

SS:lhcope343

Encl. 2

cc: Jerry Dias, Peter Kennedy, Renaud Gagné, Assistants, NEB, Dean Fowler, Port Elgin Child Care Centre, Representatives, Regional Council HSE Standing Committees, H&S Coordinators