

**August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

To: Local Union Presidents and Financial Secretaries

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## Unifor National Health & Safety Conference 2024

### Workplace Safety – Back to the Basics and Beyond

November 1 -3, 2024

Unifor Family Education Centre, Port Elgin, Ontario

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Greetings,

The 5<sup>th</sup> Unifor National Health and Safety Conference “Workplace Safety – Back to the Basics and Beyond” is a forum for the exchange of worker safety knowledge, practices, and experience.

The conference will provide delegates with the tools and strategies necessary to challenge employers, identify, assess, and eliminate hazards while building on the strong health and safety foundations needed to be effective in establishing safer working conditions for our members from coast to coast.

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bill C-45 otherwise known as the Westray Law in which amendments were made to the Criminal Code adding criminal liability of corporations and executives for workplace deaths and injuries, yet workplace injuries and fatalities are still on the rise. Despite this law, over **twenty thousand workers** in Canada have lost their lives on the job in the past 20 years, with only 11 employers or supervisors being found criminally responsible and convicted. This is unacceptable and we can and must do more. Simply put, kill a worker, go to jail.

Delegates will attend plenary and educational break-out sessions which offer information, thought-provoking exercises, and informed dialogue to help develop stronger health and safety activism.

The objective of this conference is to provide the tools to challenge the employer while deepening 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.

To connect with as many members interested in expanding their health and safety knowledge as possible, we have scheduled Paid Education Leave courses before and after the conference for locals to send members and use their Paid Education Leave Funds. Be sure to take advantage of these educational opportunities. On October 27th, we will offer Accident and Investigation training; on November 3rd, we will provide the weeklong Health and Safety program. You can access the schedule here:

<https://www.unifor.org/resources/education/pel>

Every worker has a right to go to work and return home to their families and loved ones physically safe and mentally well. Together as union safety leaders, we have the power to make this happen.

The conference begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday, November 1, 2024, and ends at Noon on Sunday, November 3, 2023.

Registration takes place on Friday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### Registration

Registration for the Conference will be online. Locals can register their participants by visiting: <https://register1.unifor.org/>. By now, Local Union Presidents have received their 2024 online username and password. If you are unable to find your registration information, please email [registration@unifor.org](mailto:registration@unifor.org) and it will be resent. The registration deadline is **Friday, October 11, 2024**.

### Conference Registration Fee

Payment of **\$80.00** is required for the conference kit materials. Please mail a separate cheque made payable to the Unifor Family Education Centre.

### 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 Friday, October 11, 2024**

### 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.

## Accommodation Fees

All rates quoted are based on one (1) night accommodation, beginning with dinner on Friday and up to and including lunch on Sunday.

Single Occupancy	\$320.00
Double Occupancy	\$245.00
Delegate and Spouse	\$395.00
Children (5-11)	\$ 50.00
Children (1-4)	\$ 20.00
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 519-389-3221. 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.

Note: Check-in is Friday, November 1, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. and check-out is Sunday, November 3, 2024, 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. You can also call the centre directly at 1-800-265-3735 ext. 3221 or 519-389-3221 to provide the credit card information required.

## Cancellations

Cancellations must be made in writing 48 hours prior to 3:00 p.m. on Friday, October 29, 2024, and can be emailed to [confcentre@unifor.org](mailto:confcentre@unifor.org) or faxed to 519-389-3222. Failure to cancel within 48 hours will result in a billing for the first night's 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 Friday, October 11, 2024. Please have the delegates complete the attached childcare form and email it to [fecchildcare@unifor.org](mailto:fecchildcare@unifor.org)

## COVID-19 and Respiratory Viruses Policy

If you are feeling sick, please do not come to the Centre. If you start to feel sick while at the Family Education Centre, notify the front desk immediately. Please stay in your room and arrangements will be made for you to return home. If you need further guidance on the severity of your symptoms, please complete the self-assessment tool and follow the guidelines.

## Accessibility

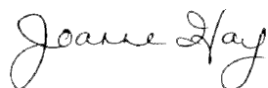
Unifor seeks to make all union meetings and events accessible and barrier-free. If you require accommodations for human rights related needs, we invite you to provide us with your relevant information so we can take all reasonable steps to address any barriers to your participation in your Union. Please 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 Care Conference.

Date	Item
Friday, October 11, 2024	Online registration must be completed
Friday, October 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	Reservation forms must be submitted to the Unifor Family Education Centre
Friday, October 11, 2024	Child Care Reservation Form must be submitted

In solidary,



Joanne Hay  
National Health, Safety and Environment Director

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/sicope343