

2014 ONTARIO DIVISION CONFERENCE REPORT

Marg Lemoine

- Great conference with just over 1200 delegates attending.
- Many great presentations, videos by various Locals and speakers such as Terry Melvin from the Black Labour Movement in the US as well as Jerry Dias, President of Unifor (formerly Canadian Auto Workers Union).
- Votes and discussions took place and were always with respect. At one point, a disagreement on an election took place. When a show of voting cards wasn't clear enough, a standing vote took place when members were asked to vote on how the problem would be solved.
- Suggestions with working with unicorns rather than some levels of government
- Vote as if your job depends on it in the upcoming elections. Because it does!
- Sutton place – Vancouver National Conference was discussed by Gord
 - Enza requested Gord pass onto Paul Clulow to reserve 5 rooms for 973
- 14-bed closure in Wingham for elderly/continuing care home recently
- Rich are getting richer and poor are getting poorer, the middle class is disappearing. (spoken by Terry Melvin, President CBTU).
- Reinforcing all Locals to continue with fighting the good fight
- \$1,500 50/50 draw for cancer research was claimed on Friday
- coverme@wsib.ca for petition to be signed by members at the request of Fred Hahn. This is to endorse that all workers should be covered by WSIB. Ontario has lowest WSIB coverage rate across the country
- A rally outside the casino by the river was attended by the delegates on raising minimum wage and various other important issues.
- At the close of the Convention, it was disappointing to see the majority of the delegates did not attend Saturday and ultimately, officially lost quorum at approximately 11am. When asked when the conference was scheduled to end (as it was not noted on the agenda), Fred Hahn confirmed conferences like these should run as late as 5pm and asked delegates to please schedule their attendance as such.

CWO Office: 451 Ottawa Street South, Kitchener (elections in September)