



Unifor5555

WALK FOR ALZHEIMERS

Is it **Alzheimer's disease** or another form of **dementia**?

10 WARNING SIGNS

- 1 Memory loss that affects day-to-day function
- 2 Difficulty performing familiar tasks
- 3 Problems with language
- 4 Disorientation to time and place
- 5 Poor or decreased judgement
- 6 Problems with abstract thinking
- 7 Misplacing things
- 8 Changes in mood or behaviour
- 9 Changes in personality
- 10 Loss of initiative



We are here to provide **Education & Support**



Alzheimer Society



For the third year running our Local has participated in the Walk for Alzheimer's at McMaster as part of Team Bob White. We walk to raise funds in honour of a man whose lasting impact on our Union and the Canadian labour movement cannot be overstated. We were again joined by members of our Retiree Chapter. This year our team raised over \$1,200 dollars. This helped contribute to the days total of over \$14000. We would like to thank the members who joined us, volunteered and donated to support our team.

Beth Couchman
President, Local 5555



RETIRED WORKER CHAPTER NEWS

The Retired Workers Chapter started off the New Year fulfilling resolutions by continuing to offer: Tai Chi; Yoga; Gentle Cardio, Balance and Strength; and the Outdoor Walking Club on its new route along the Hamilton to Brantford Rail Trail from the Fortino's parking lot to the Chedoke Golf Course and back.



Several retirees, and also some of their family members, also participated along with members from the Local's Executive Board in the IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's at McMaster Innovation Park on the afternoon of Saturday 25 January 2020. Retirees walked in the memory of Bob White, a retiree's mother, and many others who suffer(ed) from Alzheimer's. Team Bob White-McMaster raised over \$1,000 towards the over \$14,000 raised by today's walk. A CHCH News report on the walk can be seen by clicking this link:

<https://www.chch.com/hamilton-walks-to-raise-awareness-for.../>.

For the January event, the Retired Workers Chapter had two guest speakers: The first speaker was Gillian Surette Robinson, Senior Manager, Labour Community Services, United Way Halton & Hamilton who will be speaking to us about the United Way's lead on menstrual equity: Ensuring menstrual hygiene products are affordable, safe and available, especially to those in need. United Way Halton & Hamilton recognizes and supports the need for menstrual equity in our own communities and recently launched the Period Promise Policy – a call-to-action for local businesses and organizations to provide no-cost period products in washrooms for staff, clients and customers. Leading by example, United Way Halton & Hamilton CEO, Brad Park, signed a policy making these products available to staff and visitors at both UWHH office locations in Hamilton and Burlington. The policy builds on the momentum of the United Way's Period Promise initiative, a period poverty awareness campaign and product drive, which collected more than 30,000 menstrual hygiene products in 2019 (through Tampon Tuesday events) and distributed them to those in need throughout Halton & Hamilton. Period Promise has garnered incredible community support, especially from the labour movement. Unions, as well as labour councils, are leading the way in improving access to menstrual products.



The second speaker was Janina Lebon, Co-Chair of the Hamilton Health Coalition, an organization that focuses on improving the public health care system in Hamilton. First there were CCAC's (Community Care Access Centres), then there were LHIN's (Local Health Integration Networks), and now with Bill-160, the Conservative Government is taking aim at the province's 14 LHIN's and replacing them with five regional oversight bodies. A new super agency will oversee everything from hospital and home care to cancer care and family medicine. The newly appointed board of directors of the Ontario Health super agency has been meeting but with no advance notice or invitation to the public, raising questions about transparency.

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The board of the super agency should not be meeting in secret, behind closed doors and with no public knowledge. Ontario Health board meetings are not required to be open to the public but the board recognizes the need to engage Ontarians in continually improving their health-care system. The board will be required to establish mechanisms for public engagement to ensure openness and transparency. Under the Conservative's plan, Ontario Health will not only absorb the 14 local health integration networks (LHINs) and six agencies: Cancer Care Ontario, eHealth Ontario, Trillium Gift of Life Network, Health Quality Ontario, HealthForceOntario and Health Shared Services Ontario; but it will also oversee dozens of regional groups, called Ontario Health Teams, that will align health and social service organizations to work together to integrate services and help patients navigate

the system. The Ontario Health Coalition, which advocates for public health care, said it was "extremely concerned" by the prospect of replacing the LHINs in favour of five new oversight bodies. The organization's executive director said such a move "will be devastating to local hospital services and other local health-care services" including the City of Hamilton Public Health Services. Come find out what is in store for Hamilton.

The Retired Workers Chapter also passed two resolutions: (1) One to encourage municipal and provincial governments to fund more frontline ambulance services and ensure hospital ERs triage ambulance patients in a timely manner; and (2) the other to encourage the Ontario Fire Marshall to establish a criterion for the pro-active establishment of Full-time and Composite Fire Departments taking into account population density and other factors such as number of multi-unit buildings and proximity to major highways. The hope is that these resolutions pass through all the necessary steps to make it to the Unifor Canadian Council meeting this summer.

***Retired from the job,
not the fight!***

Get involved.

Join the Retiree Chapter.

Jerry Dias
National President



Lana Payne
National Secretary-Treasurer

UNIFOR
the Union | Canada

**N.O.R.C IS HOSTING
SNOW TUBING AT SNOW VALLEY**

Friday February 21st, 2020

3pm – 9pm

2632 Vespra Valley Rd, Minesing, ON L0L 1Y3
(705) 721-7669



Each member must sign a waiver for snow valley & the N.O.R.C

\$22.60 per person minimum height is 42 inches.

You can pay when you arrive at Snow Valley...BUT you must e-mail Bill (e-mail address below) if you will be attending so numbers can be confirmed with Snow Valley

This event is available to members & their families, for more information contact Bill Edwards – cell: 705 716 2475 OR e-mail mfd-16@hotmail.com

This event is being sponsored by NORC (Northern Ontario Regional Council) and is open to all Unifor Members and their Immediate Families only. If you are interested, you need to contact Bill above, "and" contact the 5555 office at info@unifor5555.ca for a Waiver Form which you **must complete and bring with you.**

UNIT 5 - REPORT

The new year has started off on a positive note. The first 2020 Labour Committee Meeting (LMC) was held on January 14. Copies of the agenda and minutes of the meeting should be posted on the billboards in your area, if not please inform me and I will get a copy posted.

During the LMC we touched base on the Snow Policy and a draft Housing and Conference Service, (HCS) Snow Action Plan was discussed. Which roles/duties were deemed essential and required during a snow "closure" were laid out. The Snow Action Plan is now in place for HCS members. The process for determining who will be essential is still being ironed out, so keep posted as managers will be addressing the team about the fine points of the process and how it will be used in conjunction with the University Snow policy. This is a new policy/process so please bring your concerns to my attention as management and the union work together to implement it effectively.

Job descriptions have been reviewed and members can request copies from their supervisors at this time. We encourage everyone to take a look at your Job Descriptions. To be clear, they will not capture every aspect of your role, but should generally reflect the job you do. If you have concerns about your Job Description, please reach out to Emily Heikoop, Vice-President (emily.heikoop@unifor5555.ca).

As a reminder, for our members on night shifts, breaks times are on a set schedule. If you have to take your break or lunch outside the pre-set times, you need to contact your supervisor.

The third and final session of the New Unit Training course wrapped up last week. It was an excellent opportunity for members to learn more about their Union and our roles in the workplace. If you did not get an opportunity to attend, keep an eye out for other courses that are coming up in the Local. A 3 Day Health and Safety training course is scheduled for April; a 3 Day Grievance Handling and Workplace Leadership course is scheduled for May and the 3 Day Women's Activist Course is scheduled for late June. These courses are open to all members of our Unit, including Part-Time Employees. If you have any questions about any of the upcoming area courses, or are interested in attending one of the Paid Education Leave Courses in Port Elgin, please contact Kim Sardella (kim.sardella@unifor5555.ca). for more information.

In solidarity,

Chantelle Hankins
Chairperson, Unit 5
chantelle.hankins@unifor5555.ca





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OR ANTLER SHANTY RESTAURANT

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AWOC COMMITTEE REPORT



**Aboriginal &
Workers of Colour**

Osiris, chairperson of our Local AWOC committee, and myself were fortunate enough to be able to attend the AWOC Strategic Regional Planning meeting held in Kitchener recently. This meeting was hosted by Unifor Local 1106 President and Unifor AWOC Executive Board Member, Ruth Pryce and the Local 1106 AWOC committee. The Unifor National Human Rights Director, Christine Maclin, was also in attendance.

The meeting focused on the unions goal to make space for new leaders and activists to represent the diversity of the union. Some of the strategies discussed to achieve this goal were focusing on elections and increasing participation by introducing new members to the committee through attendance at our meetings in the workplace and conferences. The next scheduled AWOC conference, which is themed "Silence No More!", will be held June 26th-28th. All members who identify with AWOC, are encouraged to attend this weekend long conference held in Port Elgin. Come experience the solidarity within this group and gain the knowledge to be a support and educator to other members in our local and communities!!

Another exciting piece of news we learned is of the AWOC committees' plans to introduce multiple scholarships/bursaries to be introduced along with the National Unifor scholarships. We will keep you all posted on any progress on this piece.

Our local is looking into hosting a 1-day AWOC committee training session. We will provide more details on this as they are confirmed. The AWOC Leadership Program is also being offered at the Port Elgin Family Education Centre, May 10th-15th. For more information on this program, please contact Kim Sardella (kim.sardella@unifor5555.ca)

If you are interested in being a part of the committee, our next meeting will be held this coming Monday, February 3rd. You can contact us at awoc@unifor5555.ca for details about how you can participate in the AWOC committee. We look forward to new members joining us in the fight against racism. The only way to win this battle is through taking an active role in participating in educational tools offered to aid us as support and educators in our local and communities.

In Solidarity,

Chantelle Hankins
AWOC Committee





MEETINGS AND OTHER THINGS

All Units - General Meeting

Tuesday 11 February 2020
12:00 noon to 1pm
CIBC Hall - McMaster Main Campus

All Units - General Meeting

Wednesday 20 May 2020
12:00 noon to 1pm
CIBC Hall - McMaster Main Campus

Hamilton Winterfest 2020

January 30 to February 17
Various Locations
<https://hamiltonwinterfest.ca/>

WNED Kid Fest

February 1st and 2nd
680 Plains Road W. Burlington
<https://tourismhamilton.com/event/wned-kid-fest>

Family Day Weekend at Warplane Museum

February 15 to 17
9280 Airport Rd., Mount Hope, Ontario
Blast off to Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum
to see Canadian Astronaut Dr. Dave Williams
<https://www.warplane.com/events/upcoming-events/event-details.aspx?eventId=159>



Note: Dates, times and/or locations of events are subject to change without notice. Watch your emails or this e-newsletter for notices of events or changes. Contact info@unifor5555.ca to check on status of events and/or to RSVP your attendance.