



UNIFOR

Ontario Regional Council
Conseil régional de l'Ontario

DIRECTOR

Naureen Rizvi

VICE CHAIRPERSON

CHAIRPERSON

Scott McLmoyle

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Tullio DiPonti

December 7, 2020

TO ONTARIO MEMBERS:

Normally we would be preparing to gather for our annual Ontario Regional Council but this year has been anything but normal. While we will not be able to meet in person this December the work of the union will continue as we look hopefully ahead to a post-pandemic recovery.

There is no denying that 2020 has been a tough year with workers and their families experiencing economic upheaval on a level not seen in generations. Unifor was on the forefront of the call to increase income support for unemployed workers, to institute proper health and safety measures for workers still on the job, to call for reform of long-term care, and to develop worker-focused policies as we recover from this crisis.

In addition to the work of the union, Ontario Regional Council has always been an occasion to engage in social activism and take action to support those most in need in our communities.

In that spirit the Ontario Regional Council is contributing \$80,000 to 14 food banks and women's shelters across the province, with each organization receiving more than \$5,000.

The pandemic has resulted in a dramatic rise in intimate partner violence, as stay-at-home measures isolate women with their abuser while simultaneously cutting off access to outside support networks.

Among other organizations, the ORC has donated to all of the Ontario women's shelters where Unifor members provide services.

Pandemic related job loss has also resulted in a significant increase in the use of food banks, already under pressure due to underemployment, stagnant wages and the rising cost of living.

We know that Unifor members are an integral part of their communities. As such, we are pleased to help these worthy organizations provide urgently needed services to families who are living with violence or food insecurity this holiday season and beyond into 2021.

BEENDIGEN INC

THUNDER BAY

WOMEN'S CRISIS CENTRE WATERLOO REGION

KITCHENER

LENNOX & ADDINGTON INTERVAL HOUSE

NAPANEE

ST.MATTHEW`S HARMONY HOUSE

OTTAWA

WOMEN'S HOUSE OF BRUCE COUNTY

OWEN SOUND

MY SISTER'S PLACE

ALLISTON

YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

KITCHENER

DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES OXFORD

WOODSTOCK

KINGSTON INTERVAL HOUSE

KINGSTON

LONDON FOOD BANK

LONDON

THREE OAKS FOUNDATION

BELLEVILLE

ANOVA (formerly Women's Community House)

LONDON

RAINY RIVER DISTRICT WOMEN'S SHELTER OF HOPE

THUNDER BAY

HOSHIZAKI HOUSE

DRYDEN

As we look ahead to the holiday season, the entire Ontario Executive Committee sends best wishes to all of our members and their families for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,



NAUREEN RIZVI

ONTARIO REGIONAL DIRECTOR



SCOTT MCILMOYLE

CHAIRPERSON