

Unifor L673 Retired Workers Chapter Report Sept 2025

Sister Maria Pinto, Bro. Sandy Derocchis and I attended the Retired Workers Council 2025 in Port Elgin. Bro. Derocchis's attendance was funded by Unifor Toronto Area Retired Workers Council. We participated in the Port Elgin Labour Day on Monday. The meeting commenced on Tuesday. The Honourable Stephanie McLean, Secretary of State for Seniors presented by zoom. 15 of the 24 resolutions presented and discussed were from Toronto Area Council. There were resolutions on healthcare, homelessness, elder abuse, the gig economy, response to the tariffs and lobbying the government on various issues affecting Seniors.

There was a lively discussion regarding automatic dues check off for Retirees. This stemmed from a resolution that we at Toronto Area Council had submitted in the past. It is something the National would really like to see in place.

I attended a presentation by Charlie Angus *The Resistance* his message is "we don't know when or how this will attend" but we are more united as Canadians as never before and keep it up "Buy Canadian" Elbows Up.

Maria and I attended the Celebration of Life for Bro. Buzz Hargrove was truly an uplifting experience. Videos of Buzz in action were shown (I spotted John Woods Spar Chair) East Coast music was played and there were beautiful speeches by his daughter and son, Bro. Jim O'Neil, Ernie Eaves (he and Buzz had a good relationship) Senator Hassan Yussuf, Bro. Ken Lewenza and of course Sister Lana Payne. And of course we met so many people we have interacted with in the past.

I move adoption of my report.

In solidarity

Mary (Forbes)

From: Rozita Keshavarz <Rozita.Keshavarz@mda.space>
Sent: July 21, 2025 1:20 PM
To: support@uniforlocal673.org; Maryellen mcilmoyle
Subject: Rozita Collective Bargaining course

Hi Maryellen/ Donna,

Thanks for all your help and support .

I'd like to provide a brief report on the **Collective Bargaining Course** I attended from **July 13 to 18 in Port Elgin**.

The training was extremely valuable, not only for learning new concepts but also for meeting union members from various industries across Canada. It was inspiring to see the unity among members and the collective effort to ensure every voice is heard, aiming for a fair and respectful workplace that prioritizes health, safety, and work-life balance , both physically and mentally.

We were a class of 20 participants, guided by two excellent instructors, Brian and Nathan. The course covered all details and definition and also most part in bargaining which supposed to start both non-monetary and monetary bargaining, with a focus on strategic negotiation aligned with union principles and solidarity.

This experience felt like watching a full movie of our own journey during the strike, recalling the guidance of Sebastian and Mary Ellen, and understanding more deeply why corporate resistance existed and the strategies we employed. I've gained theoretical knowledge and a clearer framework to improve my capabilities and contribute to supporting our members. I know that experience in real bargaining scenarios and union meetings will be essential, and I'm committed to continuing my learning.

Additionally, the facilities, accommodations, and food were excellent. I will share a group photo with the class shortly.

I am interested in participating in more course which can help me in the future if the opportunity arises.

Thank you for your support.



**UNIFOR EDUCATION PROGRAM
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION**

is hereby granted to

ROZITA KESHAVARZ

who has successfully completed

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

7/18/2025

Lana Payne
National President

Robin Fairchild Clennell
Director-Education Dept.