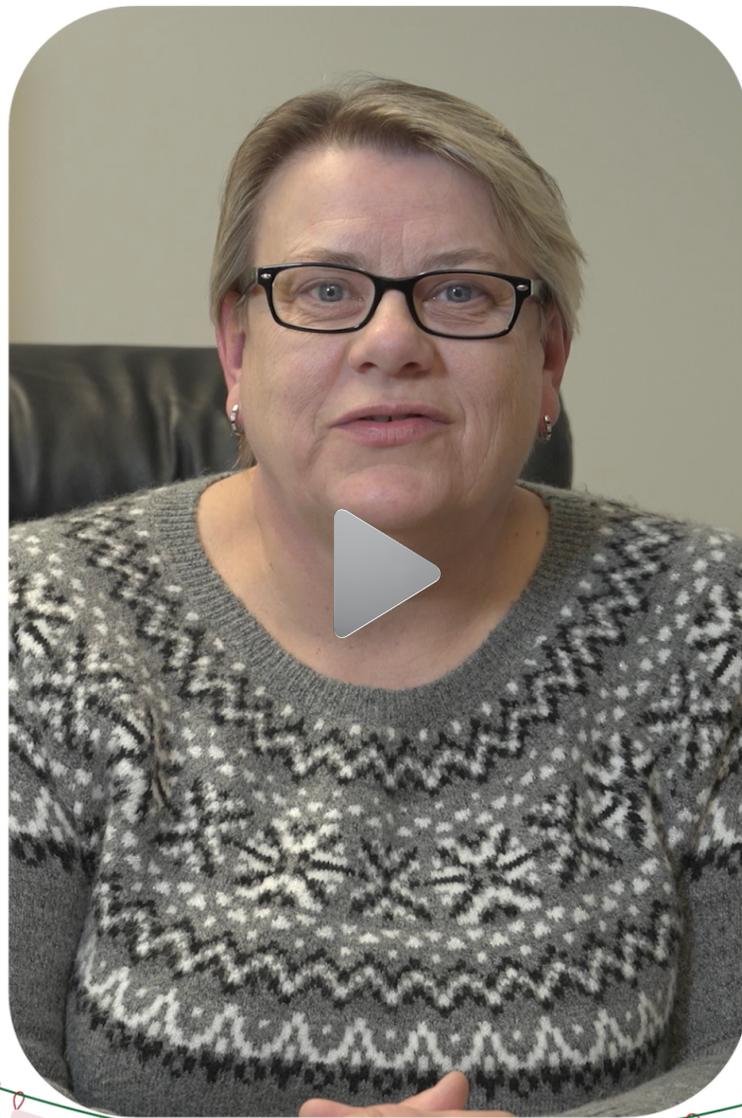


# PRESIDENT'S HOLIDAY MESSAGE

Click on image to watch video message

## Happy Holidays



# WOMEN OF STEEL CONFERENCE

USW Local 1944 proudly sent a dynamic delegation of empowered women to the “Women of Steel - International Women’s Conference 2023” in Pittsburgh. The event, hosting 1200 women, focused on crucial topics such as pay equity, closing the gender pay gap, economics, and many more. The gathering was a vibrant exchange of strength and brilliance, featuring numerous workshops that enriched the knowledge and solidarity of the participants. The following testimonials from some of our sisters further highlights the impactful experience:



ABOVE: USW’s delegation just after registration



*“Attending the Women of Steel conference, was an honour. Interactions with powerful women sharing unique tales left a lasting impression. This experience, alongside engaging with women’s committees and learning about various initiatives, empowered me in my role as Chair of Local 1944 WOS.” - Terika Peters*

LEFT: 1944’s delegation at USW International headquarters



BELOW: USW Local 1944 President Donna Hokiro with Recording Manager Michelle Ravary

*“The workshop that resonated with me was the emotionally charged “No More Stolen Sisters: Union Action to Address the Epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls.” it brought tears and impactful discussions. I’m grateful for the bonds deepened and new friendships formed with the incredible women. We became sisters of the heart, and I’ll always cherish that time.”*

- Jodi Kawinsky



ABOVE: Local 1944’s delegation at the Rally in solidarity for staff members and graduate workers at the University of Pittsburgh

*“The invaluable lesson I took from this incredible week is the significance of team collaboration and cohesion. No effort is too small, and it’s crucial to engage with your team to discuss both successes and challenges. Taking that extra step to involve others and attend union meetings is essential. Make your voice heard and lead by example.” - Stephanie Kestle*

*“I found the insights on new Pay Equity legislation and strategies to address the gender pay gap quite enlightening. The most impactful session for me was “No More Stolen Sisters,” shedding light on the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls. Engaging in a rally with over 1000 sisters to support University of Pittsburgh staff added a powerful dimension to the conference experience.”*

- Rachel Worley

# ROGERS LOCKOUT



Rogers locked out nearly 300 Local 1944 members across Metro Vancouver following the issuance of a 72-hour strike notice by USW Local 1944 Unit 60 on Friday, November 3rd. The decision by Rogers management to lock out its workers was highly disappointing and constitutes a shameful attack on members and their families. The affected Local 1944 members serve as technicians, responsible for constructing, maintaining, and repairing internet, phone, and television infrastructure for businesses and homes. Following a 16-day lockout, a new and improved Collective Agreement for the affected technicians at Rogers has been ratified, featuring many new job security provisions to protect the future of our work.



Staff Representative Jayson Little at the rally



Our President Donna Hokiro with Regional Exec. Officer Corey Mandryk getting members fired up



President Donna Hokiro with Local Union Representative Steve McWhirter



Unit 60 chair Andy Wong (front far left) leading the charge

# LOBBYING IN OTTAWA



USW Local 1944's delegation in Ottawa during a press conference with NDP MPs Matthew Green and Alexandre Boulerice. **L to R (back):** Cory Anderson, Terika Peters, Michael Phillips, Jayson Little, Harleigh Hansen, Corey Mandryk, (front) Pierre-Luc Dick, Matthew Green, Donna Hokiroy, Alexandre Boulerice, Robin Navin

In late November, our USW Local 1944 delegation led by President Donna Hokiroy, Vice President Pierre-Luc Dick and Secretary-Treasurer Michael Phillips along with other delegates were in Ottawa to meet with NDP and Bloc Québécois MPs to discuss crucial issues affecting workers in the telecommunications sector. Their meeting was not just about addressing concerns; it was a powerful call to action to safeguard our nation's workforce, specifically to push for support for Canadian telecommunications jobs - including tying the \$20 billion in government telecommunications contracts to Canadian jobs and bringing in federal anti-scab legislation now to ban replacement workers in the case of labour disputes.



Meeting with NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh



NDP MP Alexandre Boulerice delivers his remarks in support of workers and the anti-scab bill that has finally been tabled in the House.



*"Lobbying on Parliament Hill with the Canadian Labour Congress was a powerful demonstration of the inter-union solidarity that unites Canadian workers. Meeting with MPs from different political parties and CLC affiliates from various sectors deeply inspired me, showing that when we unite our voices, we can truly influence policies that affect everyone's lives. It's an experience that reaffirms my belief in the power of solidarity to build a better future for all Canadians. The working class has a voice, and we must ensure that it is heard loud and clear. If we don't have a seat at the table, we are on the menu."*

**Pierre-Luc Dick, USW Local 1944 Vice-President**



**ABOVE:** 1944's President Donna Hokiroy delivers remarks during presser along with Staff Representative Jayson Little, Vice President Pierre-Luc Dick and Secretary-Treasurer Michael Phillips



**L to R:** Frédéric Morin (SEIU), Sébastien Boilard (Local 1976), Maxime Blanchette-Joncas - MP Bloc Québécois and 1944's Vice-president Pierre-Luc Dick



**LEFT:** Our delegation with Meg Gingrich, George Soule, Shannon Devine and NDP MP Matthew Green (Hamilton-Centre) as well as NDP MP Taylor Bachrach for Skeena—Bulkeley Valley, BC -

# 2023 ONTARIO FEDERATION OF LABOUR CONVENTION

## 2023 ONTARIO FEDERATION OF LABOUR CONVENTION



USW Local 1944's President Donna Hokiro spoke to the Body to urge the passage of the Action Plan



Along with NDP leader and MP Jagmeet Singh

USW Local 1944 was represented at the 17th Biennial Convention of the Ontario Federation of Labour in Toronto, where the renewed energy of the labour movement focused on organizing workers, building workers' power, and striving for a better future for both workers and communities.



Labour Union leaders posing for a group picture at Queen's Park after an important presser for anti-scab legislation in Ontario one morning during the OFL Convention, with 1944's President Donna Hokiro – rear left next to MPP Jamie West (Sudbury)



Our President Donna Hokiro with USW District 6 Director Myles Sullivan

# Merry Christmas CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS



USW Local 1944 President Donna Hokiro speaks as a guest at the inaugural meeting of the Canadian Council following the recent Canadian Labour Congress election.



L to R : Assistant to the National Director Meg Gingrich, 1944's President Donna Hokiro, USW National Director Marty Warren and D6 Area Coordinator Anita Bryan.



Our President speaking during the Canadian Council meeting of the Congress..

## SOLIDARITY EVENT - SYNDICAT DES EMPLOYÉS DE VIDÉOTRON



On November 30th, our Table Officers and Recording Manager stood in solidarity with the 214 members of Syndicat des employés de Vidéotron (SEVL-SCFP 2815) who have been on a lockout imposed by their employer, Videotron since August 30. However since August 31, 2020 these workers had been without a contract, and their employer showed an unfortunate commitment to increasing outsourcing and relocating jobs offshore. This reprehensible move drew condemnation among those who support fair labour practices.



# D5 CONFERENCE - 59<sup>E</sup> ASSEMBLÉE ANNUELLE DES MÉTALLOS



USW Local 1944 delegation at this year's D5 Conference in Sherbrooke.  
L to R: Ricardo Ramsingh, Pierre Luc Dick, Louise Banville, Terika Peters

At the USW District 5 Annual Assembly, which took place from November 22 to November 24 at the Sherbrooke Conference Centre, the primary focus for 500 members was on addressing the surge in precarious employment and the significant expansion of the federal Temporary Foreign Workers Program (TFWP). Keynote speakers included Dominic Lemieux, USW D5 Director, and sessions covered topics such as demographics and migration's impact on the labour market, improvements in working conditions and services for public-sector workers in Quebec, and workplace actions to address climate change.



*"Attending my first District 5 conference was an incredible experience. Discussions throughout the week resulted in the passage of resolutions on migrant workers, the women's committee, and promoting safe working conditions. I also had the opportunity to practice my French and connect with the local community, learning about their unique journeys. The week concluded with an inspiring speech from Migali Picard, the first woman and indigenous person to serve as president in the FTQ, showcasing her dedicated 25-year commitment to the working class."* - Terika Peters

*"As a communications specialist attending my first District 5 conference, it was a unique opportunity to witness the behind-the-scenes process of adopting resolutions. Immersed in the energetic and enthusiastic atmosphere of fellow union members, the experience renewed my commitment to the cause. The conference's emphasis on actions in workplaces to lead on climate change resonated deeply, motivating me to contribute to meaningful change in this critical area."* - Chris Kabisoso



L to R: Chris Kabisoso, Terika Peters, Louise Banville, Pierre-Luc Dick

**RED CUP REBELLION - SOLIDARITY WITH STARBUCKS EMPLOYEES**

Local Union Representative Chris Stephens (right) standing and speaking out for a Fair Contract Now



President Donna Hokiro & Lindsay Hardy



On November 16th, Starbucks employees mobilized, urging customers and allies to join in solidarity actions outside USW certified Starbucks stores. The purpose was to demand that Starbucks respect union rights. As these workers are bargaining to secure their first collective agreement, aiming for improved pay, benefits, job security, scheduling, safety, and other working conditions, 1944 proudly stood shoulder to shoulder with them in this unified effort.



Trustee Ross Brown & President Donna Hokiro standing in solidarity, No Contract - No Coffee!

Rallying and standing in solidarity alongside Starbucks Workers.

**SPECIAL THANK YOUs & SHOUT OUTs**



Huge shoutout to Polly Hawkins, a retired member who spreads kindness with every card, occasional gifts, and even handmade hats! Thank you, Polly, for your kindness and positivity!

Our clerical staff rocking the handmade hats. L to R: Milena Kollay, Susan Douglas, Kelsea Nadeau-Brisard, Rasha Abuweres, Tracey Brittany, Melissa Lasaleta.

Happy Holidays