



CONVENTION CALL CIU's 19th NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Customs and Immigration Union will hold its 19th National Convention on July 8, 9 and 10, 2021. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, the event will be held virtually. Further details on the virtual convention platform will be issued at a later date.

The timelines outlined in the CIU By-Laws served as a guide in setting the deadlines below.

DEADLINES

March 8, 2021	Election of Delegates and Alternates (By-Law 8, Section 5)
March 8, 2021	Resolutions (By-Law 8, Section 17)
April 7, 2021	Appointment of Committees (By-Law 8, Section 8)
May 6, 2021	Delegate Certificate (By-Law 8, Section 6)
May 6, 2021	Instructions for Committee Members (By-Law 8, Section 12)
May 6, 2021	General Information Booklet (By-Law 8, Section 13)

MARCH 8, 2021 A DATE TO REMEMBER

1. Election of Convention Delegates and Alternates

- Convention Delegates are elected by each Branch from amongst its members.
- Several Branches have held these elections. Where these have not been held, the PSAC can provide **assistance** with electronic elections if the Branch wishes to take advantage of that option.
- The only qualification required to run for election as a Delegate is that you be a member in good standing.

- If you are interested in attending the Convention, ask your Branch President for information regarding the election of Delegates.
- Election of Convention Delegates **must be completed by March 8, 2021.**

2. Resolutions

While our By-Law 8 is silent on the length of resolutions, the National Executive agreed that it would be beneficial for the CIU to follow the lead of the PSAC which sets a limit of 150 words for resolutions submitted to its National and Regional Conventions. Concise and focused resolutions will make it easier for CIU Convention Committees to compare similar proposals and for our delegates to consider them. In addition, any resolutions we forward to the PSAC National Convention will not require any edits to meet the PSAC's requirements.

- All resolutions must be concise, focused, limited to 150 words and should not include any special formatting such as boxes or drawings (see example on page 5).
- All resolutions must comply with By-Law 8, Section 17.
- Resolutions will **not** be accepted unless they bear the appropriate signatures (see Resolution Form).
- Resolutions to the CIU National Convention that deal with Collective Bargaining can only address the collective bargaining process itself. Submitting Collective Bargaining Resolutions should not be confused with submitting Bargaining Demands, as these are handled through another process and at another time.
- Resolution forms should be sent by email to renee.sylvester@ciu-sdi.ca and **must be received no later than March 8, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. (Eastern Time)**. Alternatively, forms can be mailed to the CIU National Office at 1741 Woodward Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 0P9 and **must be postmarked no later than March 8, 2021.**

BY-LAW EXCERPTS COVERING CONVENTION

***By-Law 8 – Section 5* Branch Election of Delegates / Alternates**

- 1) At least four (4) months prior to the opening date of the CIU National Convention, each Branch shall elect to the CIU National Convention, from amongst its members, the appropriate number of:
 - a) Delegates; and
 - b) Alternates.

- 2) The number of Delegates elected shall be:
 - a) Based on membership figures available at the end of the sixth (6) full month preceding the Convention; and
 - b) In accordance with the following:
 - i. 100 members or less – 1 Delegate
 - ii. Each additional 100 members or major portion thereof – 1 added Delegate.

By-Law 8 – Section 17
Resolutions

- 1) All Resolutions proposed to be submitted to the CIU National Convention shall be accepted for consideration only if:
 - a) Submitted by:
 - i. The CIU National Executive and/or the CIU National Board of Directors, and bearing the signature of the National President;
 - ii. A Branch, bearing the signature of the President and Secretary of the Branch, and forwarded to the National President in triplicate; or
 - iii. A member in good standing, seconded by a member in good standing, bearing both their signatures, and forwarded to the National President in triplicate, with an extra copy to the Branch Secretary;
 - b) It deals with only one subject;
 - c) It is typewritten or printed upon a separate sheet of paper; and
 - d) It is forwarded at least four (4) months before the opening date of the CIU National Convention.
- 2) A Resolution received after the deadline set herein shall be accepted, if its specific meaning is not covered by a Resolution submitted in accordance with the requirements already established, to be dealt with after all timely Resolutions have been disposed of.
- 3) The text of a Resolution shall identify the original, official language in which the Resolution was presented.
- 4) A progress report on all Resolutions adopted by the CIU National Convention shall be submitted:
 - a) To each member of the CIU National Board of Directors, within six (6) months of the CIU National Convention; and
 - b) At every CIU National Board of Directors meeting thereafter, until such time as the Resolution has been fully implemented.
- 5) Resolutions not complied with between National Conventions shall be resubmitted to the CIU National Convention delegates who shall:
 - a) Reconsider the decisions of the previous National Convention; or
 - b) Allow these Resolutions to become Resolutions of Record.

By-Law 8 – Section 8
Committees, except Finance Committee and Credentials Committee

Notwithstanding By-Law 8, Section 9 and Section 10, at least three (3) months prior to the opening date of the CIU National Convention, the National Executive shall:

- a) Appoint Committees as may be necessary for the conduct of business of the CIU National Convention; and
- b) Appoint, from the Accredited Delegates, members to Committees.

By-Law 8 – Section 6
Delegate Certificate

- 1) At least two (2) months prior to the opening date of the CIU National Convention, each Delegate shall be provided with a Delegate's Certificate as proof of his/her accreditation.
- 2) Any Delegate not receiving his/her Certificate within this time limit shall:
 - a) Immediately provide the CIU National Office with his/her current address; and
 - b) Request that his/her Certificate be sent to him/her as soon as possible.

By-Law 8 – Section 11
Notification of Committee Assignments and Distribution of Agendas

At least two (2) months prior to the opening of the CIU National Convention, Delegates shall be:

- a) Advised of the Committee assignment by the National Executive; and
- b) Supplied with an official copy of the Committees' agendas, as proposed by the National Executive.

By-Law 8 – Section 12
Instructions and Documents for Committee Members

At least two (2) months prior to the opening date of the CIU National Convention, Committee Chairs and Committee members shall receive:

- a) Written instructions outlining proper Committee procedures;
- b) Policy Papers and Resolutions of Record of past National Conventions from both CIU and PSAC; and
- c) Acts, Regulations, and other documents relative to the subject matter with which their Committee shall have to deal.

By-Law 8 – Section 13
General Information Booklet

At least two (2) months prior to the opening of the CIU National Convention, a general information booklet shall be distributed to every Accredited Delegate, and the booklet shall contain:

- a) An outline of the Convention program, giving all possible particulars;
- b) A list of Convention committees, with the names of their Chairs and members;
- c) The Convention agenda; and
- d) Resolutions of Record and new Resolutions, grouped by major subjects and placed in single numerical series, late Resolutions placed in a separate numerical series.

EXAMPLE OF GOOD RESOLUTIONS:

TRADITIONAL FORMAT	CLEAR LANGUAGE FORMAT
<p><i>RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COURT CHALLENGES PROGRAM</i></p> <p>WHEREAS the Court Challenges Program, which provided funding to challenge laws and policies that violate Constitutional equality rights, was abolished by the Conservative government; and</p> <p>WHEREAS in the past, this program allowed citizens to defend their fundamental rights – rights that many would have not had the financial means to defend without this program; and</p> <p>WHEREAS without the Court Challenges Program, only people with means have access to the legal system to challenge unjust laws;</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED THAT PSAC support the rights of citizens by taking a public stand in favour of re-establishing the Court Challenges Program; and</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT PSAC support all campaigns to have the Court Challenges Program re-established in its entirety.</p>	<p><i>MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS IN THE WORKPLACE</i></p> <p>BECAUSE mental health issues affect many of our members and is the leading cause of stress in the workplace; and</p> <p>BECAUSE there needs to be an increased awareness of mental health issues; and</p> <p>BECAUSE there needs to be consistency in dealing with mental health issues;</p> <p>PSAC WILL develop a presentation document on mental health and make it available to all locals to increase awareness on mental health issues in the workplace.</p>