



CONVENTION 2020 – MEMO NO. 1

DATE: December 21, 2020

TO: National Board of Directors, Branch Executive, Executive Stewards,
Chief Stewards and Stewards

SUBJECT: **Nineteenth National Convention – July 8, 9 and 10, 2021**

Sisters and Brothers,

The National Convention, which is the supreme governing body of our Union, is held once every three years and provides an opportunity for all CIU members to become involved in the operation and future of their Union. Although the Convention initially planned for October 2020 had to be postponed, I am pleased to announce that the event has been rescheduled to July 2021. Given the pandemic, the event will be held virtually.

The National Convention provides a forum for delegates, elected by their peers and on a per capita basis according to Branch membership, to represent their Sisters and Brothers in making decisions that govern both the administration and the policies of this Union for the ensuing three-year period. The National Convention is also the forum where the Union's National Executive is elected for its three-year term. The CIU By-Laws (By-Law 8, Section 17) provide an opportunity for all members to submit resolutions, within the prescribed format, dealing with all aspects of the Union.

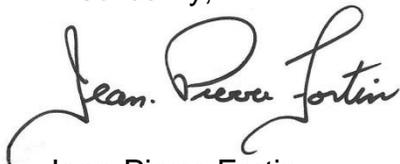
This particular Convention Call is being issued during the COVID-19 pandemic and although a vaccine is on the horizon, it is impossible to ascertain when when it will be rolled out. Given the feedback received at the September 2020 CIU NBoD meeting and knowing that a convention requires that plans be made at least six months in advance, the National Executive struck a balance by establishing a calendar that would avoid needlessly extending the mandates of current elected union representatives (both at the national and local levels) while respecting the requirement that our event not overlap with any PSAC Regional Convention. The National Executive also agreed that the event would be virtual. As such and because of time zone differences across the country, it will be necessary to make some adjustments to the usual program.

The attached *Convention Call* applies to all Union members in good standing and should be considered as an invitation to participate in the future of this Union. Also attached is a Convention Resolution Form. It should be noted that Convention Resolutions pertaining to collective bargaining must refer only to the procedure of bargaining and not actual bargaining demands. Bargaining demands are sought through a different forum and are referred, through

the Component Collective Bargaining Committee, to the Public Service Alliance of Canada. Bargaining demands will not be dealt with at the CIU National Convention.

This will be the third and last CIU Convention over which I will preside and while I had hoped for an opportunity to meet with members face to face, a virtual meeting is the next best thing and I am convinced that if we work collaboratively, it will allow us to accomplish the work we set out to do. Additional information about the virtual meeting process will be made available in due course. In the meantime, should you have any questions or require clarification regarding this memo, please reach out to your Branch President. I look forward to your participation and input.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jean-Pierre Fortin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Jean-Pierre Fortin
National President

Attachments