

May 13, 2026
D/BU #140/2025–2026

Union Leadership Academy 2026

To: Presidents and All Members

From: Gary Fenn, Interim Associate General Secretary – Professional Services

For Information

The Union Leadership Academy (ULA) will take place on **August 19–22, 2026**, at The Westin Harbour Castle located at 1 Harbour Square, Toronto, ON, M5J 1A6. The event will kick off with a full-day orientation and training session for new presidents, starting Tuesday afternoon and continuing through to Wednesday at lunchtime. This will be followed by two full days of Union Leadership Academy workshops, beginning mid-day on Wednesday, August 19, and running through to mid-day on Friday, August 21. Workshops will include targeted sessions for new Presidents, Bargaining Unit (BU) Presidents, and Chief Negotiators, with a strong emphasis on bargaining and strike-readiness content for all participants.

- **New (First and Second Year) Presidents' Training:** Tuesday afternoon, August 18, 2026, to lunchtime on Wednesday, August 19, 2026.
- **Union Leadership Academy:** Wednesday afternoon, August 19, 2026, to lunchtime on Friday, August 21, 2026.

Provincially Funded Delegates

Bargaining Unit Presidents (or their alternates) will have all eligible expenses covered through Provincial Office. Federation guidelines will be followed and should be considered when making travel plans. Bargaining Units may send additional Delegates using the formula below, at their own cost.

Additional Delegate Costing

The following amounts will be charged back to your District rebate for all approved and registered additional Delegates attending Union Leadership Academy. This includes laid-on breakfast (where applicable), breaks, hotel guestroom, taxes, and incidentals.

Option 1–No Accommodations = \$300.00

Option 2–Wednesday, August 19–Friday, August 21 = \$1,100.00

Option 3–Tuesday, August 18–Friday, August 21 = \$1,500.00

Option 4–Wednesday, August 19–Saturday, August 22 = \$1,500.00

NOTE: Option 3 and 4 will require prior approval. Please contact leadershipacademy@osstf.ca if you require an additional night's stay due to travel. These requests will be approved based on distance of travel and hotel availability.

All other additional Delegate expenses, including travel, additional meals, and parking are the responsibility of the District/Bargaining Unit.

Travel and Hotel Room

Hotel room will be booked by Provincial Office. You will request a room through Cvent once registration opens in June. Travel arrangements can be booked through Clarke-Way Travel, at osstf@clarkewaytravel.com or by calling 1-800-282-1905.

1. **Bargaining Unit Presidents:** please indicate that you are attending Union Leadership Academy. If you are traveling to the conference by car, train or taxi, approved reimbursement rates must be within the Federation Activity Allowable Expenditure Guidelines.
2. **Additional Delegates** must pay for their travel and be reimbursed through their Bargaining Unit, or have their Bargaining Unit pay directly.

Meals

Meals for additional Delegates are the responsibility of the BU. Laid-on meals will be provided for all participants, and associated costs for additional Delegates are included in the chargeback amounts listed above.

The following meals will be laid-on:

Wednesday, August 19	Breakfast, a.m. Break, and Lunch	New Presidents
Thursday, August 20	Breakfast and a.m. Break	Bargaining Unit Presidents and Additional Delegates
Friday, August 21	Breakfast and a.m. Break	Bargaining Unit Presidents and Additional Delegates

Meal allowance payments will be sent to Bargaining Unit Presidents (or alternate) for the following lunches and dinners:

New Presidents	\$330	Tuesday—Lunch and Dinner Wednesday—Dinner Thursday—Lunch and Dinner Friday—Lunch
Bargaining Unit Presidents	\$255	Wednesday—Lunch and Dinner Thursday—Lunch and Dinner Friday—Lunch

As a reminder, Districts can access 2010 funding to defray costs, including registration fees, for individual members who attend OSSTF/FEESO sponsored provincial, regional, or local conferences.

Cvent will be live the week of June 8, and once open, a D/BU will be issued with directions on how to register. If you have any questions, please reach out to leadershipacademy@osstf.ca.

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