

MINUTES FROM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Telephone Town Hall – September 11, 2017 @ 7 p.m.

1. **Meeting called to order** at 7:06 pm by Suzanne Hodge.
2. **Roll Call of officers:**
Suzanne Hodge, **President**; Dan Goodman, **Secretary-Treasurer**; Brian Taylor **VP #1**; Kathleen Allen **VP #2**; Susan Espin **VP #3**; Mike Rose **VP #7**, David Mowatt **VP #8**; Susan Campbell **VP #12**, Kevin Barr **VP #13**, Charles Pratt **VP #14**.
3. **Adoption of Agenda**
m / s / c to adopt the agenda
4. **Adoption of Feb. 28, 2017 Minutes** as posted on UFCW 247 website (August 28th)
m / s / c to adopt the minutes
5. **Business Arising from Previous Membership Meeting**
None
6. **President's Report**
 - Congratulations to the newly elected and reelected Executive Board members and officers. The elections were completed August 25th and the new term of office begins January 1, 2018.
 - Sobeys served the union notice on June 12th under letter of understanding number 4 in the collective agreement regarding a joint review of 20 stores. Local 247 responded to Sobeys and took the following positions:
 1. That the joint review process only contemplates an individual store, therefore placing 20 stores on the list was inappropriate.
 2. That the English Bay store 4934, store 90 under the old system, should not be on the list at all as it was going to close for redevelopment.
 3. That any store that already had a joint review agreement in place, specifically 7 of the stores on the list, numbers 182 184 20 70 33 75 and 179, should not be entitled to another joint review agreement.

From June 29th to July 28th various letters were exchanged between Sobeys and Local 247. On Friday August 4th Sobeys made an application to the labour board under section 49 and section 133 claiming that Local 247 was refusing to participate in LOU #4 and that in doing so were not living up to the terms of the collective agreement.

The company filed a grievance regarding LOU #4. The Union's disputed the filing of 2 different processes to deal with the same issue and that it should be one or the other not both. The union anticipates that Sobeys will make an expedited arbitration application regarding their grievance on LOU #4 and if that is the case, the arbitration will be required to be heard within 30 days of the application unless both parties agree otherwise.

The company has the right under the collective agreement to serve notice to begin bargaining as early as September 30th and that is what the union expects will happen.

 - UFCW National Council – The Executive Board of the National Council was interviewing candidates to support for the NDP leadership race. UFCW Canada has since declared its' support for the NDP National Leadership to candidate Jagmeet Singh. He's a member of the Ontario Provincial Parliament in Brampton, Ontario, and is the deputy leader of the Ontario NDP. Jagmeet Singh is now the lead candidate in the NDP leadership race.

- UFCW National Council Convention – It took place in Montreal from August 27th to 31st.. The Convention is required constitutionally to occur prior to the International Convention which is scheduled for April 2018. At the National Council Convention, nominations for the National Council President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recorder and Six Canadian International Vice-Presidents were conducted and all the incumbents were nominated, unchallenged. Formal elections for these positions will take place at the International Convention in April 2018. In addition, at this Convention a number of resolutions and changes to the National Council bylaws were approved by the delegates. The delegates for Local 247 were President Suzanne Hodge, Secretary-Treasurer Dan Goodman and Local 247 members Kevin Barr, Brian Taylor and David Mowatt . Guest speakers included current NDP Leader Tom Mulcair, Jason Dorsey speaking on millennials, and UFCW International President Marc Perrone. On the final day of Convention, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau came and spoke to all delegates.
- m / s / c to adopt the President’s report as read

1 question was taken from member on the line while waiting for the adoption of the President’s report.

7. **Secretary-Treasurer’s Report & Bargaining Report**

- We were recently informed by Loblaw that the Creston Extra Foods would be converted to an Independent Grocer in early November. Union Rep Tima Dickerson attended the announcement and was able to go through the process.
- We have just received the Convention Call for the 8th Regular International Convention which will be held next April. Nominations and Elections must take place between October 1st and January 31st. Once we determined our time frame, members will be notified in writing of the dates.
- In regards to bargaining, on July 11th members working at South Surrey Loblaw Distribution Centre voted to amend their current contract to be added as an addendum to the main Loblaw collective agreement. Top rates were immediately increased with retroactivity to February 26, 2017. Several premiums were also added and members will see the same annual lump sum or wage increases enjoyed by other Loblaw DC. A tentative agreement was reached on Sept. 8th with Kootenay Markets in Elkford.
- Versacold Corpak negotiations will continue October 17 & 18. Vantage Foods has lost a bid to remain the operator with the meat cutting facility in Chilliwack and will no longer be the employer as of September 30th. After October 1st, the new operator will be Donald’s Fine Foods and we will continue to represent the members in that facility. Negotiations will begin as soon as the dates can be scheduled.

m / s / c to adopt the Secretary-Treasurer’s report and Financial Report as read

8. **Recent Sobeys Settlement**

- Cathy Shannon reported on a policy grievance that was filed last year for meat managers and some acting meat manager who the Union felt were not compensated under Article 6.08 of the collective agreement. This grievance was resolved and those affected were compensated. This year, the Employer met with the Union to review the list of Meat Manager who was to be compensated. There were 43 out of 60 that were to be compensated this year. Unfortunately, the Company and payroll did not pay all meat managers as agreed. The Union and the Company discussed and agreed that those eliminated from the list be compensated and paid. Payments were made on August 24 and September 7th pay periods.

9. **Education & Training Report**

- The New Westminster Training Centre has new rounds of courses starting September 25th. Registration is open to all members and their immediate family. Courses are free but some of them may require small fees for manuals, supplies or certification. Full list of courses is available at ufcw247trainingcentre.com.
- If commuting to Training Centre in New Westminster is not an option for you, UFCW Canada offers free online courses through Web Campus, visit ufcw.ca/web-campus.
- Local 247 is committed to awarding up to ten \$1,500 scholarships and eight \$750 education assistance grants per year. Application deadline is September 30th. Visit ufcw247.com under the education tab for application or email us at scholarships@ufcw247.com.

10. **New Business**

- No new business.
- 3 questions taken from members on the line.

11. **Member Draw**

The draw was conducted electronically.
3 winners were picked; each receiving a \$50 gift card.

12. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm