

LE LIEN DIRECT

Pour plus d'informations, contactez :



DIRECT LINK

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Janvier 2021

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January 2021

New Year Brings New Benefits and Local Elections

Hello,

Happy New Year! We hope you were able to get some time to rest over the holidays. I know for most members, work has been busier than ever, and has not slowed down.

Regular Membership Meetings Begin

The first of our quarterly membership meetings for Canpar bargaining unit members was held on Jan. 23, 2021. Meeting online gives our nationwide membership a chance to get together virtually. I hope many of you were able to join the online meeting and participate. Our next meeting will be held on May 15. The dates for all membership meetings are on the website.

Congratulations Ryad and Caleb: iPad Winners

Congrats to the two members who won iPads in our prize draw in December: Ryad Berrada from Montreal and Caleb Mageto from Toronto. Thank you to everyone who sent along your contact information to enter the draw so we can reach more members with our communications.

New Benefits Available as of January 1, 2021

As negotiated in our collective agreement last year, new benefits kicked in on Jan. 1, 2021. Members now have a pay-direct drug card which will reduce hassle and up-front costs for your prescriptions. In addition, the orthodontic coverage lifetime maximum has increased to \$2,500. Life insurance coverage has now increased to \$55,000.

Local Union Elections 2021 – Information is Available Online

Some of you have been asking about the process around USW local union elections that take place in April 2021. Information about the elections process was sent to Unit Chairs in early January to be posted in the terminals. Nominations for Unit Elections and for National Executive Officers Elections must be received by February 26,

2021. Elections information is available on the website – see 1976usw.ca and click on the tab [Elections 2021](#) or ask your Unit Chair for more information.

Use Our Collective Agreement to Avoid Burnout

To avoid burnout in these busy times, remember to take all of your breaks. These are afforded to you in the collective agreement and we encourage you all to take them as prescribed. Your body needs the time to refuel and rest.

Regarding overtime, some members want the pay incentive, while others would rather not work extra hours. Meanwhile, we need to keep up with customer demand. Now that the holidays are over, remember that weekend work should be on a voluntary basis. Our collective agreement is clear that we work from Monday to Friday. The union is prepared to grieve any discipline that is assessed for refusing weekend work. Reach out to your Unit Chair.

Stay Connected

- Sign up for text updates: text 'Canpar' to 32323. Standard message and data rates may apply.
- If you have previously opted out of receiving text messages but wish to resume this service, simply text "Canpar" to 32323. Standard message and data rates may apply.
- Sign up for email updates: send an email to info@1976usw.ca with 'Canpar' in the subject line.
- *Spread the word! Encourage your colleagues to sign up to receive important information.*

Thanks again for all of your hard work in these challenging pandemic times. Please continue to stay healthy and safe.

In Solidarity,



Steven Hadden
President, TC Local 1976 USW
