

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTES

Local Union #9511

April 22, 2025 - Mississauga, ON

Constitutional Convention - Three representatives from our local attended the United Steelworkers (USW) Constitutional Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. This convention, held every three years, establishes the union's strategic direction and priorities for the upcoming term. Delegates considered and voted on a range of resolutions addressing various aspects of the union's mission and values. The adopted resolutions, along with updates to the USW Constitution, will be communicated to members in the near future. The International Executive Board also publishes their Officer's Report spanning the past three years for all delegates, and is available for the first time in digital format for all members. You can access the information at <https://usw.org/2025-officers-report/>

Resolution Regarding Online/Virtual Meetings - Our local union's resolution to the convention was ultimately successful, despite not being adopted in its original form. The Constitutional Committee initially disagreed with our resolution but recommended amendments to the Constitution that addressed its core objectives. These amendments permit online/virtual meetings and grant the International Executive Board authority to establish the procedures and policies governing such meetings. Local President Mark Gardner addressed the delegation on the significance of this change for our members, and the proposed amendments were accepted. While there are procedural steps to complete before implementation at the local level, we extend congratulations to our Local for advocating for this important change. Further updates will be provided in the coming months.

Trials Committee Report - In March, constitutional charges were filed against Local President Mark Gardner by another member. A Trial Committee was appointed, and a hearing was held on April 2, 2025. The Committee submitted its report on April 14, which was read at the April meeting. None of the charges were upheld, but the Committee identified communication deficiencies and made recommendations, including: establishing grievance communication procedures, improving responses to member inquiries, evaluating our email service provider, encouraging members to contact any available Executive members or Stewards, and implementing a grievance tracking system. The Executive Committee is already addressing some of these recommendations, and will provide more updates as things are implemented. Both the Trial and Executive Committees have raised additional recommendations for the trials process itself going forward, and will be reviewed for the next Executive meeting in June.

Indigenous Gathering of Steelworkers - We have two members who have expressed interest in attending the 4th National Gathering of Indigenous Steelworkers in Manitoba in July. At the

March meeting, we had approved up to four (4) delegates, so if you are a member **of**

Indigenous ancestry (identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis), or if you are a steward or officer and would like to attend, please reach out to ask@usw9511.ca.

New Steward Training - We have four (4) members who are currently registered for the USW's Stewards In Action 1 training happening in Mississauga in June. The course still has spaces, so if you are interested in representing and helping your coworkers, reach out to ask@usw9511.ca to get more details.

Provincial Health And Safety Committee - We are seeking nominations for two of our Joint Health & Safety Representatives to join the Provincial Health and Safety Committee. These members, along with Local H&S Committee Chair Jan Westerman, will meet quarterly with safety counterparts from management to address safety broadly, and ensure the individual office representatives are in place and get supported. If you think your H&S Rep in your office would be a good fit for this committee, please send an email nominating them to healthandsafety@usw9511.ca for consideration.

Local Committees - We have often had to prioritize certain committees over others, simply **because** we have had limited people to do the work of the local, but we are looking to open up some online meetings for various committees: Women of Steel, Veterans of Steel, Next Gen, and Political Action. More information about these committees and a first meeting will be communicated in May.

Bowling! - Steelworkers Toronto Area Council Women's Committee is organizing a bowling day on Sunday, May 26, 2025 in Toronto (401 & Islington area). A motion was passed to support up to four (4) lanes for our members. We are still seeking clarification of the format of the event and will be communicating more details soon. If you are interested in attending this event, keep an eye out for a notice next week.

Next Meeting - The next Executive and General Meetings are scheduled for June 10, 2025 in Barrie, ON. The Executive has committed to sending out a bulletin board notice three weeks in advance of the date, as well as MTMS alerts at three weeks, one week, the day before, and the day of the meeting going forwards.