

WHY JOIN THE LABOUR COUNCIL

Why should a local union be part of the Labour Council? The answer is the same we give when members ask about the value of paying dues to their union. We are stronger together - it's about working people having a collective voice at work and in their community.

Workers benefit by joining our voices together, both at work and in society. Individual local unions bargain the wages, benefits and conditions in a workplace. When unions affiliate together, we carry out a broader form of "political bargaining" for conditions and policies that benefit all working people.

From the very first days of the Labour Council in 1871, our unions adopted the principle that "what we wish for ourselves, we wish for all". We used our collective effort to win vital public programs, help workers unionize, and challenge unjust laws. Over the years, these gains made a real difference in people's lives.

Today Labour Council brings the strength of the entire labour movement into ongoing work that has real impact:

- > Fighting for an economy that provides decent jobs, living wages and fairness for all
- > Assisting local unions in campaign planning and strike solidarity
- > Working for an education system that gives students what they need to succeed and electing trustees who will make that their priority.
- > Advocating for public transit, community services, child-care and anti-poverty programs along with labour-supported City Councillors.
- > Mobilizing for economic justice. The Minimum Wage campaigns won huge wage increases for hundreds of thousands of low-wage workers
- > Building an equity agenda within unions and society, and continuing the long struggle against racism led by the Labour Council and its affiliates
- > Fighting to improve labour laws so that more workers can join unions and lift standards across the entire economy
- > Working for climate justice so future generations can benefit and prosper
- > Challenging affiliates and activists to discover new forms of labour power, and training the future leaders of our movement

The Toronto & York Region Labour Council represents over 200,000 women and men who work in every sector of the economy. We are a force to be reckoned with by the decision-makers at all levels of government, and a consistent ally of those who fight for social, economic, racial and environmental justice. We invite every union local to be part of a strong collective voice for working people in Canada's largest urban centre.

labourcouncil.ca



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