



*Local 70712 - Union of Health and Environment Workers
Section Locale 70712 - Syndicat des travailleurs de la santé et de l'environnement*

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 5:30pm**

Registration deadline February 14, 2024

This year's Local 70712 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** (AGM) will be held February 21, 2024 at 5:30pm. We will be hosting at the Sandman Signature Ottawa Airport Hotel, 250 West Hunt Club Road. You can also choose to attend the meeting via zoom. Registration must be received by February 14, 2024.

An AGM is a yearly event where the Local's members assemble to discuss the Local's performance and concerns. At the Local 70712 AGM, we will elect the Local Executive, elect delegates and observers for the UHEW Regional Conference, approve the budget for 2024, amend the bylaws and receive reports of the officers. The meeting will be chaired by Local President, Jeannine Laing and Elections will be held by UHEW Regional Vice President, Rubin Kooner.

We welcome all members in good standing to attend in person and enjoy a wonderful meal paid by the Local along with some door prizes. Please RSVP by February 14th and please include any dietary restrictions that we should be aware of.

We will also be offering a virtual option for anyone who cannot attend in person. Please send us a personal email address and we will send you a link with instructions prior to the meeting.

Attached are all reports. Feel free to email us at secretary@local70712.com with any questions or comments. If you are submitting a resolution or election ballot please do so by February 14, 2024. Templates are attached.

A reminder that if you are feeling unwell, please stay home and connect with us virtually.

Looking forward to seeing you!

In Solidarity,

Local 70712 Executive

Jeannine Laing,

John Coltess,

Adrienne White,

Tammy Boyer,

Samantha Basha



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**Local 70712 – 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Wednesday, February 21, 2024**

Executive Positions:

President	Jeannine Laing
Vice-President	John Coltess
Treasurer	Adrienne White
Secretary	Tammy Boyer
Chief Steward	Samantha Basha

Agenda

1. Harassment Statement
2. Introductions
3. President's Address
4. Adoption of President's Report
5. Treasurer's Report – 2023 Financial Statement
6. Proposed changes to By-Laws
7. 2023 Budget (no change in dues)
8. Elections - Chaired by RVP Rubin Kooner
 - I. President
 - II. Vice-President
 - III. Treasurer
 - IV. Secretary
 - V. Chief Steward
9. Conferences and Conventions
 - 2023 UHEW Regional Convention
 - 3 delegates (1 observers)
10. Member updates
11. Door prizes
12. Adjournment

*Update Drafted by: J.Laing
January 31, 2024
Local70712.com*





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President's Report:

Dear Members, I am honoured to have been given the opportunity to host this year's AGM as the President of Local 70712. I would like to take this moment to extend my sincere gratitude to the Local Executive and our steward for their exceptional efforts throughout the year. I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to our Regional Vice President, Rubin Kooner, for her invaluable support, advice, and training.

As many of you may recall, we faced a challenging time in April of last year due to the strike. Prior to the strike, I was actively involved in planning sessions with PSAC in our region. As President I was taking phone calls and responding to emails from members seeking clarity on the strike process and to help set up PSAC accounts. I had the honour of standing in solidarity with many of you on the picket line, and afterwards, I played a pivotal role in coordinating strike payments for over 200 members.

In August, I had the privilege of attending the UHEW Triennial Convention as a delegate, where I also served on the UHEW Bylaws Committee. Prior to the convention, I attended several meetings to review the submitted resolutions and promote those submitted by our region. Our Local was proud to submit eight resolutions on various issues. This experience gave me the opportunity to work closely with other RVPs and alternate RVPs across the UHEW.

During the convention, I was nominated and elected as a delegate to the PSAC National Convention scheduled for May 2024, in Ottawa. Additionally, I was re-elected as the Alternate RVP for NCR1 region. I have since been working closely with Rubin on complex grievances and other difficult cases for our Local. I also attended RVP training in September, where I had the opportunity to observe my first UHEW council meeting as the Alternate RVP.

At the beginning of the year, I attended the Health and Safety conference as an observer, which provided me with valuable training related to being an occupational health and safety representative and addressing OHS issues brought forward to the Local.

I have also attended IAAC LMCCs and NCR Council meetings throughout the year.

I am pleased to inform you that I have updated the Local's website to save on operating costs and improve our Local's ability to share information with our membership. We are also working towards a change to our email system to further reduce operating costs.

In the coming year, I hope to find ways to engage more with our members and take advantage of any gains in membership that we may have made over the strike. I will strive to minimize expenses to ensure that we can rebuild our strike fund without increasing your Local dues.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to another year of working with you all, as a member of this Executive.

In Solidarity,

Jeannine Laing - President of Local 70712



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Vice President Report:

The local vice president is a key figure in the local organization, serving as the second-in-command to the president. Their primary duties include supporting the president in executing organizational goals, attending meetings, and contributing to decision-making. They also step into a leadership role in the president's absence, ensuring smooth operations and overseeing specific projects. Effective communication, teamwork, and maintaining a strong connection with members are vital aspects of their responsibilities, making their role essential to the organization's success and cohesion. I am pleased to present this report, highlighting the significant efforts undertaken to support our members in the last six months.

PSAC Strike:

During this period, our union demonstrated a steadfast commitment to addressing member concerns through a strike authorized by PSAC, triggered by protracted negotiations with the Treasury Board. The strike, which took place from April 19 to May 3, 2023, witnessed robust participation, underscoring the unity and strength of our local members. Throughout the strike, our primary focus was on facilitating PSAC operations and maintaining transparent communication through various channels. This ensured that our members were well-informed about the progress of negotiations, strike-related events, and available resources.

Strike Pay Roll-out:

Despite challenges in the delayed disbursement of strike pay, the commendable patience exhibited by our members was truly noteworthy. The successful distribution of strike pay among our members was a heartfelt victory. As each member received their well-deserved strike pay, a collective sense of relief and gratitude permeated our union. This success underscores the strength of our bonds and our collective commitment to supporting one another through the challenges we face.

UHEW National Convention Highlights:

Delegates engaged in passionate debates, leading to the approval of two major resolutions. The introduction of a Special Levy for the UHEW Strike Fund and the resolution to increase the fund from \$2.5 million to \$4.5 million were significant steps towards ensuring financial stability and member support during future strikes.

The final day of the convention featured crucial elections, with Shimen Fayad re-elected as National President and Marc Blanchard assuming the role of National Vice President. Regional Vice-Presidents and Alternate Regional Vice Presidents were also elected, ensuring diverse representation. Sonya Driscoll succeeded Rhonda Doyle LeBlanc as the new Human Rights Representative. Additionally, UHEW



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secured 22 delegate positions for the upcoming 2024 PSAC National Triennial Convention, with elected representatives poised to advocate for our union's values.

In conclusion, I want to thank everyone for taking the time to go through this report. It's been a team effort, and I appreciate the hard work and dedication from each one of you. We've made some good progress, and I'm excited about what lies ahead. Your support and collaboration are what make our achievements possible. Let's keep pushing forward and achieving great things together. Thanks again for your efforts and commitment.

John Coltess – Vice President of Local 70712

Chief Steward Report:

2023 has been a very busy year. I have been attending meetings with members, management, and occupational health and safety reps, and continuing to support members with their pay issues, harassment in the workplace, Classification issues, OHS concerns, and general questions about the structure of our local, and union as a whole.

The beginning of the year was particularly busy, and allowed me to really focus my efforts on membership engagement, most days this looked like answering questions about the strike and general information on strike pay, our local, and logistics. While my time may not have always been spent filing grievances, it was certainly full working on helping members!

During the last half of this year, I have spent time attending UHEW National Triennial Convention, PSAC Young Workers Conference, as well as the PSAC National Equity Conference. During these conferences I was able to really connect with other local executive members' and share common challenges we are seeing in our workplaces' and brainstorm solutions amongst us. I feel as though it has been very beneficial to see and hear how other executives handle their cases, to help in processing our own.

I have been trying to bridge the gap between some disengaged members and our local, I took advantage of the general strike to really connect with members on the picket lines, to explain a little more about why we were striking, and more importantly, who our local is, and how to get involved. I have kept the lines of communication open with our members since striking, as I knew they had lots of questions about retro pay, the lump sum amount, and phoenix. I believe since the strike, a lot of our members are more engaged, and know that they can contact us in their time of need, and I am so proud of that.

I have hosted 4 Stewards meetings this year, which allowed me to keep up to speed on files that other Stewards of our local have taken on during this busy year. During our steward meetings (and monthly executive meetings) we collaborate on difficulties we are experiencing with member concerns to come up with a path forward. I find these collaborations very helpful in providing a second opinion or route



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that may not be initially obvious. I trust in the new year we will continue to collaborate even more, and continue to provide consistent and effective support to our members.

While the work may not be done yet, I am proud of all that our local has accomplished so far this year, and I'm even more excited to keep building with our members.

Samantha Basha – Chief Steward of Local 70712



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LOCAL RESOLUTIONS 2024 AGM

RESOLUTION 1:

Subject: Bylaw 7 Section 5 - Amendment to Strike Fund Allocation

WHEREAS a strike by PSAC members has taken place this year.

And WHEREAS the strike fund allocation of \$84,700 is hereby revised to \$3775 due to members receiving such pay.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the bylaws shall be amended accordingly to reflect the revised strike fund amount of \$3775.

RESOLUTION 2:

Subject: Bylaw 7 Section 6 - Amendment of the Financial Reviewers Compensation

WHEREAS the current financial reviewer compensation of \$50 per quarter is insufficient.

And WHEREAS increased compensation aligns with the growing complexity of financial reviews.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the financial reviewer compensation change from \$50 to \$150 per quarter.

RESOLUTION 3:

Subject: Bylaw 7 Section 6 - Removal of Unfilled Positions

WHEREAS the positions of OHS Committee Rep (\$200), Public Relations Officer (\$500), Website Officer (\$500), and Sub-Committee Member (amount not determined) have consistently remained unfilled.

WHEREAS the continued existence of these positions poses a yearly increase in the proposed budget.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT these positions be removed from the local's bylaws.

RESOLUTION 4:

Subject: Bylaw 3 Section 6 - Removal of Honorary Members from Bylaws

WHEREAS the inclusion of Honorary Members in the bylaws is no longer needed.

WHEREAS the continued existence of positions poses a yearly increase in the proposed budget.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Honorary Members in the bylaws be removed.

All resolutions are motioned and seconded by the executive committee



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Proposed 2024 Budget for Local 70712

Expenses

C - Annual/General meeting **\$5,500.00**

1	Pay	
2	Meal	
3	Travel (Mileage and parking)	
4	Door prizes/gifts	
5	Room Rental	
6	General Supplies	

E - Donations **\$500.00**

F - Executive Members Compensation **\$9,500.00**

Maximum annual rate of compensation:

1	President	\$2,850.00
2	Vice President	\$2,100.00
3	Treasurer	\$1,350.00
4	Secretary	\$1,350.00
5	Treasurer	
6	Chief Steward	\$1,850.00

G - Local Meeting Expenses **\$1,000.00**

1	Pay	
2	Meal	
3	Travel (Mileage and parking)	
4	Room Rental	
5	Registration	

H - Conference /Convention attendance (Observer Status only) **\$3,000.00**

1	Pay	
2	Meal	
3	Travel (Mileage and parking)	
4	Registration	
5	Advance	

I - Training & Attendance at Union Events: **\$1,000.00**

1	Pay	
2	Meal	
3	Travel (Mileage and parking)	
4	Registration	
5	Advance	



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J - Steward Fund **\$0.00**

1	Pay	
2	Meal	
3	Travel (Mileage and parking)	
4	Registration	
5	Advance	

K - Operating Expenses **\$8,000.00**

1	Website Maintenance	
2	Cell phone & internet allowances per Executiveut	\$55/month
3	Translation Services	
4	Meal	
5	Local Travel (Mileage and parking)	
6	Stamps	
7	Merchandise	
8	Netbooks, bags, and accessories	
9	Office supplies	
10	Awards & Gifts	
11	Gift Cards	
12	Local attire	
13	Banking costs (e-transfer, fees, etc.)	
14	Other	

L - Appointed Positions Compensation **\$4,950.00**

1	Local Stewards (\$1100 per Steward, maximum of 3 Stewards for Local)	\$3,300.00
2	Financial Reviewers (\$150/quarter - 2 Reviewers)	\$1,200.00
3	Website Officer	\$0.00
4	Building Contacts (\$150.00 per Contact - maximum of 3 for Local)	\$450.00
5	Sub-Committee Member	TBD
6	Public Relations Officer	\$0.00
7	Local Health & Safety Officer (\$200 per OHS Officer, maximum of 3 Officers for Local)	\$0.00

TOTAL \$33,450.00





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Election Ballot – AGM, 2024

Position / Position:

Nominee:
(print name)

Nominated by :
(print name)

(signature)

Seconded by:
(print name)

(signature)

Nomination accepted :
(Nominee signature)