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Unifor National President Jerry Dias led more than 200 Unifor activists in the World Pride Parade. For more photos and a list of more Pride events, see Page 4.

Pride in our diversity

Hundreds of Unifor activists, members, leaders, staff, families and supporters came out to be part of the union's efforts around World Pride in Toronto June 20-29, culminating in a bold and energetic showing at the parade on June 29. Unifor was one of 350 groups to join the parade.

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Drivers support Criminal Code change

In meetings with MPs and in testimony to a Senate committee June 18, representatives of bus drivers and taxi drivers shared their support for S-221, a bill to amend the Criminal Code to include

options for stiffer penalties for those convicted of assaulting drivers.

"Our members provide a valuable public service, but that also puts them in danger," said Nathan Woods, a transit operator working for Coast Mountain Bus in British Columbia and president of Unifor Local 111.

"We're asking for stronger deterrents to combat violence in our workplace."

Bill S-221 proposes to amend the Criminal Code to require judges to consider a transit driver's occupation as

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Shooting highlights need for armoured car changes

The recent shooting in Toronto during an attempted robbery on an armoured car underscores the need for improved safety regulations in the industry, argues Unifor.

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#unifor

Here's a selection of tweets about @UniforTheUnion


@siempre1907 · Busy @VIA_Rail Montreal train station for the National Holiday. Workers @UniforTheUnion doing a great job.

@cherriprobinson #unifor at the build site for the amazing Unifor float in the toronto pride parade...shaping up nicely! pic.twitter.com/50zpsaDm ZC

In brief

Local 4209, Clarke

Unifor Local 4209 members at Clarke transport have ratified a new collective agreement that contains strong economic gains for the 12 employees.

The three-year contract includes a 2-per-cent wage increase in each year and a one-dollar per hour increase for part-time employees. The previous deal expired on May 31. 

Seafarer Day

Unifor marked the International Day of the Seafarer on June 25 by encouraging members to share their gratitude on social media to acknowledge the workers who serve to connect the world's economies.

"Canada is a resource-rich country and a third of our GDP comes from the products we export," says Jerry Dias, Unifor National President. "The difficult jobs of those at sea support industries across our country and bring the very best of Canada to the rest of the world."


Around the world, people used the hashtag [#thankyouseafarers](#) to thank ship and ports workers for their efforts. 

Photo spotlight

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS TO COMMUNICATIONS@UNIFOR.ORG



Unifor members were in Port Elgin recently for the Aboriginal /Indigenous Workers and Racialized Workers/Workers of Colour Conference.

PHOTO BY BRYAN MOMBOURQUETTE



Activists, many from Unifor, delivered a 40-foot petition demanding a \$14 minimum wage in Ontario.

PHOTO BY JOSH COLES

Unifor protects pensions, benefits

Unifor Local 1996 at Pepsico in Peterborough ratified an important collective agreement that protects current workers and new hires on June 15.


The agreement was accepted by an overall vote of 86 per cent.

Despite significant pressure to agree to

concessions, the Unifor local negotiated to maintain a defined benefit pension plan for all current employees and new hires. Additionally, the agreement maintains that there is no cap on drug benefits.

At a time of significant threats from employers to leave communities and

intense pressure to make concessions, Unifor is proud to have protected members' pensions and benefits.

A recent report by DBRS Ltd. found that defined benefit pension plans in Canada are gaining financial strength, thanks to improved investments. 

Unifor tops JD Power awards

Cars and trucks made by Unifor members topped the list of those winning prestigious JD Power awards handed out recently.

"This shows the dedication and quality of work done by our members," said Bill Murnighan, director of Unifor's Research Department.

Topping the list of Unifor-made vehicles on the awards list were: GMC Terrain, Chrysler Town & Country, Dodge Challenger, Ford Edge and Lincoln MKX.

"Those Canadians know something about building cars," Dave Sargent of JD

Power told a meeting of the Automotive Press Association, where the awards were announced.

As well, the Unifor-represented CAMI plant in Ingersoll placed second as the best-quality plant in North America.


The top award went to Toyota's Cambridge plant building the Lexus RX luxury utility vehicle, while the company's Woodstock plant came in third.

"Toyota's Canadian operations are a strong asset for the company," Murnighan said, adding the results show that public support for the



The award shows Toyota Canada's importance.

auto industry is warranted.

"Canadian workers consistently deliver a strong quality advantage that all levels of government should support as a source of good jobs." 

UNIFOR COMMUNICATIONS - KATIE ARNUP, SARAH BLACKSTOCK, IAN BOYKO, SHELLEY BURGOYNE, SHANNON DEVINE, MARIE-ANDRÉE L'HEUREUX, STUART LAIDLAW, AND ANNE MARIE VINCENT

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**"Drivers support
 Criminal Code change"**

an "aggravating on page 1
 circumstance" in
 sentencing.

Woods testified that
 approximately 2,000 bus
 driver assaults are reported
 each year in Canada. In the
 B.C. Lower Mainland alone
 there were 251 reported
 incidents of driver abuse
 between 2012 and 2013—
 more than half of which
 involved a weapon.

In February, Local 111
 launched a campaign to
 encourage riders to report
 attacks on bus drivers.

Canadian taxi drivers
 had the highest rate of
 occupational-related
 homicide in the country in
 2011, higher than police
 officers.

Unifor represents more
 than 18,800 road
 transportation workers
 across Canada. 

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The guard was shot
 several times while his Garda
 truck was pulled up to a TD
 Bank branch. The second
 guard of the two-person crew
 remained in the vehicle and
 was unharmed.

"Our thoughts are with the
 guard, his family as well as
 his crew partner, who
 undoubtedly is in a state of
 shock," said Mike Armstrong,
 Unifor national
 representative.

Unifor has been calling on
 federal lawmakers to develop
 a comprehensive regulatory
 framework for the armoured
 car industry that enhances
 safety and prevents crime.
 The union's campaign also
 calls for minimum 3-person
 crew compliments for high-
 risk pick-ups.


Representatives of Unifor



Unifor members rallied outside the offices of Minister of Public Safety Steven Blaney calling for improved armoured car safety.

met with Director General of
 Policing Policy Mark Potter,
 from the office of the
 Minister of Public Safety and
 Emergency Preparedness, on

June 5 over the union's
 concerns about safety within
 the industry.

For more, go to
www.unifor.org/safecargo 

Did you know?

Unifor represents more than 86,000 members. The Unifor Women's Conference will be held August 10 -13 at the Family Education Centre in Port Elgin. For more information, go to: unifor.org/en/whats-new/event/2014-womens-conference

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Unifor Regional LGBT
 committee members came in
 from across the country to
 participate. The union
 debuted its new Unifor float
 at the parade, created in
 collaboration with Red
 Pepper Theatre Arts in
 Toronto. The float was put
 together by LBGT allies and
 activists over the last eight
 weeks.

"It's not just about saying
 that we represent LGBT
 members and their families,
 it's about working and
 walking alongside our
 members to help improve
 their lives and the lives of
 other LGBT people," said
 Jerry Dias, addressing Unifor
 members and their families
 before the parade.

"Our union has been at
 the forefront of LGBT issues,

it's important that we
 continue support and
 advance the rights of LGBT
 members and workers to full
 equality, respect and dignity
 - not just in the workplace,
 but in their communities
 too," said Ken Stuart,
 Winnipeg Area Director and
 LGBT liaison.

To see photos of World
 Pride, check out our
 Facebook page: [https://
 www.facebook.com/
 UniforCanada](https://www.facebook.com/UniforCanada) 



Van Jones to keynote Good Jobs Summit

CNN commentator, social
 justice advocate and best-
 selling author Van Jones will
 deliver the keynote address
 for the multi-partner national
 Good Jobs Summit, taking
 place in Toronto in the fall.


Van Jones is co-host of
 CNN's Crossfire reboot, and
 president and co-founder of
 Rebuild the Dream, a
 platform for bottom-up,
 people-powered innovations
 to help fix the U.S. economy.
 Van has written two New
 York Times best sellers,
 worked as the green jobs
 advisor to the Obama White
 House and is the founder of
 Green For All, a national
 organization working to get
 green jobs to disadvantaged
 communities.

"We think that Van Jones
 will make an incredible

contribution to the
 conversation that we need to
 have here in Canada about
 how we create quality
 employment opportunities,
 particularly for young
 workers and students," said
 Jerry Dias, Unifor National
 President.

"We know that the
 economy is churning out an
 increasing number of part-
 time, temporary and
 precarious jobs, which many
 cannot even afford to live on
 - we need to have a serious
 conversation about
 solutions."

The Good Jobs Summit,
 expected to draw at least
 1,000 people, takes place
 October 3-5 in Toronto, plus
 regional events across
 Canada.

For more, go to [http://
 www.goodjobssummit.ca/](http://www.goodjobssummit.ca/) 

Unifor out in full colour for Pride!

More than 200 Unifor LGBT members, activists, allies, leaders, staff, supporters and family members came out to participate in the union's first Toronto Pride float on June 29.



Check out a Pride event in your area!

St. John's - July 14-20

Vancouver -
July 28-August 4

Calgary -
August 22-September 1

For more information,
please visit:
www.unifor.org/pride 

Halifax - July 26

Fredericton - August 10-16

Quebec City -
August 28-31

Charlottetown -
July 27-August 2

Montreal - August 11-17