

THE LATEST BUZZ

NEWSLETTER - MOVEUP CONVENTION 2018

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

moveup
MOVEMENT OF UNITED PROFESSIONALS

Working Together
Every Voice Makes Us Strong

For union activists and supporters of the labour movement, today's will be a day filled with celebrity sightings featuring a lineup of speakers that will first glue you to your seats, before undoubtedly making you leap out of them.

Friday's stellar list of speakers include: John Horgan, leader of the BC NDP and Premier of British Columbia; Hassan Yussuff, president of the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC); and Irene Lanzinger, the outgoing president of the BC Federation of Labour (BCFED).

John Horgan became the 36th Premier of British Columbia in July 2017 after fostering a historic partnership between the BC NDP and the BC Green Party. Horgan was first elected an MLA back in 2005 and was acclaimed to the position of leader of the BC NDP in 2014. The Victoria-native and self-proclaimed Trekkie has two children with his wife, Ellie.



Hassan Yussuff is presently in his second term as president of the CLC after first being elected to the position in May 2014. He was the first person of colour to lead Canada's union movement. During his time in office, Yussuff has led Canada's labour movement to many victories

including helping defeat the Conservatives in the 2015 federal election. He has campaigned hard for a stronger Canada Pension Plan, campaigned for a comprehensive ban on asbestos which was won in December 2016, and is now part of a big push for universal PharmaCare in Canada. On the international scale, he's also serving his second term as president of the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas, an organization united 56 national organizations representing more than 60 million workers in 23 countries.

Irene Lanzinger made history in November 2014 when she became the first woman elected as president of the BCFED. Prior to that, she had served the organization as its secretary-treasurer. Her leadership of the BCFED has been instrumental in helping elect a worker-friendly and family-friendly BC NDP government, as well as putting B.C. on the path to a \$15 minimum wage. Originally a secondary science and math teacher in Abbotsford, Lanzinger was a key figure for her then-union, the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF), serving as their chief negotiator before being elected to the roles of Vice-President and President, respectively.



Delegates are reminded that a group photo will be taken just prior to lunch today, and working groups will be held throughout the afternoon. Dinner and dancing will highlight the evening's festivities.

VOTING NOW UNDERWAY FOR VP ELECTIONS

Voting for the position of Vice-President for the Combined Units, and the position of Vice-President for the Utilities unit, opened on Thursday at 6 p.m. Voting will close at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning.

Only registered delegates who work in one of the aforementioned components will have access to the online voting. In other words, if you work for ICBC where Annette Toth has already been acclaimed as Vice-President for that unit, you can stop reading here and go grab that cup of coffee or muffin you've been thinking about. The Returning Officer and Deputy Returning Officer will verify voter eligibility of the delegates.

Voting is simple and convenient and online. **To vote, simply log into the MoveUP Member Portal.**

If you have not registered for the Member Portal before, follow these simple instructions to create your profile:

- Click on the Member Portal link in the top right corner of the MoveUP website (www.moveuptogether.ca).

- Click on the "Sign Up Now" box which is right below the words "First Time Here?".
- Complete the information required. You will need your MoveUP Member ID, which is printed on the back of your membership card, and your SIN number.
- Once the form is fully completed, click on "Register" and you will be ready to vote!

We will have staff from the Membership Department today on hand to assist you with any issues that arise with Member Portal login or registration. If you need assistance, please come to the registration desk. Membership Department staff will only be available today, so make sure you go see them if you require assistance.

Votes will be tallied by the Returning Officer and the Deputy Returning Officer and delegates will be informed of the results before the adjournment of Convention on Saturday.



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PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS - THURSDAY



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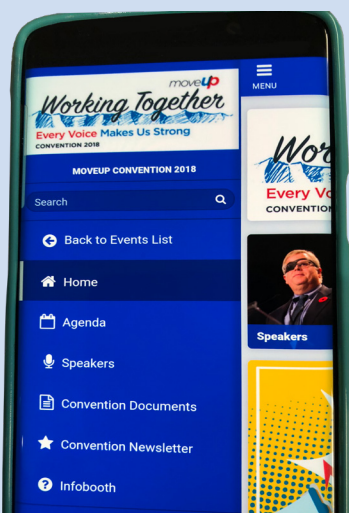
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Open the app and use code **MoveUPConvention2018**.

For a better experience with the app, click on login and enter your email address and create a password. It is that easy and you will be kept up to date by receiving alerts during convention.



SCHEDULE

Friday - Convention Starts

Regency Ballroom - 9:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker: John Horgan

Regency Ballroom - 9:45 a.m.

Guest Speaker: Hassan Yussuff

Regency Ballroom - 9:30 a.m.



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Thank you Gwenne

In the weeks leading up to the start of the 2018 Convention, you would not have been able to tell that this year's event would be the last one at the helm for Vice-President Gwenne Farrell.

Much like the high-profile retirements that Vancouver hockey fans celebrated last spring when bid farewell to the Canucks' vaunted Sedin twins, Gwenne – as Henrik and Daniel Sedin did – is going out on the top of her game. And just as there were 19,000 fans chanting 'one more year' for the twins that in their final home game back in April, there will no doubt be a clamouring among the delegates somehow wishing Gwenne would change her mind and continue on serving the union in an active capacity, Gwenne has made it quite clear that she fully plans to enjoy her retirement and has a place well-planned down in Mexico to do just that.

Convention will arguably be the event that will feel Gwenne's departure the most. In fact, since the very first one back in 2009, Convention has been Gwenne's baby. She was responsible for putting the very first one together, making it run as smoothly as it possible could, and has helped it evolve and grow each time out. A perfectly-executed Convention means the delegates and guests don't

see any of the hiccups that occur behind-the-scenes even though, as with any major event, there are always little gaffes that take place unbeknownst to most.

Fittingly, at the Convention that will mark Gwenne's swan song, she will be formally be awarded the Lifetime Membership Award by our union, joining a very exclusive club of only 14 others including Karen Rockwell whom this Convention honoured back on Thursday.

Gwenne recently remarked the one thing she will miss the most is that rare time when a member will come to her and say, 'thank you. You have changed my life.' Being an elected official within our union can be a thankless job often times. But just about everybody gathered here at Convention, in one way or another and whether they realize or not, probably owes Gwenne thanks for something that they have experienced either in their workplace or in their involvement with union activity.



From all of us,
thank you Gwenne.

When Convention kicked off yesterday, all delegates had the chance to see the debut screening of the Convention montage. The two-and-a-half minute video was the culmination of over three months of planning, filming, editing and fine-tuning to create a piece that would be engaging and create excitement among the gathered delegates, but also something that would truly be reflective of our union and showcase the faces of our union – many of which are gathered here for Convention.

"Coming up with the theme was the first important step," said Norman Gludovatz, the director of MoveUP's communications department. "Once we had that, we were able start conceptualizing what we wanted to bring that to life."

There are two core pieces of the slogan, namely "Working Together" and "Every Voice." An early concept that Gludovatz conceived involved hikers helping each other while climbing up a mountain – a nod to the MoveUP name and the suggestion of moving forwards and upwards as a group. Ultimately, that was the idea that on out from the convention committee.

"We had a few potential early design photos involving climbers that really jumped out," said Gludovatz. "What struck us in particular was a rough sketch of climbers.



We loved that so much we expanded on that imagery and sent it over to an animator who created all the cartoon portion of the video."

While that explained the "Working Together" portion of the video, the "Every Voice" still needed to be addressed. It was unanimous among the team that the voices being heard had to be of MoveUP and its members. The humming of the theme of the Solidarity Forever was recorded by MoveUP staff members while all

the videos are of members at various workplaces that are represented by MoveUP – just a small sample size of all the different sites where we have workers.

"It was a lot of work but getting a chance to go out and see so many of our members was one of the best perks of the job," said Communications Officer Daniel Fung, who had the enviable task of visiting the many different workplaces – often alongside Gludovatz or fellow Communications Officer Kim Chartier – and collect all the video clips used in the montage. "I'm sure some of our members probably got tired of me asking them to repeat the different lines over and over again, but it was all fun and the people who were involved were just amazing to work with."



Among the members featured in the montage includes workers from ICBC, BC Hydro, FortisBC, Capilano University, Community Savings Credit Union, the BC Ferry and Marine Workers' Union, CUPE BC, and the BC Federation of Labour.

"It would have been great to get out to even more workplaces and see more of our members but unfortunately there were time constraints to getting the project completed," said Fung. "But the next Convention is just three years away so let this serve as advanced notice for next time."

Road to Convention: The story behind the montage



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LOOKING BACK AT DON'T WRECK PUBLIC AUTO INSURANCE

There's a common misconception that suggests the unions and corporations are destined to always be at odds with one another. In fact, that couldn't be farther from the truth.

While a union's first and foremost duty is to represent its members and help collectively bargain for a fair deal for those members, the idea that what's good for the workers must be bad for the company is a fallacy. Nowhere is this more evident than in the long history between MoveUP and the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC).

That's not to say the relationship between MoveUP and ICBC have always been rosy. In fact, things got off to a rocky start in the mid-1970s after MoveUP – then OTEU Local 378 – fought off a number of other unions for the right to represent the workers at the newly-introduced public auto insurer but quickly found themselves on the picket line with negotiations proving unfruitful – job action that would last three months.

But MoveUP and ICBC have fought on the same side more often than not even if they may be strange bedfellows. This was most evident back in the early 2000s when MoveUP – by then COPE 378 – undertook one of the union's most significant campaigns dubbed 'Don't Wreck Public Auto Insurance.'

At a time when Gordon Campbell and the BC Liberals swept into power and tried to sell out many of the province's assets to private interests, MoveUP mobilized and toured the province speaking to people from all across the province about the benefits of public auto insurance not only for individual drivers – including providing coverage for those in rural areas where private insurers would not entertain or would charge exorbitant premiums – as well as for communities in the form of road safety initiatives and other programs such as driver's licensing and road tests.

Today, MoveUP stands ready to mobilize again at a moment's notice the next time the threat of privatization of ICBC rears its ugly head again. While fortunate to have presently with a government that understands the value of public services, the previous BC Liberal government's ineptness and questionable practices left ICBC in a state that will necessitate many changes in order to bring it back to viability and stability.

The current NDP government now has announced some of those much-needed changes even though they might not be popular among certain special interest groups or parts of the population who may not comprehend the entire picture.

When the time comes – and it's almost certain it will again – MoveUP and its members, working both inside and outside ICBC – will campaign again touting the benefits and advantages of a public auto insurer and the potential devastating effects if we were to lose that privilege.



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