

THE LATEST BUZZ

NEWSLETTER - MOVEUP CONVENTION 2018

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

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MOVEMENT OF UNITED PROFESSIONALS

Working Together
Every Voice Makes Us Strong

WELCOME TO CONVENTION

Over these next three days, delegates will have the opportunity to hear about the great work that has been done by our union over the last three years. You will hear about the issues that we continue to face both within the union and in the labour movement as a whole. You will have the opportunity to share your voice and help make the decisions that will guide our union for the next three years.

You will also have the opportunity for personal development. You will have the opportunity to learn, whether it's through workshops, listening to speakers, or just talking with your neighbours. We hope you fully embrace the opportunity that exists for you over these next three days.

Educate and challenge yourselves. Share your voice and speak out. But don't forget to enjoy yourselves and have a good time. Soak in the experience and truly immerse yourself in this unique experience and get a better understanding of what it really means to be a part of MoveUP.



Three years can go by quite quickly. For many in this room, it may seem just like yesterday when delegates from across our union all congregated for Convention. Three years ago, one of the big reveals at Convention was our rebranding where we went from being COPE 378 to MoveUP.

Now that we've been MoveUP for three years, our focus is on continuing to grow the brand, grow our influence, grow our membership, grow as individuals, and grow together as a union.

Our union has accomplished much because of the dedication and the passion of the people in this room, and those who came before us. The comradery, the honesty, and the sincerity of those in this room, along with their commitment and loyalty to our union, is what gives us our strength.

COMING UP TODAY

Three jam-packed days of Convention gets underway with a bang today with a full schedule that includes four featured speakers in addition to presentations from many of your peers involved on various committees.

Among the **featured speakers** on the opening day of this year's Convention include: **David Black**, president of our union; **Joy MacPhail**, former BC NDP leader and now Chair of ICBC; **Kennedy Stewart**, the mayor-elect of Vancouver; and **Kateri Lefebvre**, secretary-treasurer of COPE-SEPB, MoveUP's national union.

MoveUP members recently re-elected **David Black** as president of our union, bringing him back for his third straight term. Originally coming out of the ICBC ranks, David has been a MoveUP member since 1995 and has served the union in numerous capacities and has been a big part of expanding MoveUP's role on both the national stage and the international stage. David is presently also serving as the president of MoveUP's national union – COPE-SEPB – as well as sitting on the BCFED Political Action Committee and the CLC's Canada Council.



Joy MacPhail has served British Columbians since 1991 when she was first elected to the B.C. Legislature. She subsequently served in the cabinet for three NDP premiers – Mike Harcourt, Glen Clark, and Ujjal Dosanjh – including serving as Deputy Premier for the latter. She was one of only two NDP MLAs – the other was Jenny Kwan – to hold on to a seat after the devastating 2001 provincial election. She would go on to assume the status of interim leader of the BC NDP until being succeeded by Carole James. She retired from politics in 2005. In July 2017, she was named chair of ICBC.



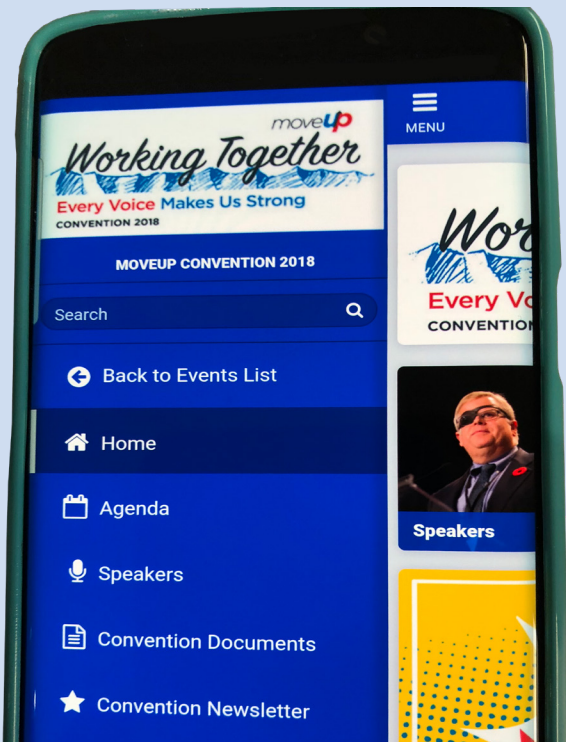
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THE 2018 MOVEUP CONVENTION HAS GONE MOBILE

Download the app now!

How? Grab your phone and go to your app store to download eventmobi!

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.



SOCIAL MEDIA TAGS

#MoveUP2018 #EveryVoice2018



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COMING UP TODAY - THURSDAY

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Kennedy Stewart will be assuming the post of Mayor of Vancouver in short order after coming off a hard-fought campaign that saw him fend off Ken Sim and the powerful right-wing NPA machine. Prior to his new role, Stewart represented his constituents in the riding of Burnaby-South as an NDP MP. He had been an NDP MP since 2011 when he won the federal riding of Burnaby-Douglas.



While an MP, Stewart sponsored MoveUP's petition asking Canadian Blood Services to end the blood ban preventing men who have sex with men from donating blood unless they have been celibate for a year.

Kateri Lefebvre was elected as COPE-SEPBB's secretary-treasurer in June 2016. She's presently the Executive Director of SEPBB-Quebec. Back in March 2014 when she was appointed as the Assistant Executive Director of SEPBB-Quebec, she became the first woman



to assume a leadership role in that organization since their founding in 1945. Lefebvre has a bachelor's degree in Industrial Relations and first joined SEPBB-Quebec in 1985 as a union representative.

Also presenting today: Secretary-Treasurer **Lori Mayhew** will be delivering the Finance Report; Vice-President of Utilities **Gwenne Farrell** will be delivering the Executive Council Report; the Communications Department; the Organizing Department; and, several MoveUP committees. Check your agenda included in your package or the Convention mobile app for the full schedule.

Vice-President candidates' town halls will also take place following the official adjournment for the day (see page 3 of this newsletter for locations and times). Christy Slusarenko (incumbent) and Bilbeer Sandhu are vying for the position of Vice-President, Combined Units, while Rysa Kronebusch and Bruce Sarvis are vying for the position of Vice-President, Utilities.

Annette Toth has been acclaimed as Vice-President, ICBC unit. Annette has served in this capacity since 2013.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

MoveUP's facebook page has been growing with more and more members joining this year.

Many members find our facebook page a great place for the latest news, but also with videos and interviews **on issues that members care about**. MoveUP now has 12,000 members, and on facebook we have almost 2,500 people following us. So we have a lot of room for growth.

So take the facebook challenge:

- like us on facebook,
- encourage your co-workers to like the MoveUP facebook page.



SCHEDULE

New Delegate Orientation
Regency Ballroom - 8:30 a.m.

President's Address
Regency Ballroom - 9:30 a.m.

Karen Rockwell Tribute
Regency Ballroom - 10:00 a.m.

Joy MacPhail Address
Regency Ballroom - 11:00 a.m.

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FOREVER A MEMBER A TRIBUTE TO KAREN ROCKWELL

In the long history of MoveUP, only 13 individuals have ever earned the distinction of being Honourary Lifetime Member – the greatest honour that can be bestowed by our union.

Today that number will increase to 14 when MoveUP formally bestows that honour upon Karen Rockwell, a long-time union activist, executive, and staff member.

Rockwell's association with MoveUP came back when the organization was still known as OTEU Local 378. In the time since then, she's held the positions of job steward, executive councillor, executive board member, vice-president and, ultimately, union representative prior to her retirement.

Rockwell was involved with a number of defining moments and campaigns for the union but perhaps the one that will resonate the most with the delegates here at Convention is the 'Don't Wreck Public Auto Insurance' campaign back in the early 2000s. Rockwell worked alongside then-president Jerri New to prevent the Gordon Campbell

government from dismantling ICBC by campaigning across the province on the benefits of public auto insurance to both individual drivers and to communities.

For those who knew Rockwell, in particular the delegates in this room who have had a history with her, they will most likely recall her passion for educating and her desire to involve more members and create more activists in order to strengthen both our union and the labour movement as whole. In fact, many of those in this room may point to her as the reason why they are here in the first place.

The legacy that Rockwell leaves behind will be felt by MoveUP for generations to come. While we acknowledge all her accomplishments today, the best way we can honour her is to build on everything she has done and to continue doing what we can to strengthen and expand our union.



The legacy that Rockwell leaves behind will be felt by MoveUP for generations to come.

ELECTIONS - VICE-PRESIDENTS

Combined Units - Two Candidates:



Christy Slusarenko



Bilbeer Sandhu

VP TOWNHALL - Combined Units
Regency D Ballroom - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Utilities - Two Candidates:



Bruce Sarvis



Rysa Kronebusch

VP TOWNHALL - Utilities
Balmoral - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Candidate Bios can be found on the MoveUP 2018 convention app or online at:
moveuptogether.ca/convention-2018

VOTING - VP Elections

Voting opens Thursday, Nov. 1, 6:00 p.m.
Voting closes Saturday, Nov. 3, 9:00 a.m.

Annette Toth has been acclaimed as Vice-President for the ICBC unit.

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FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS 100 YEARS OF MOVEUP

It may be hard to picture now but, once upon a time, our 12,000-plus member strong union now known as MoveUP that represents workers at hundreds of workplaces across the province of British Columbia and other parts of Western Canada was comprised of a mere fraction of the number of people that fills the room of this Convention.

Not even a significant fraction, actually. A generous estimate might put the actual number at about a dozen members. MoveUP's humble beginnings began as a small social club in 1913 at what was the British Columbia Electric Railway Company.

It's a far cry from the work that our union does now. In those days, the group was comprised mainly of the non-unionized female office pool (the IBEW unionized a segment of the workers at BC Electric in 1901). Their biggest tasks were planning picnics and dances for the workers at the company.

It wasn't until 1918 when the group started became a bit more formal and started concerning themselves with matters outside of social concerns – namely working conditions. They formally branded as the BC Electric Office Employees' Association (OEA) and collected a modest fee of \$1 per employee annually.

Formally unionizing, however, didn't actually occur until 1944 when the group applied to the Labour Board and was granted certification. The first-ever collective agreement signed by the OEA was signed in 1946.

Today, there are still some connections between the modern day MoveUP and the group that started it all 100 years ago.

For one, BC Electric was the predecessor organization for BC Hydro, FortisBC, BC Transit, Translink, Coast Mountain Bus Company, and Southern Railway. Today, employees at those companies continue to be represented by MoveUP.

MoveUP's Events & Social Planning Committee also continues the legacy of that early social group at BC Electric by planning social events that allow members to come together and enjoy one another's company outside of the work environment although, today, that work involves hundreds if not thousands of members.



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