

Proposed Changes to the USW Local Union 1944 Bylaws



BALLOT #1

WHEREAS the Telecommunications Workers Union merged with the United Steelworkers on January 1, 2015, completed its five years transition period on December 31, 2019 and is now fully integrated into the life of the geographic Districts of the United Steelworkers, the Canadian National Office and the International Union; and

WHEREAS Local 1944 is a national local representing members across all three Canadian Districts of the United Steelworkers; and

WHEREAS Local 1944 has Local Union 1944 offices in the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec; and

WHEREAS one of the Objects of Local 1944 under Article II of its By-Laws is: To engage in educational, legislative, political, civic, social, welfare, community and other activities; to advance and safeguard the economic security and social welfare of workers in industry, the International Union, its Local Unions and the free labour movements of Canada and the world to seek to eliminate all forms of discrimination; to protect and extend our democratic institutions and civil rights and liberties; and to perpetuate and extend the cherished traditions of democracy and social and economic justice in Canada and the world community; and

WHEREAS it is important to allow an equal chance to all members in good standing of Local 1944 to run for the office of Local 1944 President in order to ensure that the traditions of democracy are upheld, by eliminating all forms of discrimination, and protecting and extending our civil rights and liberties; and

WHEREAS the current language around President headquartering in the USW Local 1944 By-Laws is a disincentive for any member in good standing residing outside of the Lower Mainland of British Columbia to run for the position, therefore potentially depriving USW Local 1944 from talented and diverse candidates; and

WHEREAS the leadership of Local 1944 has proven, over the last few years, its ability to carry out the business of the Local with leaders located in each province containing a charter; and

WHEREAS the Local 1944 President must ensure a national presence, to represent all members across Canada, and can do so while headquartered in any Local 1944 office; and

WHEREAS the Local 1944 President has proven that the business of the Local can be carried out while working outside of the Lower Mainland of British Columbia for extended periods of time; and

WHEREAS the current state of affairs with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has shown to the world that the technology is available to ensure that we can all remain connected while physically distanced; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the first paragraph of Article IV Section 1(a) of the Telecommunications Workers Union (TWU), United Steelworkers Local Union 1944 By-Laws be modified as follows:

"Section 1(a). The Officers of this Amalgamated Local Union shall be: President who shall be headquartered in the Local Union 1944 office closest to their residence, Vice-President, who shall be headquartered in the Local Union 1944 office closest to their residence, Secretary-Treasurer who shall be headquartered in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia, Regional Executive Officers, and three (3) Trustees. Regional Executive Officers will be allocated by province with each province within this Amalgamated Local Union containing a charter entitled to, at minimum, one Regional Executive Officer. The number of Regional



Proposed Changes to the USW Local Union 1944 Bylaws



Executive Officers will be based on the formula one Regional Executive Officer for the first 1-2500 members in that province, plus one additional Regional Executive Officer for each additional 2500 members or portion thereof in that province."; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following language be added under Article V Section 1 of the Telecommunications Workers Union (TWU), United Steelworkers Local Union 1944 By-Laws:

"(a) The President shall be present and work from the Lower Mainland of British Columbia no less than two (2) weeks per quarter."; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that current sub-sections (a) through (e) under Article V Section 1 of the Telecommunications Workers Union (TWU), United Steelworkers Local Union 1944 By-Laws be renumbered accordingly.



Proposed Changes to the USW Local Union 1944 Bylaws



BALLOT #2

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the second paragraph of ARTICLE VII Meetings, Section 1 (b) of the Telecommunications Workers Union (TWU), United Steelworkers Local Union 1944 By-Laws be changed from:

"Regional Minimum Representation shall be on the following basis as determined by the official Regional membership count as determined by the Secretary-Treasurer on November the 1st preceding the Local Union Delegated Meeting: 1 delegate for each 100 members."

to:

"Regional Minimum Representation shall be on the following basis as determined by the official Regional membership count as determined by the Secretary-Treasurer on the first day of the fourth month immediately preceding the month of the Local Union Delegated Meeting: 1 delegate for each 100 members."