

**MINUTES OF THE UNITE HERE LOCAL 75 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025**  
**HELD via ZOOM (Video Conference)**

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**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

The meeting was called to order by Brother Guled Warsame at 5:04 pm.

**NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

**ROLL CALL:**

**OFFICERS:**

Brother Guled Warsame	President
Sister Shelli Sareen	Secretary-Treasurer
Sister Valrie Lue	Vice-President
Sister Anna Dudek	Executive Board Member
Brother Andrew Stankowski	Executive Board Member
Sister Brigida Ruiz	Executive Board Member
Sister Christine Smalling	Executive Board Member
Sister Daisy Virgo	Executive Board Member
Brother Habtom Ogbamichael	Executive Board Member
Sister Ianka Stoyanova	Executive Board Member
Sister Kay Ann Drummond	Executive Board Member
Brother Kiran Panikar	Executive Board Member
Sister Leonora Mulholland	Executive Board Member
Brother Lloyd Manning	Executive Board Member
Sister Luz Flores	Executive Board Member
Brother Mahbubul Haque	Executive Board Member
Sister Medhin Ghebre	Executive Board Member
Brother Nigel Blair	Executive Board Member
Brother Rolando Mercado	Executive Board Member
Brother Thomas Wimalendra	Executive Board Member
Sister Vemelyn Feliciano	Executive Board Member
Brother Yohannes Habte	Executive Board Member
Sister Marilyn Monserrat	Executive Board Member
Sister Dongping Wang	Executive Board Member
Brother Hayato Ochiai	Executive Board Member
Brother Louis Calderon	Executive Board Member
Brother Daniel Gebreyesus	Executive Board Member
Sister Hanane Karim	Executive Board Member

**TRUSTEES:**

Brother Yosief Ogbasellasi	Trustee
Brother Abu Ahmed Azam	Trustee
Brother Rahman Aliheidari	Trustee

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Brother Guled Warsame stated that quorum was reached and called the meeting to order 5:04 pm.

**FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

**President's Opening Remarks**

Brother Guled Warsame wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed everyone to our first General Membership Meeting of 2025. Brother Warsame stated that the meeting will be as short as possible so that some may want to attend the HTA 75 Open House. He stated that the General Membership Meeting minutes were email to all registrants for their review. He stated that, as always, everyone had the opportunity to schedule an appointment to review the minutes and financials of union prior to the meeting.

**NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

**Minutes of the October 8, 2024 General Membership Meeting**

Motion to approve the October 8, 2024, General Membership Meeting Minutes and all business transacted therein as approved by the Executive Board.

Moved by Sister Christine Smalling, seconded by Brother Hayato Ochiai. Carried.

**Minutes of the September 5, 2024 Executive Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the September 5, 2024 Executive Board Meeting Minutes and all business transacted therein as approved by the Executive Board.

Moved by Brother Yohannes Habte, seconded by Sister Kay Ann Drummond. Carried.

**Minutes of the November 7, 2024 Executive Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the November 7, 2024 Executive Board Meeting Minutes and all business transacted therein as approved by the Executive Board.

Moved by Sister Hanane Karim, seconded by Sister Marilyn Monserrat. Carried.

**Minutes of the December 5, 2024, 2024 Executive Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the December 5, 2024 Executive Board Meeting Minutes and all business transacted therein as approved by the Executive Board.

Moved by Brother Hayato Ochiai, seconded by Brother Yohannes Habte. Carried.

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**NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

**Secretary-Treasurers Report - Financial Highlights**

Sister Shelli Sareen wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed everyone to the first General Membership of 2025. Sister Sareen presented financial highlights that shows how much money we have in the respective funds. She explained that the General Fund is used for our day to day expenses and presented a Power Point to explain the Balance Sheet as of the end of November 2024 showing the overall status of the union's funds. Sister Sareen further explained that the General fund includes our chequing and savings accounts, and investments. She also explained that we have various other funds that are for the benefit of our members - Compassion, Culture, Education, Equal Opportunity and Hardship funds. As everyone can see, we have healthy financials.

Sister Sareen reiterated as Brother Guled Warsame stated, everyone had the opportunity to view the financial statements by scheduling a meeting at the office.

Motion to approve ALL financial statements including Balance sheet, and Profit & Loss statements for each fund (General, Compassion, Culture, Education, Equal Opportunity, Hardship) for the month of **August 2024** as approved by the Executive Board.

Moved by Sister Christine Smalling, seconded by Sister Hanane Karim. Carried.

Motion to approve ALL financial statements including Balance sheet, and Profit & Loss statements for each fund (General, Compassion, Culture, Education, Equal Opportunity, Hardship) for the month of **September 2024** as approved by the Executive Board.

Moved by Sister Vemelyn Feliciano, seconded by Sister Daisy Virgo. Carried.

Motion to approve ALL financial statements including Balance sheet, and Profit & Loss statements for each fund (General, Compassion, Culture, Education, Equal Opportunity, Hardship) for the month of **October 2024** as approved by the Executive Board.

Moved by Sister Marilyn Monserrat, seconded by Brother Yohannes Habte. Carried.

Motion to approve ALL financial statements including Balance sheet, and Profit & Loss statements for each fund (General, Compassion, Culture, Education, Equal Opportunity, Hardship) for the month of **November 2024** as approved by the Executive Board.

Moved by Sister Hanane Karim, seconded by Brother Abdalla Idri. Carried.

**NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

It was noted that the October Executive Board was cancelled.

**MOTIONS**

Motion to approve \$1200 from the Culture Fund, for a table of 10, for Toronto & York Region Labour Council's Health & Safety Activists Awards Dinner on November 15, 2024.

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Moved by Brother Abdalla Idris, seconded by Sister Daisy Virgo. Carried.

Brother Warsame explained that this is a dinner that, as a Local, we like to participate in and participate in as many events that affect our members and to celebrate the Health & Safety activists which many of our members are activist warriors.

Motion to approve \$3000 from the Hardship Fund to be distributed among 6 full-time members from Canada Post Gateway Cafeteria that have been locked-out due to the CUPW strike.

Brother Warsame explained that we have members who work in the Cafeteria at the Mississauga Plant and because of the CUPW strike, the cafeteria was closed. Also, we would not want our members to cross the picket line.

Moved by Sister Daisy Virgo, seconded by Sister Christine Smalling. Carried.

**NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

**New Business**

Brother Guled Warsame stated that we have new business. This motion was passed at the last Executive Board meeting. As many of you know, our Local, we are fortunate enough to have our own hospitality workers training centre that trains our members and their families and also engages in the hospitality sector at large. It has been funded by both levels of government since we established the Centre during the start of pandemic in 2020. We also have, as many other locals of UNITE HERE National, we have funds that are specifically designed to train our members.

**Motion**

**Whereas** the purpose of the Equal Opportunity Fund is to support high-quality training initiatives for Local 75 members and their families, thereby enhancing their mobility within the hospitality workforce;

**And whereas** the Hospitality Training Action Centre (HTA 75) serves as Local 75's dedicated platform for delivering training and upskilling programs;

**Be it resolved** that:

1. All contributions made to the Equal Opportunity Fund shall be transferred to HTA 75 on a monthly basis to support its training and development initiatives.
2. HTA 75 shall maintain comprehensive and transparent accounting of all incoming and outgoing funds.
3. HTA 75 shall submit a detailed quarterly financial report to the Executive Board of Local 75, including a breakdown of income, expenditures, and program outcomes supported by these funds.
4. The Executive Board shall review these quarterly reports to ensure funds are being utilized in alignment with the goals of the Equal Opportunity Fund and the mission of HTA 75.

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The idea of this motion is that we have this training arm, we have a fund, but we don't have to use it now because we have been lucky enough to have government funding, but sometimes there is a gap before the next funding grant starts, they want you to use all the funding while withholding 15%. This money will help to build this gap but will also prepare the Local for the long run to maintain that sustainability that we need to keep running the training centre.

Moved by Sister Hanane Karim, seconded by Brother Abdalla Idris. Carried.

**NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Brother Guled Warsame thanked everyone for attending and as promised, to end the meeting as soon as possible so that many can attend the HTA 75 Open House.

Motion to adjourn the business side of the meeting.

Moved by Brother Hayato Ochiai, seconded by Sister Marilyn Monserrat. Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:29 pm.

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Guled Warsame  
President  
UNITE HERE Local 75

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Shellli Sareen  
Secretary-Treasurer  
UNITE HERE Local 75