



# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2020

**BROTHERS AND SISTERS,**

2019 was indeed a banner year for UNITE HERE Local 75. It was a flurry of activity and change, and we are happy to provide you this brief update on the year. We hope you are proud of the gains we have made – we could not have done it without the steadfast support of our 8000 members. We look forward to an even better 2020. Together, we will continue to lead the way as the GTA's largest hospitality union.

Please share this update with your colleagues. To receive more updates, sign up for our e-mail information bulletins at [uniteherelocal75.org](http://uniteherelocal75.org).

In Solidarity,

Guled, Shelli, Valrie  
Your Local 75 Executive Leaders

## MAKING HISTORY TOGETHER – THE BEST CONTRACTS IN THE INDUSTRY!

2019 was truly a milestone year for Local 75. We came together as one, standing strong in our fight for the wages and benefits our members deserve. Thanks to the strength and support of our bargaining units, we were able to negotiate the best contracts in the industry.

Thanks to your support, we were able to negotiate a whopping 14.5% raise and benefits increases for eye glasses, paramedical benefits, children's orthodontics and more. A significant workload reduction and an annual shoe allowance makes it easier for our members to do the important work they do, while a major increase to our pension hopefully puts them at ease as they look ahead to retirement.

This contract is by far the highest standard in the GTA's hospitality sector. We could not have bargained for this contract without the support of our dedicated membership. We hope you are proud of this milestone.

[UNITEHERELOCAL75.ORG](http://UNITEHERELOCAL75.ORG)

# WISHING BROTHER NUREDIN BULLE WELL

In March, Nuredin Bulle was elected President of Local 75. Unfortunately, soon after, he suffered a debilitating stroke and has been in the hospital since. Thankfully, he is in stable condition and is surrounded by family and friends. We ask that you keep him in your thoughts in this difficult time. We will keep you updated on his condition.

## YOUR NEW EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

**UNITE HERE Local 75's newly-formed Executive Leadership comes with decades of hospitality and labour experience. They each bring a deep commitment to our membership's priorities. Meet the team:**



**Guled Warsame**  
**President**  
[gwarsame@uniteherelocal75.org](mailto:gwarsame@uniteherelocal75.org)

Guled Warsame is the President of Unite Here Local 75 after he was unanimously appointed by the Executive Board and unanimously confirmed by the membership.

Guled served as the Staff Director and as a Union Representative for the past 14 years and has been involved in all major campaigns and bargained most of the local's industry-leading collective agreements. Guled started working with the union as a community organizer, leading the ten-year Rexdale Rising campaign that succeeded in winning a Community Benefits Agreement for the new Woodbine Casino development, the first in Canada. He also organized and represented hotel, food service and gaming workers in the union at every level and has been part of every campaign in the last decade.



**Shelli Sareen**  
**Secretary-Treasurer**  
[ssareen@uniteherelocal75.org](mailto:ssareen@uniteherelocal75.org)

Shelli Sareen is Secretary-Treasurer of UNITE HERE Local 75. She has been with the Union for more than 13 years, holding a number of positions. Shelli had the opportunity to work with the International Union's research department, and most recently, led the research against some of the largest hotel companies in North America, before being elected as Secretary-Treasurer. Shelli also sits on board of trustees of the Unite Here Health and Welfare Plan & Unite Here Pension Plan since early 2018



**Valrie Lue**  
**Vice President**  
vlue@uniteherelocal75.org

Valrie Lue has served as Vice President of Local 75 since 2006. She has more than 15 years' experience as a rank and file member of the local, giving her a deep and vast understanding of our members' priorities.

She first became engaged with the union in 1988 when she was a member at the Airport Hilton. Her passion for equity and justice saw her rise to shop leader, Union Rep and she hasn't stopped advocating for our members since.

## BENEFITS UPDATES

1

Look out for your wage increase as of February 1, 2020!

2

A new benefit booklet is available. Speak to your Union Rep to get a copy. See highlights of your extended benefits below!

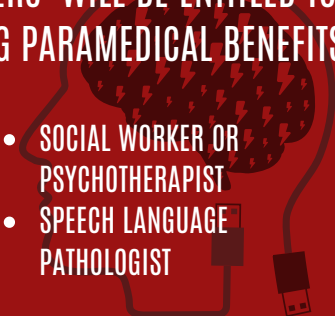
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1ST, 2020 UNITE HERE LOCAL 75 MEMBERS WILL BE ENTITLED TO A COMBINED MAXIMUM OF \$1500 FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PARAMEDICAL BENEFITS:



- ACUPUNCTURIST
- AUDIOLOGIST
- CHIROPRACTOR
- MASSAGE THERAPIST



- NATUROPATH
- OSTEOPATH
- PSYCHOLOGIST
- PHYSIOTHERAPY



- SOCIAL WORKER OR PSYCHOTHERAPIST
- SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

THE IMPROVEMENTS ALSO MEAN \$1,500 FOR EACH MEMBER OF YOUR IMMEDIATE FAMILY



# GETTING EVEN STRONGER IN 2020!

Though we have made significant strides in 2019, there is more work to be done. The assault on our union and the gains we have made are constant – and we must double down to keep them. Thankfully, we have strength in numbers.

Local 75 is 8000 members strong, but we are even mightier because we are affiliated with our International Union, North America's largest hospitality union. UNITE HERE represents more than 310,000 workers in Canada and the United States.

Our union does one thing and one thing only – represent hospitality workers. We intentionally do not bring on units in any other industry because our expertise lies in hospitality. We know your priorities because they are ours, too. And have been for more than a century. Imagine what 8000 engaged members can achieve in 2020!

Cut along dotted line and return to your Union Representative



## Get Plugged In →

### For Messages that Matter

You want the latest news from UNITE HERE Local 75, whether it's about training and job opportunities, contract bargaining, workplace actions, politics affecting your work life, and recent victories.

You're also balancing work, your families and communities, and everything else life brings your way.

**Plugged In** lets you stay informed on your own time with short text and email messages.

Disclaimer: Your information will not be shared with anyone outside of UNITE HERE Local 75. By completing this card, you consent to UNITE HERE Local 75 sending you brief text SMS messages and/or email messages. Check your mobile phone plan to ensure you have unlimited SMS messages as you are responsible for any overages. You may opt-out at any time by contacting UNITE HERE Local 75.

First Name

Last Name

Address

City  Prov

Mobile Number  Postal

Email

Where do you work?

I am interested in receiving e-mails and texts from UNITE HERE Local 75.

Here are some of my interests (check all that apply):

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Training   | <input type="checkbox"/> Actions           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Politics   | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bargaining | <input type="checkbox"/> Victories         |

Sign Here: \_\_\_\_\_

