

## **International Women's Day 2014**

## Unifor women are standing up for equality, rights and good jobs.

Unions are a big reason women's equality in Canada has advanced. Unifor, with its 305,000 members, is committed to making sure we continue to get the job done.

When right-wing politicians attack unions, they also attack an important catalyst for delivering women's equality.

That is why this International Women's Day, Unifor women are standing up for our rights – the right to have a union, the right to equal pay, reproductive rights, the right to good jobs which includes affordable childcare and a world safe from violence. Unifor will not stand idly by while women are under assault and our equality is eroded.

Women are taking on bigger roles and are a vital part of every structure in our new union. Already, women hold 11 of the 25 seats on the National Executive Board, including two of the top six positions within the union. Women's committees are forming right across the country – at every regional council and in local unions across Canada and Quebec.

Unifor represents more than 86,000 women in every region of the country, in more than 20 different economic sectors. Women are making a difference in the union, helping to shape the conversation at every level. Women have already taken on two major initiatives since the creation of Unifor – a campaign on childcare and a national survey on the impact of domestic violence in the workplace.

Unifor is making a difference in the lives of women too – through training opportunities, events and a continued commitment to negotiating the Women's Advocate Program in all of our workplaces. To date, we have more than 300 Women's Advocates, trained to assist women with issues of workplace harassment, intimate violence and abuse.

Unifor women are getting their voices heard – in their workplaces, in the union and in the community. We are standing up for our union, for equality, and for economic and social justice. Every day, every week and every year to come – our actions are building a fairer and more equal world. Unifor women are building a movement.

This International Women's Day – the Unifor Women's Department is calling on women and allies across the country to join with us to stand up for women's rights, and to continue to fight for good jobs, strong public services and strong unions.

Women need unions and unions need women.