

**General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**

TELEPHONE TOWN HALL

The General Membership meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Jeff Traeger, who chaired the meeting.

1. **Roll Call of Officers Present:** Sandy Barylski, **Vice-President;** Kathy Brnjas, **Vice-President;** Alex Ciumac, **Vice-President;** Wes Connell, **Vice-President;** Charlene Desjarlais, **Vice-President;** Dianne Gibson-Pierce, **Vice-President;** Dave Hamalainen, **Vice-President;** Debbie Jones, **Vice-President;** Lisa Larosa, **Vice-President;** Frank Manaire, **Vice-President;** Dean Rodwell, **Vice-President;** Roger Siemens, **Vice-President;** Deb Stewart, **Vice-President;** John Sulyma, **Vice- President;** Malcolm Welch

2. **2024 Town Hall Meetings:** President Traeger started February 6, 2024 GMM by reading the UFCW Local 832 Land Acknowledgement.

I want to say a big thank you to all of the Local 832 members in Manitoba for the important work they do each and every day to keep our communities safe, fed, entertained, transported, and cared for. Together you are pillars of our province and you should know how important you are to our society and how honored we are at UFCW to be able to represent you

Tonight is our 2024 winter meeting, and we have a very special guest to hear from this evening who's going to speak to us about the rampant theft in Manitoba grocery stores and the violent incidents that are related to that, and what we as union activists can do to keep our members safe.

With me in the studio tonight for tonight's meeting are my executive advisor, Ron Allard, our director of IT and facilities, and our office manager Max Paches, our special guest, Jack Slessor, who is a former workplace safety and health officer and an expert in the field of safety in the workplace. And our communications coordinator, Chris Noto, who is at the controls for tonight's meeting. Our Secretary-Treasurer, Marie Buchanan and her bargaining committee for No-Frills in Manitoba recently achieved a tentative agreement with the employer.

Marie cannot be with us here tonight as she is in the process of ratifying the agreement with in-person meetings at the No-Frills stores. And speaking of No-Frills, late last fall, one of our members

at the Notre Dame store was stabbed by a shoplifter and suffered serious injuries as a result. Unfortunately, this is only one of many recent examples of our members who work at grocery stores are facing on a daily basis.

This is one of the reasons why we're going to focus on this issue for tonight's meeting. And Ron Allard will be interviewing Jack, who is also providing training to our reps and stewards who work in retail grocery. As we normally do, we'll take breaks in between our conversation to answer any questions you may have for tonight's guest or about anything relevant to all UFCW members.

Remember that if you have a specific question about a grievance or an issue that affects your workplace alone, I would ask that you contact your full-Time union representative whose name and contact information are available on the UFCW Bulletin board in your workplace or online at ufcw832.com.

Let's get started. First order of business required by our bylaws is that we vote to approve the three reports at this meeting. And they are the minutes of the previous full membership meeting, which was held on November 14th, 2023, the Secretary Treasurer's report on the current finances, and the president's report. We will not be reading these reports, which will give us more time for our guests and for you to ask any questions you may have.

All three of these documents have previously been posted on our website at ufcw832.com for you to review. And they will stay posted there in our archives so you can see all of the documents from all of our telephone town hall general membership meetings at any time you like. Just a reminder, if any of you would like to ask a question, please press the star key followed by the number three, and you'll be placed in a queue to ask your question.

3. m/s/c TO accept the minutes of the previous meetings of Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00 p.m. as read on-line.

4. Special Guest: Jack Slessor

Ron Allard introduced Jack Slessor who is a certified safety health consultant with over 16 years of experience as a workplace safety and health professional. Jack began his career in 2007 as a workplace safety and health officer with the Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Branch. As the committee specialist, he provided training and guidance to workplace safety and health committees in all industries in Manitoba. Shared best practices and provided on-

site support to them in their efforts to make their workplace a safer place for everyone.

In 2014, he joined several of his WSH colleagues who were asked to move over and partner with the WCB Safe Work Services staff to create the new prevention-focused SAFE Work Manitoba. Jack continued to provide wide-ranging training and consultation support, such as guidance to workplace committees about their roles and responsibilities as outlined in the Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Act and Regulation.

These presentations include SAFE committee basics, hazard identification and risk control, supervisors and SAFE work, harassment and violence prevention, and investigating workplace incidents, workshops, as well as special presentations customized for the needs of conferences, organizations and workplaces.

Jack retired from Safe Work Manitoba in September 2022, but continues to bring his passion for people and their safety to every presentation he provides as an independent trainer and consultant. Jack, while your short bio that I read list your experiences with workplace safety and health in many sectors, including retail, I understand that you also worked in various retail roles in your varied career.

Jack Slessor answers members questions and is thankful for the opportunity to collaborate with our members.

5. **Secretary Treasurers Report:**
m/s/c TO accept the Secretary-Treasurer's report as posted.
6. **Presidents Report:**
m/s/c TO accept the President's report as posted.
7. **Open Questions**
Throughout the meeting there was questions asked and answered. All questions asked and responses provided are recorded and kept on file.

m/s/c to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Recorded by Jenna Curé for Debbie Jones, Recorder

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A full transcription and a list of members taking part in the telephone town hall are kept on file in a binder and stored with these minutes.