

AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION LOCAL 279

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Sending ATU 279 representatives to the first-ever Pride Caucus underscores the union's commitment to unity, inclusivity, and openness toward all members, regardless of gender identity or expression. This participation highlighted the necessity of understanding the unique challenges faced by our diverse membership across various properties, providing an invaluable learning experience for both representatives and the board, intensifying our collective empathy and awareness.

It was proposed at this caucus that we at ATU begin to address our members as Sisters, Brothers and Siblings. We will begin to practice this in our local in advance of it being brought forward at the International Convention.

Moreover, the decision to send a contingent reflects our board's strategic foresight, balancing advocacy with local business priorities. Noah's decision to stay, ensuring ongoing negotiations remained unaffected, underscores a deliberate and thoughtful approach to representation.

The positive feedback received post-convention, acknowledging our contingent's presence as one of Canada's largest locals, reinforces the significance of our involvement. This experience lays the groundwork for future initiatives, such as the recent formation of the Women's Committee, with more committees anticipated, furthering our community's inclusivity and support.

Acknowledgment, participation, and education on the issues faced by marginalized groups within our union are imperative. Our board remains committed to supporting its members, advancing the causes championed by ONE ATU, and ensuring every voice within our collective is heard and valued. Together, we celebrate diversity and unity as fundamental to our strength as a union.

NOAH VINEBERG PRESIDENT/BUSINESS AGENT