

## **SECOND CALL**

# **OUWCC – 2026 CONFERENCE** **February 26<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

### **THE OUWCC CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT:**

**Hilton Toronto/Markham Suites Conference Centre & Spa**  
**8500 Warden Ave., Markham, L6G 1A5**

#### **Accommodations and Fees**

**Hotel Guest Room Fee: \$225**

**Hotel room rate is subject to tax and fee per room.**

**Guest room reservations are to be made through W.E Union Travel by January 23, 2026**

**Phone: 1(833) 778-9669 [Mention OUWCC Conference when booking your room(s)]**

**Guestroom booking link: [www.weuniontravel.ca](http://www.weuniontravel.ca)**

#### **Registration Fee:**

**\*On-line registration will be closed 5 business days prior to the conference**

<b>Affiliates:</b>	<b>\$350 by January 26, 2026, after cut-off date \$400</b>
<b>Non-Affiliates:</b>	<b>\$450 by January 26, 2026, after cut-off date \$500</b>

**If you require French translation, ASL interpretation, childcare services, or any other accessibility accommodations, please submit your request by filing out the access request form by January 26, 2026  
(The link to the access request form can be found in your confirmation email.)**

#### **Link to register:**

**<https://cupe.on.ca/event-registration-ouwcc-conference-2026/>**

**\*No refunds or cancellations will be available after February 16, 2026.**

**\*Full payment must be received by February 26, 2026, otherwise  
a late fee of \$100 will be applied to each delegate.**

## **2026 OUWCC Conference – Workshop Selector**

### **DAY ONE**

**Date & Time:** February 27, 2026 - 1:00pm to 4:00pm

**Location:** Hilton Toronto/Markham Suites Conference Centre & Spa

**\*Group workshops below\***

#### **Reading and Understanding University Finances – 90 minutes duration**

In this module, CUPE researchers will explain how universities in Ontario are funded, and how they budget and spend their money. The module will also cover accounting norms in the sector and some practical tips for deciphering public budget documents and requesting documents that aren't public. We've all heard university employers say they are in financial crisis. We will seek to understand the reality of this crisis, its sources and how we can leverage university resources to protect our members and advance worker interests on campus.

#### **University Governance – Building Your Power on Campus – 90 minutes duration**

In this module, sector staff will discuss the norms and peculiarities of university governance in Ontario. We will cover the legislative basis for university charters, universities' legal relationship to the province, the role of Boards of Governors, "collegiality" and the role of academic leaders, and the complicated hierarchies and processes of decision-making on campus. We will do power-mapping exercises of our own campuses, locating the centers of action and finding where the money lives. Finally, we will discuss practical ways for the union to assert our power wherever decisions that affect us are made.

**DAY TWO**

**Date & Time:** February 28, 2026 - 1:00pm to 4:00pm

**Location:** Hilton Toronto/Markham Suites Conference Centre & Spa

**\*Please choose one of the below workshops for the afternoon\***

**The State of Readiness Initiative – Where Are We, Where Do We Go Next? – 3 hours duration**

The OUWCC has asked each of our Locals to assess its “state of readiness” for defensive or offensive campaigns that require mass mobilization and majority participation. This could mean bargaining, a strike, an issue-based campaign or a collective response to job cuts. The focus is not on the specific campaigns we do, but on the structures, tools, skills and capacity we need to be ready for whatever comes our way.

This module will be a reminder of the “state of readiness” basics as well as the ways CUPE can support locals undertaking the initiative. It will also include facilitated open discussion on the successes and challenges locals in the sector have encountered. The goal is to recommit ourselves to achieving a state of readiness in our locals and across our sector, and to plan some practical next steps to that end.

**Preventing Workplace Violence – 3 hours duration**

This module examines the risk factors that lead to violence in the workplace, and the employer’s obligations to prevent workers from being exposed to and injured by violence while at work. We examine relevant health and safety law, and start to develop strategies to make our workplaces safer.

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