



Rhonda Nelson
International Chair,
Women's Network

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

As we approach the end of 2010 I wish you and your family a joyous holiday season.

Reflecting on what 2010 has brought us and looking forward to what 2011 has in store, we can all be proud of the Network's accomplishments, and future endeavors. Thank you for your participation and I wish you all the best in 2011.

Warmest Regards,
Rhonda Nelson. [WN](#)

Region 1 Daycare Scholarship Winners

Union Representative Muhammed Husain of Local 338 and shop stewards Ali Sprinkle and Alex Valdez congratulate daycare scholarship winner Lester Drewry. Lester was one of the members awarded the scholarship along with Leonard Cirico of Local One. Leonard works at Chanatry's French Road Market in Utica, NY and Lester works at the Institute of Applied Human Dynamics in Bronx, NY. Each of the winners was awarded \$1000 to assist in paying for daycare expenses. [WN](#)

UFCW Members, Staff Attend Women's Network Luncheon at December Chain Meeting

Over 50 UFCW members and staff attended the Women's Network Luncheon that was held at the packing division's chain meeting in December. UFCW women met to discuss not only how they can increase participation in

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UFCW Local 431 Secretary-Treasurer Lois Taylor addressing the Women's Network group at the luncheon.



Muhammed Husain, Ali Sprinkle and Alex Valdez congratulate scholarship winner Lester Drewry.

National Committees Meet, Grab Headlines in Halifax

UFCW Canada National Council Committees recently met in Halifax to evaluate ongoing projects, discuss upcoming initiatives, and, for one group, make front page news.

While taking part in the demonstration in support of the long gun registry, members of the National Women's Advisory Committee caught the attention of the local media and later found themselves leading the news in one of the city's most popular daily papers.

Pictured in the September 16 issue of Metro, is UFCW Canada Local 832 staff representative and Women's Advisory Committee member Mary

Johnson lighting a candle to commemorate the women who have suffered the effects of violence. With Sister Johnson are fellow committee members Nancy Quiring and Anouk Collet from the National Office, and UFCW Canada Local 1400 activist Judy Hryciuk.

"The media attention was welcomed by the committee because it drew attention to a very important issue affecting women," says Sister Quiring, who chairs the Women's Ad-

visory Committee, in addition to serving UFCW Canada as director of the Western Region. **WN**



UFCW Canada Local 832 staff representative and Women's Advisory Committee member Mary Johnson pictured above.

The World March of Women 2010

In 1995, the Quebec Women's Federation organized the March for Bread and Roses in Montreal, to protest against the poverty that affects millions of women and children worldwide. That march drew over 15,000 demonstrators, including UFCW Canada members, and the Federation decided to march every five years due to its success.

This year, on October 17 over 10,000 people came out to Rimouski, QC, to participate in the Third World

March of Women. UFCW Canada proudly joined the Quebec Federation of Labour and other organizations to participate. "Together, we create a very strong voice that governments here in Canada and around the world can't ignore," said Anouk Collet, UFCW Canada national representative and member of the

National Women's Advisory Committee. **WN**



Huguette Plamondon, 1926 – 2010



The UFCW Women's Network is saddened to learn of the passing of Huguette Plamondon, who dedicated over five decades to building the union, improving the lives of working families, and breaking down barriers for women in Canada.

Sister Plamondon died in Montreal on September 29 after succumbing to a heart attack. She was 84.

Starting out as a secretary in the Montreal office of the United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA, a predecessor union of UFCW Canada) in 1945, Huguette was the embodiment of Canada's new generation of working

women. Shortly after entering the workforce, Sister Plamondon found herself embroiled in a massive strike that involved Canada's entire meatpacking industry. Motivated by a strong belief in social justice, Huguette became an ardent supporter of the strike. She led pickets, and became a source of inspiration and encouragement for her sisters and brothers in the labour movement. She was 21 years old.

Because Sister Plamondon possessed a rare combination of intelligence, passion and eloquence, she rapidly rose through the labour movement's ranks. And she made history every step of the way. Huguette was elected president of the Montreal labour council in 1955, and in doing so became the first Canadian woman to lead a major labour organization. A year later, Sister Plamondon became the first woman in Canada to achieve a national union executive position by becoming a vice president of the newly-formed

Canadian Labour Congress (CLC).

In 1961, Huguette took another place in Canada's history, nominating Tommy Douglas as the first leader of the New Democratic Party at the NDP's founding convention. She served UFCW Canada as an international vice-president and an executive assistant to the national director for many years, and was the long-time president of UFCW Canada Local 744P in Quebec. Sister Plamondon's husband was national labour leader Roméo Mathieu, who passed away in 1989.

"Huguette was a trailblazer," says UFCW Canada National President Wayne Hanley. "She spent her whole adult life fighting for fairness and defending the interests of working families. She was a champion for UFCW Canada women and their sisters in the broader labour movement and beyond. Her efforts made a lasting difference and we will always be grateful for her tremendous legacy." **WN**

Women's Network Luncheon at December Chain Meeting *continued from page 1*

the chain meetings and in all facets of union activity, but how they can get women at their locals, within their membership, and throughout the UFCW more involved. UFCW Civil Rights and Community Action Department Director Esther Lopez, Occupational Safety and Health Office

Director Jackie Nowell, Assistant to the Director Regina Lambert, and UFCW Local 431 Secretary-Treasurer Lois Taylor all addressed the group at the Luncheon. **WN**



Local 1776 Rep. Linda Bello with member.

UFCW WOMEN'S NETWORK E-NEWS

Halloween Beef-and-Ber Helps the Less Fortunate this Holiday Season

Local 1360's Women's Network kicked off the season with a successful Halloween Beef-and-Ber which was held on October 30. All proceeds from the event went to the Women's Network to help us donate to numerous organizations. The proceeds from the event will allow the Woman's Network to help many in need this year. Some of the proceeds, for example, went towards buying hats and gloves for those attending the Thanksgiving FEASTival which was sponsored by the Union Organization for Social Service (U.O.S.S). on Thanksgiving Day. Some of the local's members participated in this event by helping to serve food on Thanksgiving for those in need.

The Women's Network will also be donating to several families who are struggling to make ends meet this holiday season. [WN](#)



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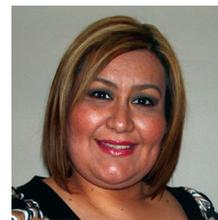
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UFCW WOMEN'S NETWORK E-NEWS

UFCW Women's Network Membership Application

Name: _____ New Membership Renewal

Street Address: _____

City State/Province Zip/Postal Code: _____

UFCW Local No.: _____ Occupation: _____

Work Location: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

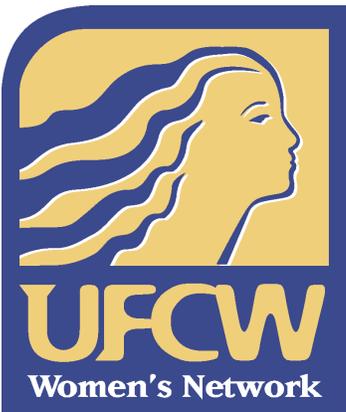
Email Address: _____

Active membership, open to all UFCW members in good standing, includes voting rights in Network activities. Associate membership, open to those who aren't active members but support the goals and purpose of the Network, is open to all other supporters, including former members, retirees, and members of other unions. Women's Network membership renewals are due each January.

- Active Member**
- Regular member - \$25 for one year
 - Regular member - \$70 for three years*
 - Contributing member - \$50 for one year
 - Sustaining member - \$100 for one year
 - Retired member - \$10 for one year
 - Lifetime member - \$350 one-time payment

- Associate Member**
- Associate Member - \$25 for one year
 - Associate member - \$70 for three years*

*Members wishing to pay for three years may do so at reduced rates



Please attach your check made out to UFCW Women's Network to this form and return to:

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