



DELEGATE PROFILE



Colleen Burke

Name:

Local 1998, District 6

Local Number/USW District #:

University of Toronto, Contracts Officer

Employer, Job Title:

14

Post-secondary education

Years as USW Member:

What does your local do or make?

Toronto

Hometown:

1

What is unusual about your hometown, place of work or job?

"We're like a small town, with over 7,000 members, including office workers, people who work in labs, parking enforcement, food preparation, people who work with cadavers, dental technicians, psychotherapists – hundreds of job classifications."

2

What does this year's theme, "The Power of Unity," mean to you? How has your local benefited from putting unity into action?

"Our union worked for many years on a pay equity job evaluation system and the membership was very united in bringing in this plan and we succeeded because everyone got behind it."

3

What issues will be important when your local's contract expires?

"Pay increases to keep up with the cost of living and protecting our defined benefit pension plan."

4

What's your favorite alternative fact?

"Cats invented the Internet."

5

Who would you prefer to have dinner with: Sean Spicer, Betty White, Vladimir Putin, Drake, or Céline Dion? Why?

"Drake, because I wouldn't have to leave town. And he played baseball in the same Little League that my kids do."

6

What's the best thing about the convention so far?

"Connecting with people I've met in the leadership program, Steelworkers from all over the U.S. and Canada."

7

What things do you hope to do while you're here?

"Learn a lot and make some interventions that reflect the values of my local."

8

What in this convention will you put to work when you return home?

"Really try to connect my membership with the broader Steelworkers union."