

THE POWER OF

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

"Our mine is one of the largest surface mines in Canada – it's 42 kilometers (26 miles) long."

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

"The good wages and benefits and all the other things we have on the job, all of that is the result of our collective agreement, of being in a union. That's the result of the power of unity."

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

"Pensions. The company has hinted that they want to go after our defined benefit plan and push for defined contribution. That could be a big issue for us if they try that."

What's your favorite alternative fact?

"For us in coal, there seems to be a lot of misinformation about the whole issue of transitioning to gas power, away from coal. I think a lot of people don't know all the facts and don't realize how complicated it is."



Martin Tinney

Name:

Local 1595, District 3

Local Number/USW District #:

TransAlta/SunHills Mining, loader operator

Employer, Job Title:

9

Coal mining

Years as USW Member:

What does your local do or make?

Stony Plain, Alberta

Hometown:

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

"Definitely Putin. My wife and I follow what's going on internationally, in Russia, in Europe, the political and military news, so I'd be interested in sitting down with Putin."

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

"The common ground that you find with your brothers and sisters. When you sit down and talk about things, you find out how we're all facing a lot of the same problems and issues."

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

"I want to foster the relationships that I've built with other delegates from our union and hopefully continue to build on those relationships in the future."

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

"We're in bargaining right now and there are a lot of things that I've been learning about from other delegates, that they have in their contracts, and I'd like to try to negotiate some of these things into our next agreement."