



DELEGATE PROFILE



Syed Akhtar

Name:

Local 5296, District 6

Local Number/USW District #:

Securitas Canada, security guard

Employer, Job Title:

12

Security services

Years as USW Member:

What does your local do or make?

Mississauga, Ontario

Hometown:

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

"My full-time job now is financial secretary of my local, and the job is fast-paced and very challenging because we represent over 5,000 members in many, many workplaces all over the Greater Toronto Area. You learn something new every day and I love it."

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

"It means our members get representation and dignity in their workplaces, that's what unity gets you on the job."

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

"We have three big contracts in our local and the major issues are always wages and benefits for our members."

4 What's your favorite alternative fact?

"In Ontario, the government that we currently have says they care about workers, but if you look at their policies, you see that's an alternative fact."

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

"I'd have dinner with Vladimir Putin, because I'd want to ask him one question: why don't you mind your own business?"

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

"I'm impressed by the unity and the diversity that I see in our membership, with people from all kinds of backgrounds who come from all over the world."

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

"During convention I'm going to be working to promote the NextGen program, and outside of convention I'm going to go to the Grand Canyon."

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

"I'm going to encourage our members to get more involved in the union, to get involved in their communities and to get involved in politics."