



**Bell Media Unit VP Report**  
**Update to Membership**  
**Kat Leonard September 2020**

**VACATION SCHEDULING REMINDER:**

**October 15th** is the deadline to submit vacation requests for the period December 20th to January 4th if you want your seniority to count toward preference approval. Of course, you can still request vacation any time after October 15, but seniority will not be considered in the approval process. Please see Article 13.1.2 in the CA for more details. Even if travel is out this year, it's still magnificent to take a break from work!

**WORKPLACE:** Here comes the second wave of COVID! Bell is taking direction from public health officials and made the below recent updates to employees. Please keep your eye out for corporate communications and updates to Bellnet with respect to COVID responses.

- 1) Those currently working from home can expect to do so into 2021.
- 2) Screening email/text for those working in the field or entering company locations.  
The screening process is reasonable and typical following public health guidelines.  
There may be glitches in the rollout. Questions can be posed to your manager.

**LOCAL UNION ELECTIONS 2020:**

We are currently due for Elections of Local **President, Secretary and Treasurer**. The membership recently voted 63.8% in favour of a Full-time paid Local President. Please stay tuned to your email for the call for these three positions!

**GRIEVANCES: (Updates in red)**

**Member #5 - LTD Denial-** Stayed pending member's independent legal process.

**Group FT Grievance 723M-1-04-12-2020-Reduced Hours**

**Group PT Grievance 723M-1-04-12-2020-Reduced Hours**

**Policy Grievance 723M-1-04-12-2020-Reduced Hours**

**-Group arbitration along with 3 other locals still being set-- no sooner than April 2021.**

**Policy Grievance 723M-1-08-21-2020-Jurisdiction Digital Media**

The union has filed a grievance that the company recognize the full scope of the collective agreement as it applies to digital media. As technology and use of the internet evolves, the union feels it is important to preserve the rights of members working on brands and shows within our jurisdiction and the job functions involved in distributing resulting content online. This involves extensive research and conversations with the company now ongoing.

### **SCHOLARSHIP WINNER:**

One of our Local 723M members was selected to receive the Evelyn McGarr Scholarship for 2020. 'The Evelyn McGarr Scholarship is one of 23 Unifor National and Regional Council scholarships offered to children of Unifor members demonstrating outstanding academic achievement, and a commitment to social justice through extracurricular activities and volunteerism.' The award is \$2000. Calls for scholarship applications typically go out by National in the spring, so mark your calendars! They are closed for 2020 but here's the link so you can learn a little bit more: <https://www.unifor.org/en/education/scholarships>

### **BARGAINING NEWSTALK 1010:**

Contract negotiations have begun for this new group. No thrills to report.

### **CTV CAUCUS:**

We held CTV Caucus September 28th with union leaders across the country to discuss various topics including upcoming bargaining for 12 CTV locals, company and union responses to Covid and preparing for a new norm, Health & Safety, equity advocacy and racial bias training.

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**Questions:** For all general questions and issues about the workplace and matters related to the Collective Agreement including employment, vacation, scheduling, benefits, pay, please contact one of your local stewards <https://www.unifor723m.org/executive-board>

All the best!

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KAT LEONARD  
VP Bell Media Unit  
Local 723M UNIFOR