

Everything you always wanted to know about being a worksite contact*

**but were afraid to ask*

What is a worksite contact? A worksite contact is a member like you who steps up to help organize coworkers into a workplace solidarity network and connects members with the bargaining committee.

So, what is a workplace solidarity network? A solidarity network in the workplace prepares members to take collective action. It connects members by building and maintaining relationships through communication, mutual support, education and opportunities to participate. It is the foundation of a strong and effective union and builds bargaining power for successful bargaining outcomes.

What does this involve? As a worksite contact, you will:

- **Stay informed** by keeping on top of the latest news from your bargaining committee.
- **Connect members** by encouraging coworkers to keep their contact information (email, mobile phone numbers, etc.) current via the [My BCGEU Member Portal](#).
- **Pass on important updates.**
- **Communicate with coworkers** using the BCGEU web app to keep in touch and relay important information.
- **Build your team** by recruiting more worksite contacts. Our goal is to have one worksite contact for each 20 members. [New worksite contacts should sign up here.](#)
- **Mobilize members for collective action** by working with fellow worksite contacts to organize and support collective actions like wearing buttons or using a union Teams background – and a possible strike vote.



Do not use the boss's equipment (phones, computers) to conduct union activity. You can use these Teams or other means to set up a time to have an organizing conversation with coworkers but have the actual conversation on your breaks or at lunch - and off the boss's devices.

What sort of time commitment is involved?

- Initially, a worksite contact might expect to spend about half an hour a week connecting with members. As bargaining progresses or in the event of a strike vote or other collective action, the time commitment may increase.

Know your rights about organizing in the workplace

- Your right to engage in union activities is guaranteed in our collective agreement.
- However, because only shop stewards can use employer time to engage in union activities, have your WSC discussions during lunch and breaks.
- Report any negative comments or actions by management to your zone captains.

For worksite contacts only:

- Email softwaresupport@bcgeu.ca with updates in Excel or Google on members missing from the worksite lists, members who don't work there anymore, whole ministries moving to a different address. Use this email for BCGEU Member Update web app issues.
- For other questions, contact us at WSC_info@bcgeu.ca.