



*Society Council Meeting*

# SOCIETY ROLES

The Society has a number of elected and non-elected roles within our structure:

**MEMBER:** An employee of an employer for which the Society has been granted bargaining rights and who is eligible to be represented by the Society, subject to the qualifications in the Constitution, and who has submitted a membership application. This role is not elected.

**DELEGATE :** A delegate is a member who is elected by a group of fellow members (called a “delegate group”) to represent that group in accordance with the constitution. This individual is typically the key point of contact for members. The delegates provide communications from members to the Society, as well as from the Society to the members. Delegates typically play an intake role for grievances, help members find information in their collective agreements, encourage members to participate in Society campaigns and activities, and share updates about the union with members. Whether a local has delegate groups is determined by the ratios set out in the Constitution and Bylaws.

**UNIT DIRECTOR:** Delegates report to Unit Directors (UD) in locals that have more than 50 members or collective agreement provisions that specify Unit Directors. Unit Directors are elected by individual members from a number of delegate groups to provide representation to those delegates and the members within their group. For example, one Unit Director, might have three delegates who report to them, and each delegate may have 30-40 members for and to whom they are responsible. The Unit Director acts as an escalation point for delegates on workplace issues and a leader for campaigns in the workplace. Unit Directors have visibility to a larger group of members and delegates, making it easier to catch cross-company or departmental collective agreement violations or implementation issues. A Unit Director represents between 50 and 400 members.

**LOCAL VICE-PRESIDENT:** Each local, regardless of the number of members they have, elects one Local Vice- President (LVP). Each Local Vice-President is a voting member of the Society’s Executive Board. Generally, the LVP, has signing authority for local decisions, and is the escalation point for all elected members (Delegates and Unit Directors) in their local. LVPs generally lead collective agreement negotiations and the overall relationship with their members’ employer.

**PRINCIPAL OFFICERS:** The Society has three elected Principal Officers (POs), President, Secretary Treasurer and Executive Vice-President. Principal Officers sit on the Executive Board and the Executive Committee. These positions are filled by members who are on full-time release from their work and are voted on by the entire Society membership.

*Note: Elections for Unit Directors, Local Vice-Presidents and Principal Officers are held every three years. Incumbents are required to run for election in each cycle.*