

UA General Convention – UA Local 516 Candidate Statements

Kevin Barbisan

I have proudly served the membership of UA Local 516 as the Organizer since November 2017, during which time our membership has doubled. Over the past 19 years, I have also served as a Finance Committee member, Recording Secretary, and continue to serve as a Health and Welfare Trustee. Representing UA Local 516 has always been both an honour and a responsibility I take seriously. I would be proud to continue that service as an elected delegate to the 41st General Convention and respectfully ask for your support.

Mathew Doyle

I am a committed UA Local 516 member who believes a delegate's role is to represent the membership with integrity and accountability. Attending the General Convention would allow me to learn directly from leadership and other locals, bringing back insight on policies, training, and best practices that benefit our members. I bring a practical, job-site perspective and understand the real challenges faced on the tools. I would represent Local 516 professionally and ensure the knowledge gained is shared for the strength of our local. Thank you.

Bryan Harris

As UA Local 516 Vice President and UA Canada representative I am asking for your support to be one of your delegates at the United Association General Convention in August. The potential changes to leadership and the constitution that can take place at this event will directly affect how myself and your Executive Board conduct business throughout our terms. I feel that it is very important for me to be a part of this process and represent the members of UA Local 516. Thank you in advance for your support. Fraternaly yours.

Alfred Heisler

My name is Alfie and I've been a Local 516 member pushing 37 years. In that time, I've been through a lot of ups and downs in the trade and with our Local's help, I always seem to come out on top. I would appreciate advocating for our sisters and brothers, from first retired to last hired. Thanks.

Chris Henry

I respectfully ask for your vote to represent Local 516 at the 41st United Association General Convention this August. As a full-time technical training instructor at RTI and a UA516 JATC instructor, I work closely with both Journeypersons and Apprentices and understand the challenges and priorities facing our membership. If elected, I will advocate thoughtfully and responsibly on all constitutional matters and leadership decisions that come before the Convention. My commitment is to represent our local with integrity, professionalism, and a clear focus on protecting the strength and future of our union.

Janine Inotai

I am a proud UA Local 516 member and have been for over a decade, and as one of the administrators on the benefits and retirement savings plans, I am often on the front lines listening to the concerns of members and their families on a daily basis. Helping members and families navigate the world of their extended health benefits and the options within the group retirement plan have been my primary focus. It would be my honour and privilege to represent our membership as a delegate to the General Convention this year.

Matt Jones

For the past 20 years I have built my career in this local, and for the last five I have served you directly as a Trustee, on the Finance Committee, and on the Health & Welfare Benefits Committee — safeguarding your dues, your benefits, and your future. The UA Convention only happens once every five years, and the decisions made there directly impact our finances, benefit plans, and long-term stability — areas I am already entrusted to oversee. I am not simply asking to attend; I am asking to go on your behalf with the experience, context, and fiduciary responsibility to bring back real value to this membership. If elected as a delegate, I will attend with one goal — to ensure the decisions made at Convention strengthen our finances, protect our benefits, and support every member of this local. Thank you!

Karl Kethler

I ask for your support to elect me as a delegate to the 41st UA General Convention. As a full-time instructor for RTi and our Union's JATC, I am committed to advancing the education and development of our Journeypersons and Apprentices. I will bring my years of classroom leadership and hands-on experience to help shape the next UA Constitution. It would be an honor to represent you and actively participate in shaping our Union's future at this Convention.

Curt MacDonald

I have been a member of Local 516 since October 1981. During this time, I have faithfully served as an Executive Board Member, Negotiating Committee Member, Union Director, and Vice President. With my experience and the relationships that I have built over the years, I continue to help shape the future of UA Local 516 for those now and those to come. I would appreciate the privilege of again representing the hard-working membership of Local 516 at this year's UA General Convention. Thank you.

Ian McComish

I have been involved with helping to shape a strong, competent, and prosperous Refrigeration Trade since 2007, when I began teaching in our Victoria tech room on Wednesday evenings. I want to bring that same enthusiasm and passion to represent you, and I would be honored to have your vote to ensure our locals' strong presence on the convention floor.

Justin McIntyre

While the other guys are busy giving their "serious leader" pitch to the members, I've already mastered the art of complaining effectively until things actually change. Vote for me because I'm like butyl: I hold everything together and I'm incredibly difficult to get rid of. In all seriousness, as a relative newcomer to the 516 (3+ years), I look forward to being more involved and adding a new voice and fresh perspective to the mix.

Jim Montgomery

I've been a member of 516 since September 1981. I've been very fortunate to work with outstanding people and exceptional techs. I'd be proud to represent our local. Thank you.

Jeremy Quait

I've been a proud member of UA Local 516 for over 30 years and would love the privilege of representing the membership at the upcoming UA Convention. If elected, I will strive to be a positive voice while advocating for our Local's interests within the overall family of the United Association. We live in a great part of the world, and it would be my honour to be chosen to represent the great brothers and sisters of UA Local 516.

Dylan Roper

I am seeking this opportunity to increase my involvement with the Union. After concluding my time serving on the TECA board of directors and Director of Education, I am eager to refocus my efforts directly within the Union and support the membership through active participation and representation. I value the role our Union plays in protecting the trade, supporting members, and shaping the future of our industry, and I would be proud to contribute at the Convention level. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jenn Schaefer

I have been a proud member of UA Local 516 for the past seven years and have had the privilege of serving as the Administrator for the JATF, working closely with our apprentices as they enter and progress through the trade. Through that role, I've gained firsthand insight into the challenges and opportunities facing both our apprentices and journeypersons. I am committed to representing the interests of our members with integrity and a strong voice at the United Association General Convention. I would sincerely appreciate your support to serve as a Delegate on behalf of our Local.

Clay Scott

My name is Clay Scott, and I am seeking your support to represent Local 516 as a delegate at the upcoming UA General Convention. Having been a member in good standing for 37 years, I have seen our industry evolve and understand the dedication required to maintain the high standards of our specialized trade. My priority is to prevent jurisdictional encroachment from other trades in order to secure the man-hours that sustain our retirement savings and health benefits. I ask for your vote so I can stand up for the refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics of Local 516 at the Convention.

Lee Taylor

It has been both a pleasure and an honor to serve you for the past 13 years as your Business Agent and Assistant Business Manager, working each day to diligently address complex membership issues—many of which involve the Constitution of the United Association—always with your best interests at heart. I respectfully ask for your support in electing me as a delegate to the 41st UA General Convention. This opportunity would allow me to continue advocating on your behalf and to help shape the next version of the Constitution of the United Association to better serve our membership. Thank you for your trust, your support, and the privilege of representing you. Fraternaly, thank you.

Kevin Whitham

I joined UA Local 516 in 2001 as a first-year apprentice and have been a committed member ever since. Since 2018, I have proudly served as Inside Guard for the Local and have attended the majority of membership meetings during my tenure. Through this long-standing involvement, I have gained a strong understanding of our Local's operations, priorities, and membership needs. With this experience and dedication, I believe I would be a strong representative and a solid candidate for the UA General Convention. Thanks.

Courtney Yuzwa

I have been in our industry for over twenty years, including four years working in the union office. In my time with the Local so far, I have worked alongside various departments – Organizing, Remittances, Training, Bookkeeping, etc. I am eager to contribute, learn more about our union as a whole, and bring back valuable insight to help strengthen our Local. I would appreciate the privilege of being one of the representatives of our membership at this year's General Convention. Thank you.