The Bridges of Friendship Award is coming

UCT’s local councils have been giving back to their communities by supporting and working with worthy causes and organizations within them for well over 100 years. Through these partnerships, councils assist large numbers of individuals on multiple levels and across a wide range of need, including helping individuals with intellectual disabilities and mental health issues, seniors, homeless individuals, underprivileged children and families, and veterans, among others.

UCT Charities was established in 1997 to assist individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, primarily by providing scholarships through the UCT Scholarship Program. Over the years, this support has expanded to include other programs and projects that benefit a variety of individuals.

It is in this spirit of support that UCT Charities has established the Bridges of Friendship Award, which will grant two cash awards of up to $5,000 each annually to two local charitable organizations, one in Canada and the other in the U.S. These two organizations will be chosen by the Bridges of Friendship Award committee from nominations of local charitable organizations submitted by UCT local councils that have worked with and supported them. The Canadian organization must be a registered charity and the U.S. organization a 501.c.3 nonprofit organization.

Each local council is entitled to one nomination per year of a local charitable organization that operates, resides, and serves the people primarily within the local council’s own city, county, township, parish, etc. Nominations must be submitted using the approved nomination form only and are due at the UCT home office – not the Canadian office – by no later than April 1. Award recipients will be announced during the UCT annual session. Councils nominating organizations for the award will earn a point in the Medal of Honor Program.

More details about the award will be coming soon – and will be featured in the autumn issue of The Sample Case. Nomination forms will be emailed to local secretaries and available on the UCT website at www.uct.org in October. In the meantime, feel free to contact Kate Chillinisky at kchillinisky@uct.org or at 800.848.0123 x1148 with any questions.

UCT Charities is a 501.c.3 charitable organization and is supported entirely through donations, which may be tax-deductible and are cumulative. If you would like to support the Bridges of Friendship Award through a contribution, please send a check made payable to UCT Charities to: UCT, 1801 Watermark Drive, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43215.
ATTENTION MEMBERS:

Please note that Joyce Pierre's hours at the Canadian Office are now 10 a.m.-3 p.m. MT on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

The office also has a new address:
The Order of United Commercial Travelers of America
P.O. Box 57261
Sunridge RPO
135, 2525 36th St. N.E.
Calgary, AB T1Y 6R4

Contact Joyce atjpierre@uct.org or at 800.267.2371 if you have any questions.

UCT offers new payment option for Canadian members

**UCT now offers Canadian members a new way to pay your membership dues via Interac e-Transfer.**

Click on the link below to see an overview of Interac e-Transfer on how to send money directly to UCT using your online or mobile banking. Make sure to scroll down to check out the short video in the link as well.

[www.interac.ca](http://www.interac.ca)

Interac e-Transfer is a great alternative to cheques and cash. Canadians are using it to simplify their everyday person-to-person payments. All you need is access to online or mobile banking through a participating financial institution, and you can send money to anyone with an email address without sharing any personal financial information.

When submitting your online payment make sure to include your policy number in the email to Joyce Pierre atjpierre@uct.org. Also, when setting up your security question, make sure to include the answer to it in your email to Joyce or contact Joyce with the answer. This allows UCT to accept the Interac e-Transfer.

**UCT will continue to accept all methods of payment such as cheque or credit card, but now you have the added option to pay via Interac e-Transfer through your online or mobile banking platform. Contact Joyce at jpierre@uct.org or at 800.267.2371 with any questions.**

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**Experience the Lenovo difference with this new member discount**

Canadian members are eligible to save up to 30% off the everyday public web price of the entire line of Lenovo digital products, including laptops, tablets, desktops, and more through this discount. Accessories too! Members also receive free ground shipping on all web orders and can take advantage of monthly limited-time special offers.

For more details, contact Doug Honeyford atgoramseylake@hotmail.com.

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**Find out about the Northbridge Insurance Benefit for Canadian members**

The Northbridge Insurance Benefit for Canadian members offers “bundled” policies at exceptional rates and can save you up to 10% on car insurance and 15% on property insurance. This personal insurance program from Northbridge, a division of Fairfax Financial, features enhanced benefits and zero service fees for payment plans. The benefit is now available in all Canadian provinces except Quebec and The Territories.

For more details, contact Doug Honeyford atgoramseylake@hotmail.com.
Greetings Fraternal Brothers and Sisters. I hope you have all been keeping well. Every day we look for the end of our COVID pandemic, but unfortunately, it’s still here.

Many local councils have reported they have been able to resume council meetings for their members. As most of us are social beings, that is so important. Keep safe, follow the rules, and share with us what is happening in your part of this wonderful world.

Great news for you all: We are expanding our Northbridge Insurance Benefit for Canadian members (auto and property insurance) to all provinces from British Columbia to Newfoundland, except Quebec and the Territories, so all members will be able to take advantage of this wonderful program. Details will be available by the time you read this message. It is vital that our members consider all the “perks” of belonging to UCT. Last year, I personally saved $650 with this program, and that pays for a great number of annual membership dues.

Also, when you are ready to travel the world, look at the magnificent Destination Travel Insurance program and the extra benefits it provides.

Please invite someone you care about to become a UCT member. We need to expand our numbers so we can do even more of the spectacular things we do. This past year, close to $1 million went to worthy causes because of members like you. Imagine what we could do if we added to our flock. UCT makes a difference in lives, especially the lives of our members. I encourage you all to share the feeling, bring in someone you care about.

I appreciate those of you who send me comments. Please email me at goramseylake@hotmail.com with the good and the bad. We always can improve the things we do, and if you have a great idea, please share it. What works in Nova Scotia can help British Columbia. We are all in this together.

Canadian members in action

Nothing can stop Canada’s UCT local councils from doing what they do best – making a difference in their communities. Kudos to the councils that have stepped up and stepped out to support local causes and charities!

Cape Breton Council 883, Sydney, Nova Scotia

Member Sam Adams, left, presents a generous $5,000 donation on behalf of Council 883 to Aurelle Landry with the Hospice Palliative Care Foundation to help with its new 10-bed facility currently under construction. The council also awarded $500 bursaries to six local students whose grandparents are UCT members.
Regina, Saskatchewan Council 266
Members Mary Brown, left, and George Thomas, right, present a $1,000 donation to Marg Friesen, Executive Coordinator of Saskatchewan Voice of People with Disabilities (SVOPD), for the Girl Power Program. George is also a member of SVOPD’s Board of Directors. Council 266 also contributed $4,062 to the Queen City United Soccer Facility to help to purchase uniforms and equipment and $1,000 to the Ann Marshall Scholarship Program.

Sudbury, Ontario Council 1051
It’s never too early for Christmas! Council 1051 makes a $5,000 donation to The Salvation Army for its Christmas Hampers project, thanks to funds raised at Delta Bingo. Pictured, left, are Dennis Sivret of the Sudbury Charity Foundation, member Don Delongchamp, Mary Milen and Arleen Ruttan of The Salvation Army, and member Connie Zwarich.

Neepawa, Manitoba Council 924
Members Leonard and Anne Pritchard present a donation to Marsha, the activities coordinator at Country Meadows Personal Care Home, for use in her programs.

Jack Kidd Council 755, Saint John, New Brunswick
Rod Borden, left, and Tom Davidson of Jack Kidd Council 755 in Saint John, New Brunswick, present Rowena Doiron with Outflow Ministry donated baked goods from the Saint John Bakery. The bakery’s partnership with Council 755 helps the council assist community organizations working to provide nutritious meals for individuals in need.
Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926
Member Audrey Street, left, presents Minnedosa High School scholarship winner Reece Andrews with a $500 cheque from the council to help with her further education. Congratulations, Reece!

Edmonton, Alberta Council 1016
Council 1016’s executive committee treks to Camp He Ho Ha to check out the new lawn tractor the council recently spent $15,000 to purchase for the camp. The camp has been maintaining the grounds with a lawn mower, and everyone is thrilled that the tractor takes so much less time. Pictured, left, are Lorna Pagee, Marian Melnyk, David Pagee, Dwight Hunter, Sylvia Herman, Charles Zylla, and Wayne Gasmo.

Thunder Bay, Ontario Council 1039
Council 1039 teams up with the local Moose Lodge to hold another successful Take-Out Dinner that netted a total of $3,200 for the two organizations! The proceeds will be used to support causes and charities in the community. Dinner included ribs, chicken, baked potatoes, and butter tarts.