



North of the Border News

A newsletter exclusively for UCT's Canadian members

Spring 2020

CONTACT OUR CANADIAN OFFICE:

Toll-free in Canada:
(800) 267-2371
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.,
Monday-Friday,
Mountain Time

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North of the Border News is emailed to Canadian members. Any email or street address changes should be sent to Joyce Pierre at jpierre@uct.org. If you know of fellow members that would like to receive the newsletter but haven't, please let them know to contact Joyce. By having correct email addresses we can ensure you receive information about UCT in Canada on a timely basis.

Alert: 2020 UCT convention has been cancelled

The UCT Board of Governors has approved the cancellation of the 2020 UCT Convention in Lexington, Kentucky. Due to current events surrounding the COVID-19 virus, we are putting the safety of our members first. We are currently researching other ways to conduct the annual session. Once we have finalized those plans, more information will be released.

At this time, the Board of Governors also recommends that all regions and local councils suspend face-to-face meetings, including regional conventions, and instead conduct business by conference call. If you do not have a dedicated conference call line, please contact Kate Chillinsky by phone at **614.487.9680 X1148** or by email at kchillinsky@uct.org and she can help get your group set up.

We want to keep business running as usual, so we ask that you still send in your year-end reports on time as normally required.

We know there are many questions surrounding the convention cancellation and how we will conduct business this year. Please know that the Board of Governors and home office staff are working together to figure out those details and we'll get the information out to you as fast as possible. We will provide updates through email, on our website and on our Facebook page.

Unfortunately, we must also cancel our 2020 convention service project, which was to collect funds for Lexington's Arbor Youth Services, central Kentucky's only emergency shelter for at-risk children and youth. Arbors is a most worthy cause, so please feel free to donate on your own if you wish. However, UCT will not be collecting contributions.

Let us know what you're doing!

We know you and your councils are busy volunteering and holding community service projects throughout Canada. Don't be shy - share your photos and stories about the projects your council is involved with for *North of the Border News*!

Send your digital photos - and accompanying story information or donation information - to Joyce Pierre at jpierre@uct.org with a copy to Linda Fisher at lfisher@uct.org if you'd like your photos to also be featured on UCT's Facebook page and in *The Sample Case*.





Important news about the Medal of Honor program!

Don't forget this year's Medal of Honor Program ends March 31. This deadline

won't change because of all that is happening due to the COVID-19 virus. However, we realize some aspects of the program will be affected by what is happening, and we intend to make allowances for that:

- The deadline date for **SUBMITTING MEDAL OF HONOR BOOKS** will be extended to **JUNE 1** rather than May 1. We don't want our members risking their health trying to mail books.
- Any **NEW MEMBERS** that need to be included in the March 31 deadline should be received at the Calgary Office by no later than Thursday, **MARCH 26**. If your council needs information on where you presently stand with membership, please contact Joyce Pierre.
- We're aware that many councils participating in the program will be short on at least one meeting and possibly late on submitting officer reports. There might be councils that had to cancel planned activities as well. We will make every effort to adjust the program requirements to accommodate this. **PLEASE INCLUDE A NOTE** with your Medal of Honor book letting us know what meetings/planned activities were affected by the crisis and when you think you will elect your officers, and we will work with you to make sure you reach the program level you deserve.



Here's to **Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926** for completing a VERY successful fundraiser for Central Plains Cancer Services, a local organization that offers educational programs for children affected by cancer and provides transportation for cancer patients. The council donated \$7,419 to the organization – an amount that should help a great deal.



Member Sylvia Herman (center) of **Edmonton, Alberta Council 1016** presents a \$4,500 check from the council to local Easter Seals representatives Darla Zuk and Jodi Zabłudowski to help with the organization's mobility equipment. The council also donated \$25,000 to Camp Health, Hope and Happiness (He Ho Ha) to assist them in purchasing a new van.

Thank you for your commitment to UCT and your local communities. Stay safe!