



Candidates for Office

As at March 11, 2021



Jim BROWN
candidate for **president**

I am pleased to announce that I am seeking re-election as president of GSU.

I am a proud member of Local 1 (Viterra) of 34 years standing and I have worked at a variety of different jobs and elevator locations throughout the Sask Wheat Pool/Viterra system. I currently work as an assistant manager at the Viterra terminal elevator in Balgonie.

I was first elected to the Executive Committee of Local 1 in 2007 and as a GSU vice president the following year in 2008. In March of 2016 I was honoured to be elected president of GSU. I am also president of Local 1, including serving on its bargaining committee. I know the reality of walking a picket line.

I thank all of those I have been fortunate to serve with and ask for your continued support to be president of this proud union. I commit to continuing to work to continue GSU a resilient and successful force for working people.



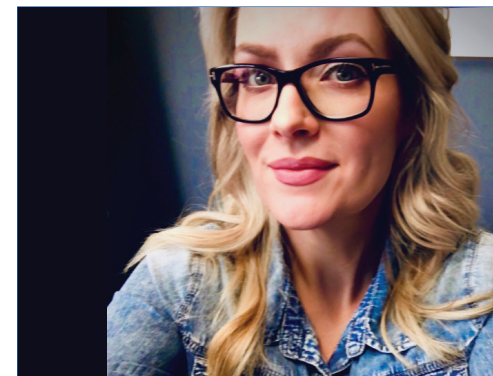
Curtis COUSINS
candidate for **vice-president**

My name is Curtis Cousins. I was born and raised in Saskatoon and have lived in Nipawin for over 10 years. I am married and have four children and four grandchildren.

I have worked in varied industries over my career. I have been a member of the GSU for seven years and before that was a member of the steel workers' union. I believe in the importance of a union and their principles.

I understand how necessary a union can be to ensure that worker's rights are protected. I believe that a worker should be treated fairly and sometimes the only way that can happen is having the support of a union behind them.

I enjoy fishing, hunting, golf and spending time with my children and grandchildren. For five years I was a volunteer with our local Air Cadet Squadron.



Michelle HOULDEN
candidate for **vice-president**

Hi! I'm Michelle Houlden, Creative Director at the Western Producer (GSU local 5).

I'm a long-standing member of the joint executive council and was one of the inaugural members of the Board of Directors of the Defence Fund. I'm also on our scholarship committee. In my local, I've served as president, vice-president, shop steward, bargaining committee member and have been union chair on our OH&S committee for the past 25 years.

During my last term as a GSU VP, I've bargained both the staff and general secretary contracts and have worked with the executive and JEC to implement succession planning and enhanced member education programs.

I love the work I do with GSU both on a local and provincial level and am committed to providing strong representation on the executive for all of our membership. I believe the best way to do that is through improved member engagement, open communication, fiscal responsibility, and a willingness to challenge the status quo to keep us relevant and united.

Delegates to GSU biennial policy conventions are responsible for electing GSU's president, two vice-presidents, general secretary and the five-person board of directors of the GSU Defense Fund.

Each of the elected offices is for a two-year term.

Detailed information on elections is available in your convention workbook.

Candidates who did not announce their candidacy in advance of convention are invited to declare their candidacy during convention on March 18 at 4:00 p.m.

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Hugh WAGNER

candidate for **general secretary**

I have been proud to serve as GSU's general secretary since October 1977. And, while that was a long time ago, it seems like scarcely yesterday in many respects.

Throughout my years with GSU I have had the honour and privilege to serve alongside so many good people from the ranks and on the staff of GSU.

I ask for your support once more and I commit to making the following priorities my mission in the next two year term of office:

1. Steering GSU through the process of transitioning to a new generation of leadership.
2. Re-igniting GSU's union education program.
3. Working with the Locals to build ambitious collective bargaining platforms.
4. Identifying and pursuing organizing prospects.
5. Continuing GSU's sound administration and representational policies.

In addition to asking for your support I also ask that you join the campaign to make GSU and the labour movement in Canada part of the leading edge for a better future for all.



Wilfred HARRIS

candidate for **defense fund director**

I am putting my name in for the board of directors of the GSU defense fund.

I have been on the board for a number of years and enjoy it very much.



Barb HEALEY

candidate for **defense fund director**

Hi! I've been an employee and Administrative Clerk of Richardson Pioneer - Edenwold since late May 2019, and a GSU member for the same time period.

I have served on the GSU defense fund for the last year, stepping up when a position opened.

I think as union members we need to help out where we can, to stay informed, and to support one another.



Sheldon REISS

candidate for **defense fund director**

I currently live in White City, where I have the pleasure of living with my two ladies: Kristi, my wife, and our daughter, Isabella.

Prior to working at Viterra as an Automation Specialist (Regina Head Office), I was born and raised in Weyburn. During my childhood I had first-hand knowledge of the GSU as my Dad was a member for 30 years - including 1994 where I also saw the defense fund in action.

After graduating from high school I moved to Calgary. There I earned my Bachelors of Science and primarily worked in the technical steering / directional aspects of well drilling.

Today, much of time is devoted to family, work, and managing our portfolio of equities and rental properties.