

Adopted by The NewsGuild-CWA 2025 Sector Conference

RESOLUTION FOR NORTH AMERICAN SOLIDARITY

WHEREAS

The NewsGuild-CWA is the largest union of media workers in North America, with members in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. Canadians make up about one-quarter of all NewsGuild members, and Canadians have been actively building our union since our convention in Toronto in 1938 and signing the first collective agreement at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in 1953. Whether in English ou en français, Canada has been an integral contributor to the growth, strength and diversity of our union around the world.

The NewsGuild currently represents more than 6,000 workers in 20 locals in Canada, with Canadians working autonomously as part of CWA Canada, and more than 19,000 workers in 41 locals in the United States.

Canadian and U.S. members have equal voting rights and democratic input into the governance of The NewsGuild, including a permanent seat on the Executive Council, the right to run for Sector Chair, President and Executive Vice President. Members from both countries have the right to vote in all international elections. Members from both countries have served and continue to serve on the Sector Election and Referendum Committee to ensure democratic elections in our union.

The NewsGuild's Canadian, American and Puerto Rican locals share a common vision and common values regarding the importance of strengthening and safeguarding our journalistic mission and media worker rights.

Many media companies operate across the border, including the New York Times, Reuters, Carpenter Media, Chatham Asset Management, a hedge fund that owns Postmedia in Canada and McClatchy in the U.S., and many others. Our members or future members work for these international companies.

Polarizing and negative rhetoric regarding Canada, under the current American presidential administration, has resulted in tense relations and understandable resentment by Canadians, straining a longstanding friendship between the two countries.

Building on a longstanding history of support for Canadian locals, many Guild members have expressed interest in promoting greater cross-border transparency, communication and decision-making input within The NewsGuild. Such efforts include supporting locals with education and assistance on how to access available resources, including the Members' Relief Fund, the Strategic Industry Fund, the Growth Fund and the Guild Mobilization and Defense Fund.

NewsGuild locals along the U.S. - Canada border share a particular interest in ensuring the relationship among Guild siblings remains strong. Although Canada and the United States may be experiencing a rare moment of heightened political tension, that need not extend to union siblings, who should be supporting one another through challenging times.

On both sides of the border, key political leaders have aggressively campaigned to slash or eliminate funding for public broadcasting organizations and pushed to eliminate aid and financial support for print and private sector media. On the American side, that includes leveraging federal power and financial threats to silence criticism of the executive branch.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

The NewsGuild devote resources and energy to improving transparency and communication with Canadian locals by developing a direct outreach campaign, in collaboration between U.S. and Canadian locals, to inform all members of global resources, assistance and rights afforded to them as members of the international union.

Every effort be made to support and encourage CWA Canada, formerly known as TNG Canada, to embrace its right and proper role in contributing to NewsGuild governance and decision making through its membership seat on the Executive Council.

The Executive Council create a subcommittee composed of both Canadian and American local leaders who can work together to help achieve the above listed aims and promote common goals.

The NewsGuild, CWA Canada, and the Canadian Media Guild combine their efforts to advocate for public broadcasting and support media workers and their freedom to communicate across the continent.

The NewsGuild and CWA Canada recognize the value of supporting ongoing bargaining and organizing efforts among cross-border employers, especially when it comes to common ownership and employers, such as the New York Times, Chatham Asset Management (Postmedia and McClatchy) and other international companies.

The NewsGuild rejects all efforts to polarize and divide The NewsGuild and instead reaffirms its fundamental belief that The NewsGuild will always be stronger and greater when its members stand together and embrace our common principles and goals.

Respectfully submitted

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