

SWISS CHALET NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF UFCW SUPPORTERS

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KEEPING IN TOUCH

Welcome to the first issue of SWISS CHALET NEWS. It is designed to serve as a means of keeping in regular touch with the hundreds of employees at Swiss Chalet who have signed UFCW membership cards. The newsletter will provide up-to-date progress reports on our organizing campaign as well as information on the UFCW - the union created by and for foodworkers across Canada.

Below you will read about the changing nature of the food service industry and the need for Swiss Chalet employees to negotiate adequate pensions and job security protection. Future issues of the newsletter will report on some of the health and safety problems encountered by restaurant workers. We will also provide you with an inside look at C.U.R.R.E., the company-controlled union now existing at Swiss Chalet.

The UFCW firmly believes that communication with its membership is crucial to building a strong and united union. That's why we started this newsletter. We invite your comments and any questions about the UFCW. We promise to print answers to your questions in future issues of SWISS CHALET NEWS.

FOODSERVICE - A GROWING INDUSTRY

Foodservice, particularly fast food and full service restaurants, is a growth industry in Canada. One has only to look at the rapid expansion of Swiss Chalet to see that employment has risen dramatically over the last five to ten years. And analysts tell us that the restaurant industry will continue to grow at an accelerated pace throughout the 1980's.

The increase in job opportunities in the foodservice sector has occurred at a time when employment in other industries (auto, steel, housing) has suffered considerably. As a result, many Canadians are turning to foodservice occupations for permanent full-time employment. No longer are restaurants viewed simply as a place to land temporary or part-time work. Facts show that turnover is declining and full-time employment is growing at a rapid pace. In 1970, there were 101,300 Canadians working full-time in the foodservice industry. By 1980 this number had climbed to 157,655.

With more and more Canadians looking to restaurants for long-term employment, adequate pensions, job posting clauses and job security take on much greater importance.

As an employee of Swiss Chalet, you do not currently enjoy these benefits. The UFCW believes you are entitled to them and if we become your bargaining representative, we promise to make them a top priority during negotiations.

These are not idle words. The UFCW has a proven track record in negotiating excellent benefits for its members. For example, over 65,000 UFCW members participate in one of the best pension plans in the country. It is entirely financed through employer contributions and both full-time and part-time employees can qualify for benefits.

Selecting the UFCW as your bargaining representative will allow you to plan for the future. That is the message we hope you will pass along to your co-workers. Let them know that the UFCW is

"a union preparing today for the needs of tomorrow."