

# Questions?

Mushroom factory workers have been contacting UFCW Canada Local 1993 with questions about their workplace rights. *You deserve the answers!* Here are some of your most frequently-asked questions.

**Q** *UFCW Canada represented mushroom factory back in 1995, but then the Ontario Conservative government took away their union. Last year, the Supreme Court said the government was wrong. So why doesn't UFCW Canada represent mushroom workers now?*

The Supreme Court decision says the government must write a new law that respects the right of agricultural workers to join a union. The Court decision did not restore UFCW Canada as your union.

**Q** *When will the Ontario government pass a new law that gives us the right to belong to a union once again?*

The Court gave the government until almost the end of 2003 to pass the new law.

**Q** *What can UFCW Canada do for us before there is a new law? Can we talk to the union about our problems at work?*

Yes, you can talk to us, and we encourage you to do so. You still have some workplace rights, and we can advise you on these rights, including Workers Compensation, Employment Standards, hours of work, etc. All calls and visits to our office are strictly confidential, and *there is no charge* for our counselling services.

**Q** *Management says we are well-paid, and we don't need a union. Can we trust what the company says?*

You must decide for yourself if you can trust the company. Ask yourself these questions: Has management always told you the truth? Is your boss truly concerned about your well-being and that of your family? Are you always treated with respect and dignity at work? Is there any favouritism? Do you have job security? The answers to those questions will help you decide whether or not you can trust management.

**Q** *What makes UFCW Canada the union for mushroom workers?*

UFCW Canada is the United Food and Commercial Workers union, one of Canada's largest and most respected unions, with more than 230,000 members throughout the country, including many in the Windsor-Leamington area. For example, we have represented workers at *H.J. Heinz* for more than 50 years, which is why they have such good wages, benefits, pensions, vacations, seniority, and a grievance procedure to resolve problems at work. *It's a fact: Most of the food sold in Canada has been handled by UFCW Canada members at some point from the farm to the table!*

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact:

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*(All calls, visits, and correspondence handled in the strictest confidence.)*

**UFCW Canada**  
**is on**  
**your side!**

