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June 8, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Local 46 is proud to support the fight for justice and equality. We support the fight against racism and all forms of discrimination. We believe in equality for all marginalized individuals and groups. Please stand with us in solidarity and denounce systematic racism.

During one of his briefings last week, Premier Doug Ford announced the creation of the Premier's Council on Equality of Opportunity, along with an investment of \$1.5 million for organizations that are supporting Black families and youth recovering from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Supporting Marginalized Communities

Acknowledging there is a lot of pain "in Canada, the U.S. and around the world," the Premier announced that the province is forming a new advisory group to provide advice on what young people from marginalized communities need to help them overcome the social and economic barriers standing between them and success. The Premier's Council on Equality of Opportunity will be chaired by Jamil Jivani, Ontario's Advocate for Community Opportunities. With a membership of 20 experts, community leaders and youth, the council will focus on what supports youth need to complete their education, get skills training and find a job. Its immediate priority will be identifying strategies to support vulnerable and marginalized youth impacted by COVID-19 outbreak. "Importantly, our efforts are not over, nor are they complete," Jivani said. "We recognize more action must be taken and more action will be taken."

Support Funding for Black Community Organizations

Intending to address the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Black communities, Ford announced \$1.5 million in immediate support to organizations that support Black families and youth. The funding will provide urgent care and support to address immediate needs of children, youth and families.

Click [here](#) for a link to the Canadian Labour Congress anti-racism article.

Fraternal Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert Brooker'.

Robert Brooker
Business Manager
United Association, Local 46

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Founded 1889

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada

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United Association Condemns the Murder of George Floyd

June, 2020

Statement from United Association General President McManus:

The members of the United Association of Union Plumbers and Pipefitters (UA) have watched in horror and agony as once again the death of a black man, George Floyd, came at the hands of law enforcement.

We have since seen thousands of peaceful demonstrators: first in Minneapolis, then across our nation, and even in different cities around the world. These demonstrators come from all backgrounds: Black, white, young, old, man, woman. They represent a diverse America, united against injustice.

Peaceful demonstrations are an American institution, and one the labor movement believes in to its core. We do not support any of the violence, destruction, and looting that we have unfortunately seen in cities across the country.

The UA has always stood strongly with those seeking civil rights, no matter what race, gender, religion, or who you choose as your partner. We will continue to speak out on the jobsite and on the street for all human beings to be treated equally, fairly, and justly.

America is a nation in real pain right now. It is long past time our elected officials, in all branches of government, stepped up to help us heal – no matter what political party they belong to or what state they represent.

We must not let destruction and unrest distract from both mourning George Floyd's death and seeking the institutional change we need.

The members of the UA will continue to join citizens around the country in seeking change and standing up against injustice. Please join us to reflect and be a positive force for your family, your community, your union, and your country.

It has to start with all of us.

In memory of George Floyd.

