



Steward nomination and elections are held in workplaces every three years in the Fall after the BCGEU Constitutional Convention. Nominations and elections are completed by the end of November.

### **What do stewards do?**

Stewards provide support and advice to members and help understand their rights under the collective agreement. Steward help members who are being treated unfairly. They make sure new employees receive an orientation to the Union and provide information on BCGEU services. Stewards conduct worksite votes and elections and keep members informed by distributing BCGEU communication.

### **What skills do I need to be a steward?**

Stewards are good listeners, problem solvers and team players. They have good communication skills and want to help others.

### **Is there training for new stewards?**

Yes. Stewards receive formal training with access to updates and additional training every year. The BCGEU also offers workshops on topics such as human rights, facing management, and accommodating disabilities at the workplace.

### **How do I become a steward?**

Steward elections are informal. A union member from your workplace must nominate you using the [Stewards Nomination Form](#). The number of stewards needed in your workplace will be outlined in your the collective agreement.

### **Who conducts elections?**

A current steward will conduct the vote. Only union members can vote so make sure you have signed a card. Membership cards are available from stewards and the BCGEU area offices.

If there is no steward in your workplace, or you have concerns about the election, contact your local chairperson through the area office.

**REMEMBER:** Management must not influence or interfere in steward elections. Report any such irregularities to your local chair and your staff representative through the area office.

**PLEASE POST IN WORKSITE**