

## Christine Hahn

Tradeswomen Heroes Award  
Winner - May 2023



**Level of Experience:** Journeyworker

**Years in Trade:** 20 years

**Union:** Boilermakers

**Local:** 128

**City:** Toronto, Ont.

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### Bio

Christine Hahn enrolled at the Boilermakers Local 555 union hall in Winnipeg in 2002 and transferred to Local 128 in Toronto in 2009. Starting out, Hahn was one of five women within her local. Now with over 20 years of experience, Hahn is using the knowledge and skills she has acquired over the years to support her brothers, and in particular, her sisters, to develop a stronger union.

One way she has been a part of positive change in her local is to help form a women's committee. Hahn has taken on the role as Inclusion Specialist on her local's women's committee and has assisted in the development of the committee itself and the mentorship program for newcomers on the job and in the union.

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### Why Christine Was Nominated

Christine Hahn, like many women in male dominated careers, has experienced the intimidation that can come by being the only woman or one of few women on the worksite. In one instance, Hahn was faced with an owner not wanting a woman on his site. Thanks to the strong union in place, her brothers announced in solidarity that if she goes, they all go.



Having experienced prejudice firsthand, Hahn has been able to provide important perspective to the local's women's committee as it was being established. Christine is the Inclusion Specialist on her committee and recognizes the importance of inclusion starting from the very beginning in order to retain women on the job and in the union. Hahn is an ally to incoming tradeswomen and points out that women before had to figure it out on their own, but that doesn't mean that women today should have to.

Recently, Hahn participated in the Canadian tripartite conference. Along with other women from her local's women's committee, she spoke on the importance of inclusion and why diversifying the union is important for its growth and health. Hahn should be applauded for her dedication to her local's women's committee. Hahn and the committee have played a pivotal role for representation on jobs, retention, keeping records of who comes into the trade, who's leaving and why they've left, advocating for childcare and extra benefits for maternity and focusing on diversity and inclusion.