School bus workers bear tremendous responsibilities. They must ensure the safe transport of children to and from school. School bus drivers are often the sole care provider and disciplinarian for children on the bus.

Despite these immense responsibilities, the average school bus worker is paid less and receives fewer benefits than other large vehicle operators and mechanics. And, increased outsourcing of student transportation to private companies is driving wages and benefits in the industry even lower.

School bus workers deserve more and the ATU is prepared to fight for them.

The ATU gives its members local control coupled with international assistance and support. This is particularly important for members in Canada, as it provides them with the autonomy they want and need, with readily available access to assistance from the ATU Canadian Council and ATU International.

Founded in 1892, the ATU, today, is comprised of over 180,000 members in over 270 local unions in nine Canadian provinces and 46 U.S. states.

The ATU’s numbers strengthen your power to secure better wages and benefits. Every ATU local, big or small, can draw on the resources and experience of the International, and can depend upon the support of ATU locals throughout Canada and the U.S.

The ATU is also a member of the Canadian Labour Congress, the largest federation of trade unions in Canada.

The difference between the ATU and other unions is that the ATU works just as hard for its smallest local as it does for its largest. No driver is left behind when ATU is on your side.

The ATU prides itself on the efficient collection and effective application of union dues. Canadian dues are collected in Canadian funds and held in Canadian banks.

Each ATU local is autonomous with the authority to set its own dues structure. The dues are used to support the local offices and fund the collective bargaining process.

All dues collected by the local remain with the local. In addition, there is a per capita surcharge every month to support the work of the International, its officers and staff. The per capita also pays for a number of services which directly benefit members, including the Funeral or Dismemberment Fund, the ATU Defense Fund, education seminars, legislative initiatives, etc.

ATU takes the collection and application of union dues very seriously. You work hard for your money, and we want to ensure you receive the best representation possible.
The ATU is the largest union in North America representing school bus and transit employees. ATU school bus drivers enjoy the highest wages and benefits in the industry.

- Today the ATU represents 20,000 school bus workers under the provisions of 40 labour contracts in Canada and the U.S. They are employed by Laidlaw, First Student, independent companies and public school districts.
- The ATU understands school bus jobs. For over 75 years the ATU has represented school bus workers, securing better wages and working conditions, including health care and pension benefits.
- The ATU was among the first to demand and provide safety and security training for its members.
- The ATU has a long, successful history of lobbying for its members before school boards, provincial legislatures and Parliament.

We know that school bus and special transit operators, matrons, escorts, aides, mechanics and maintenance employees serve with care, compassion, and skill every day. The ATU has the best resources and the most experience to help you acquire a more secure job and a better standard of living for you and your family. Vote ATU!

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