

## **LBED POLICY 06/10**

The Divisional Emergency Fund (DEF) has been established to provide assistance for LBED members of OPSEU who are experiencing an immediate, severe and temporary situation due to an emergency. A member with long standing financial challenges will not meet the requirements.

This will be on a first come, first served basis until the fund is exhausted. If the fund is exhausted, further applications cannot be considered until the fund is re-established. The monies available for the fund vary as these funds are as a result of fundraising.

The DEF is for members in good standing, who are experiencing unexpected and temporary financial hardship. The DEF Committee, which consists of the Officers of the Division, will require confirmation that the applicant has explored other avenues, such as local hardship funds and regional hardship fund of possible support before applying for the hardship fund. Applicants must be willing to repay the award from the hardship fund should their circumstances allow.

Request for assistance to the fund must be submitted by the applicant, using the DEF application form. Under exceptional circumstances the application may be filed by an individual advocating on behalf of the applicant. Application forms can be requested through LBED officers.

All requests are to be submitted via email to the LBED Officers and/or via regular mail to the LBED Negotiator at OPSEU head office and will be processed in a timely manner and with the strictest confidence.