



DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Worker Appreciation Day 2009

For Immediate Release

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3rd Annual Developmental Services: Worker Appreciation Day celebrated across Ontario

ONTARIO – Communities across the province are celebrating the important work of the people who care for and support individuals with developmental disabilities. Today marks the third annual Developmental Services: Worker Appreciation Day.

“We need to take the time to celebrate the incredible work done by the people who work in community based developmental service agencies,” said Sue Walker, chair of OPSEU's developmental services sector. “These workers have dedicated their lives to helping people with developmental disabilities live as independently as possible. The difference these quality staff make in their lives is incalculable.”

Developmental services workers in community based agencies provide professional care to people with developmental or “intellectual” disabilities through programs designed to enrich their lives in every way possible. The work they do is varied, providing life skills and other training; support with basic personal tasks; and administering medications.

Developmental services workers are on the job around the clock in community residences and high support behavioural homes, as well as providing support to individuals in their own homes.

“It’s important to take the time out to recognize the contributions that our members make, not only to the people they support but also to their families and our community,” said Warren (Smokey) Thomas, President of OPSEU. “We hope everyone joins us in thanking the developmental service workers in our own communities.”

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For further information on this issue and the local events, please contact:

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