



Developments ON THE LINE

Issue 2 July 26, 2007



Sorbara gets an earful

Members picket Finance Minister in Newmarket

OPSEU Developmental services members picketed a nomination meeting in Newmarket July 25 and were able to give Ontario Finance Minister Greg Sorbara a thorough briefing.

This was one more in a series of events this week by striking members to make their voices heard and challenge Liberal cabinet ministers to lead on the issue of underfunding for developmental services.

“The members were strong and made it clear to Minister Sorbara that they are not second-class workers and can no longer be treated that way,” said OPSEU First-Vice President – Treasurer Patty Rout. “The message got through loud and clear.”

The members handed out leaflets and held a pointed discussion of the issues with Sorbara. They informed the Finance Minister of the funding gaps in developmental services and the reasons for the series of strikes breaking out across Ontario on the eve of an upcoming election.



You got yours! Where's ours? OPSEU members including Local 235 from Meaford met with Ontario Finance Minister Greg Sorbara in Newmarket. Photo courtesy Doris Middleton.

In attendance were First VP Patty Rout, Region 3 Vice President Doris Middleton, striking members from Local 235 in Meaford, and Paul Johnstone of Owen Sound (Corrections MERC).

Also there were members of Local 332, Community Living Association for South Simcoe (CLASS), Joan Gates, President of Local 331, Whitby Mental Health Centre, and Mike Seaward of the Toronto and York Labour Council.

Fighting for fairness !

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Join the list and make a difference: Your donations are appreciated

Any strike that goes on for more than a few weeks becomes a financial hardship for the members on the picket line. These strikes are no different.

President Thomas is calling on all OPSEU locals and sectors to make a financial donation to the Hardship Relief Committees of the striking locals.

“The purpose of any trade union is to share the burden of struggle among all its members so all members can make progress,” says Thomas.

“Your contribution to the battle being waged by developmental services workers will play a big role in their inevitable success. Thank you in advance for your generosity and solidarity.”

On behalf of our 1,051 members on strike, thank you to the following for their financial support;

OPSEU Local 101, London
OPSEU Local 102, London
OPSEU Local 103, London/Aylmer
OPSEU Local 104, London
OPSEU Local 105, London
OPSEU Local 106, London
OPSEU Local 108, London
OPSEU Local 109, London
OPSEU Local 115, St. Thomas
OPSEU Local 126, Cedar Springs
OPSEU Local 129, Chatham
OPSEU Local 130, Chatham
OPSEU Local 132, Chatham
OPSEU Local 145, Sarnia
OPSEU Local 150, Wallaceburg
OPSEU Local 160, London, Windsor & Sarnia
OPSEU Local 162, Windsor & Chatham
OPSEU Local 283, Peel
OPSEU Local 323, Orillia
OPSEU Local 358, Peterborough
OPSEU Local 500, Toronto
OPSEU Local 512, Toronto

OPSEU Local 545, Toronto
OPSEU Local 667, North Bay
OPSEU Local 710, Thunder Bay
Ron Elliot, Region 1 Executive Board Member
Mike Grimaldi, Region 2 Executive Board Member
Ron Langer, President, Local 103
Waltraud Knott, member Local 112
Dennis Wilson, President Local 101
Elizabeth Ha, Chair, OPSEU Young Workers Ctee.
Ruth Hamilton, OPSEU Staff
OPSEU London and District Area Council
OPSEU BPS Developmental Services Sector
OPSEU Region 1 Promoting the Union Agenda Fund
OPSEU Region 3 Promoting the Union Agenda Fund
OPSEU Region 4 Promoting the Union Agenda Fund
OPSEU Region 6 Promoting the Union Agenda Fund
CAW Local 1001, St Thomas
CUPE Local 12
CUPE Local 82, Windsor
CUPE Local 2220, St. Catharines
CUPE Local 2242
CUPE Local 2597, Exeter
CUPE Local 3137, Windsor
CUPE Local 4370, Sarnia
CUPE Local 841, St. Thomas
CUPW, St. Thomas Local
UFCW Local 1000A, London Unit
St. Thomas and District Labour Council

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