



Developments ON THE LINE

Issue 3 July 27, 2007



Liberals to get the message

Striking OPSEU members and supporters visited a number of events yesterday to put pressure on the Liberal government to ensure a living wage for developmental services workers and quality services for the people they support.

Hamilton Mountain: Developmental Services Sector Chair Sue Walker and Region 2 members, including striking Local 235 members from Meaford, attended a Liberal nomination meeting in Hamilton Mountain.

The OPSEU members demonstrated peacefully and respectfully. Unfortunately, Liberal supporters did not respect our picket or our message.

“Nine of us live in this riding and would like to talk to the Liberal candidate,” Walker told Liberal officials at the meeting.

But the nominated Liberal candidate did not come out to discuss the issues with our members.

Nickel Belt: OPSEU Executive Board Member Mandy Dumais reports that about a dozen members went to the Liberal nomination meeting for the Nickel-Belt riding July 26 in Chelmsford.

Local 676 President Carolyn Schram organized and lead the information picket and did interviews with CTV and the local media.

Dumais cornered Sudbury MPP Rick Bartolucci and urged his government to release the promised funds and help for a decent wage and back to their clients.

Pembroke: Members of the Liberal cabinet can't go anywhere without running into – or away from -- OPSEU members.

At the last minute, Region 4 Executive Board



OPSEU developmental service workers at the Hamilton Mountain Liberal nomination meeting. Photo courtesy Deb Farrar Local 235

Member Dave Lundy found out that Attorney General Michael Bryant was planning to be in Pembroke for the inauguration of a new courthouse July 26.

Lundy got in his car and made the long trek from Merrickville to ask the Minister if his government was planning to do something to step up with needed funds to get striking developmental service workers back to work.

But he didn't get the chance.

“It would have been a good opportunity to ask a few pointed questions, but Bryant slipped out the back door when he heard I was in the building,” reports Lundy.

“Too bad - he might have learned something.”

Fighting for fairness !

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Your donations are appreciated! Here's how to help

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.”

Note: For Region 1 locals, please send all donations to the addresses in the chart below, pro-rating your donation according to the percentages indicated. Donations to Local 235, in Region 2, are equally important but separate from this arrangement.

Local number	Make cheque payable to:	Mailing address	# of members	Per cent of total	Donation per striking local
144	OPSEU Local 144 Strike Support	c/o Deb Morpew, 579 Classic Drive, London, ON N5W 5X9	565	50 %	Your total Region 1 donation x 0.5
148	OPSEU Local 148 Strike Support	c/o Wayne Easterbrook, Unit #1, 57 St. Anthony St., Chatham, ON N7M 3Y2	227	20 %	Your total Region 1 donation x 0.2
151	OPSEU Local 151 Strike Support	c/o Annie Robert, 177 Manitoba Street, St. Thomas, ON N5P 3A5	215	20 %	Your total Region 1 donation x 0.2
161	OPSEU Local 161 Strike Support	c/o Nancy John, 185084 Cornell Road, R.R. #3, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 4G8	115	10 %	Your total Region 1 donation x 0.1
235	Local 235 Strike Fund	Local 235 Strike Headquarters 4 Sykes St. Meaford, ON N4L 1V5	44	NA – separate donation from Region 1 locals	NA – separate donation from Region 1 locals

Send us your photos

Do you have pictures of members of your developmental services local or events? We would like to publish a great photo every day. Please send photos to: dcox@opseu.org

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For more information: OPSEU Direct 1-800-268-7376

Authorized by Warren (Smokey) Thomas, OPSEU President



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