

CADOGAN CHATLINE

News from the frontlines in long term care

Sector 8 Newsletter, February 2005



Chair's Report

In the past year the sector has covered a lot of ground:

- We held a very successful leadership development course.
- We're developing an orientation binder for new executive members.
- We've kept you updated on emerging issues through regular FYI's and our quarterly newsletter.
- We've completed assessments for all but two of our locals on benefits, pension plans and jobs descriptions.
- We developed a bargaining survey and guidelines to assist our members through negotiations.
- We've reviewed our bylaws and proposed updates and changes for your approval.
- We've revamped our newsletter to honour the work of our membership.
- And we've kept up with the day-to-day duties.

We are now preparing our health and safety course for the BPS Conference. I strongly

encourage all locals to make sure you have members there.

As always, communication with our members remains a top priority.

In Solidarity,
Debbie MacDonald, Sector 8 Executive Chair

Our new name

Our newsletter has a new name. Cadogan means 'honour in battle' in Welsh.

The executive thought it was very appropriate since it seems everything we do has become a battle. We face constant changes in government regulations and rules set by our employers on how we should deliver our valuable services. There seems to be no end to the obstacles put between us and our ability to do our jobs. Yet day after day we come out fighting and do it with dignity, knowledge and respect.

The executive members thought our newsletter needed a name that honoured our spirit as it holds this sector together day in and day out. We hope you agree.

Congratulations to Local 261 and Post Inn Village!

Post Inn Village is a new facility run by the same employer as our Allendale unit. Staff at the Allendale site were given the opportunity to move to the new facility before the jobs were posted publicly. As a new facility with no successor rights in place, Post Inn Village was non-union. Staff moving to the new site worked quickly with our organizing unit and their staff rep. to ensure the Post Inn Village was organized. The 95 per cent vote in favour of joining OPSEU is a huge testament to their great work.

Thank you for all your hard work — we congratulate you on your success.

This is just another example of why we chose 'Cadogan' as our name. Honour in Battle.

BPS Conference 2005

September 15, 16, and 17

Our Broader Public Service (BPS) Conference has been confirmed for September 15, 16, and 17 at the Delta Meadowvale in Mississauga.

The theme for the conference is 'Resistance.' We have recently lost some members and we must do all we can to make sure this doesn't happen again.

Your executive is holding a sector-specific health and safety course that will begin on Saturday and wrap up on Sunday around 1pm. Mary Plesa and Lynn Muir are working with Terri Aversa (Health and Safety Officer with OPSEU) to ensure it covers the needs of our sector. They may also be co-facilitating.

Elections for our Sector Executive will be held Saturday night following the health and safety course. All executive positions are up for grabs. Hopefully we will repeat history and have contested races in all our positions. You will also be asked to vote on changes and updates to our bylaws that your executive feels are needed. Make sure your dues are paid up so that you are able to run and vote at the meeting.

You will be hearing more from us, encouraging members from all units to attend. Mark the date on your calendar now. See you there!

The conference notice will come out in June. If you are from a composite local make sure your president gets a copy to you.

You can also check the OPSEU website www.opseu.org for more details and click on health.

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