

The Part-Time Times

A newsletter for Ontario community college part-time and sessional employees and friends

Union crafts position on changes to college bargaining law

OPSEU is working hard to point the McGuinty government in the right direction as it prepares changes to the labour law for community college workers.

Under a process set up in August, the government has appointed Kevin Whitaker to review the *Colleges Collective Bargaining Act*. Whitaker, the chair of the Ontario Labour Relations Board, has been asked to make recommendations to recognize bargaining rights for part-time and sessional college workers.

“Working with OPSEU, part-timers and sessionals have a chance now to have their say on how the new law will work,” says Roger Couvrette, president of OPSECAAT, the organization of part-timers and sessionals. “The union will be presenting Mr. Whitaker with a well-thought-out, comprehensive position aimed at creating the best possible bargaining framework for part-timers and sessionals.”

Whitaker has asked interested parties to make written submissions by Nov. 16. Public consultations will follow in the two weeks after.

Organizing drive on track

The OPSEU drive to get part-timers and sessionals to sign union cards is unfolding as it should. Organizing committees are in place at every college and card-signing has begun. Full details on OPSEU’s

“It’s time” campaign are on the web at www.collegeworkers.org. College workers may also call the OPSEU hotline at 1-866-811-7274.

Visit our web site – get a free “It’s time!” clock!

Visitors to the web site at www.collegeworkers.org can get a free “It’s time!” desk clock when they provide their contact information.

“Every desk clock is a little billboard promoting our organizing drive in the workplace,” says Roger Couvrette of OPSECAAT. “We hope they’ll get people talking. We encourage all college workers to order one now while we still have them in stock.”

The Part-Time Times is authorized for distribution by Roger Couvrette, president of the Organization of Part-Time and Sessional Employees of the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology (OPSECAAT), and Warren (Smokey) Thomas, president of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU).

