



The POSO Post

A newsletter for Province of Ontario Savings Office Staff

Issue #3, July 2002

Savings Office fightback committee led by union, irate depositors, staff across Ontario

OPSEU is mobilizing its own resources, POSO staff, and depositors to fight back against the impending privatization of the Savings Office.

OPSEU members, union representatives and depositors met July 3 in Guelph.

"It's time to get political and put the heat on MPPs in their ridings during the summer recess so they go back to their offices and tell Ernie Eves and Janet Ecker to back off," members were told.

Conference call

Unionized POSO staff are invited to participate in an upcoming conference call about the next step in our fightback campaign. Please contact David Cox at OPSEU (see below) for details on the call. Each branch should have one member participate.

Be your MPP's worst nightmare!

Call your MPP now and tell them what you think of the plan to sell the Savings Office. Ask friends and neighbours to help. Conservative members Ernie Hardeman, Dianne Cunningham, Helen Johns, Brenda Elliott and Bill Murdoch have Savings Office branches in their ridings. Go pay them a visit. Not sure what to say? Call David Cox or Tim Little at OPSEU (1-800-268-7376). Ask your OPSEU local for help. See page 2 for more information.

OPSEU continues to stay in touch with the Liberals and NDP at Queen's Park. Both parties have been active in the Legislature on our behalf.

Eves to banks: "Pay whatever you want for POSO"

On July 4, the government issued the Request for Expressions of Interest for potential buyers of the Savings Office. By now members will have read the terms and conditions of this sale.

One thing we don't know is the asking price. Bay Street financiers can set the price themselves, apparently. We're told the government wants between \$20-million and \$100 million. That's a big gap.

Liberal MPP Gerry Phillips said the sale of assets was like "a household having to sell the furniture to buy the groceries."

NDP MPP Tony Martin said the government was selling off the family silverware to balance the budget. "We noted in the last budget the government brought down, in their effort to buy an election, that they sold off Highway 407. Now they're proposing to sell off half of Ontario Hydro. Not only that, but in this budget

bill we're looking at here today, they're proposing to sell off the Province of Ontario Savings Office, which provides for this government a vehicle of some significant income."

Stay active - Keep in touch

Help us keep in touch with you by e-mail. Send your home e-mail address to lwilliams@opseu.org and mention you are from the Province of Ontario Savings Office. See the POSO anti-privatization campaign on the OPSEU web site for more things to do to keep POSO public.

Authorized for distribution:

Leah Casselman, President

The POSO Post is sent to keep you informed of news from your Union and issues of concern to you at your workplace. Please contact David Cox at 416-268-7376 x 314 or at dcox@opseu.org, or see OPSEU's web site at <http://www.opseu.org/campaign/posoindex.htm>

These MPPs have Savings Office branches/agencies in or near their ridings - Call today!

Windsor

Dwight Duncan - Lib - Windsor St Clair

Telephone: 519-251-5199

Sandra Pupatello - Lib - Windsor West

Telephone: 519-977-7191

Seaforth

Hon. Helen Johns - PC - Huron Bruce

Telephone: 519-524-2979

St. Mary's

Bert Johnson - PC - Perth Middlesex

Telephone: 519-272-0660

London

Frank Mazzilli - PC - London Fanshawe

Telephone: 519-668-1104

Bob Wood - PC - London West

Telephone: 519-657-3120

Hon. Diane Cunningham

Tel : 519-432-7339

Aylmer

Steve Peters - Lib - Elgin Middlesex London

Telephone: 519-631-0666

Hamilton

Dominic Agostino Lib - Ham East

Telephone: 905-544-9644

David Christopherson- ND - Ham West

Telephone: 905-529-1277

Guelph

Brenda Elliott PC - Guelph

Telephone: 519-836-4190

St. Catharines

Jim Bradley - Lib - St Catharines

Telephone: 905-935-0018

Brantford

Dave Levac - Lib - Brant

Telephone: 519-759-0361

Owen Sound and Walkerton

Bill Murdoch - PC - Bruce Grey Owen Sound

Telephone: 519-371-2421

Pembroke

Sean Conway - Lib - Renfrew

Telephone: 613-735-6627

Ottawa

Dalton McGuinty - Lib - Ottawa South

Telephone: 613-736-9573

Richard Patten - Lib - Ottawa Centre

Telephone: 613-722-6414

Toronto

Michael Bryant - Lib - St Paul's

Telephone: 416-656-0943

Marilyn Churley - ND - Toronto Danforth

Telephone: 416-461-0223

Rosario Marchese - ND- Trinity Spadina

Telephone: 416-603-9664

Michael Prue - ND - Beaches East York

Telephone: 416-690-1032

George Smitherman - Lib - Toronto Rosedale

Telephone: 416-972-7683

Sudbury (Gogama and Killarney)

Rick Bartolucci - Lib - Sudbury

Telephone: 705-675-1914

Michael Brown - Lib - Algoma Manitoulin

Telephone: 705-777-1213

Shelley Martel - ND - Nickel Belt

Telephone: 705-969-3621

Virginiatown

David Ramsay - Lib - Timiskaming Cochrane

Telephone: 705-567-4650

Thunder Bay (Pickle Lake and Armstrong)

Mike Gravelle - Lib - Thunder Bay Superior North

Telephone: 807-345-3647

Howard Hampton - ND - Kenora Rainy River

Telephone: 807-274-7619

Lyn McLeod- Lib - Thunder Bay Atikokan

Telephone: 807-623-9237

Email for all MPPs can be found at www.ontla.on.ca/Members/all_email/index.htm