

Day 1

IN SOLIDARITY PRESENTS:

CONVENTION UPDATE

April 14th,
2005

Rainford Jackson Award

The Sioux Lookout Anti-Racism Committee (SLARC) was awarded the Rainford Jackson Education and Development Fund Award.

This group has developed innovative strategies to make change possible through cooperation, education, personal example and timely input focusing on systemic issues using an organized, strategic approach.

This group helped form the Sioux Lookout Multicultural Youth Group and a project called "Pis-ka-pii-win: Empowerment and Healing through Rediscovery." This project will create a cultural outdoor education camp to

help aboriginal youth gain traditional knowledge, make closer connections to elders and the land, and learn cultural teachings. Youth recognize that this will help them to re-discover and respect themselves, thereby helping to address pressing problems of youth substance abuse and suicide.



The award recognizes an organization or project that aims to reduce racism and improve the conditions of minorities and includes a financial contribution of \$5,000. ☺

The late Rainford Jackson was a Region 1 activist with a strong interest in education and human rights.

OPSEU



Honourary Life Memberships

Bill Henry (Region 3) - Bill was local president for 26 years and served as a member of MERC (Ministry of Finance), Resolution and Constitution Committees. He also served as a member of Orillia Area Council, Barrie Labour Council and currently represents the region on the Retirees Division.

Larry Sauer (Region 6) - Larry sat on CAAT Support bargaining teams representing the technical

group. He became strike captain during OPSEU's first CAAT strike in 1979. He was a long-standing local president and had represented the region as a member of the resolutions committee. He also sat on many CAAT Support committees, including Employer/Employee Relations Committees.

Vic Williams (Region 7) *posthumously* Vic worked throughout six decades in the public service. He became an EBM in 1970 and fought to get union status for the Civil Service Association of Ontario (now OPSEU). Vic became an OPSEU staff rep in Thunder Bay and served the area for over two decades. Vic passed away on April 1, 2005. He had been notified of this prestigious award.

Individual Health & Safety Award

Violet Stringer is a Health & Safety leader in her community, her local and her sector. She is a certified instructor with the Workers' Health and Safety Centre. As the Health & Safety Representative on the OPSEU Developmental Services Executive Committee, she was instrumental in developing the Developmental Services Sector's Health & Safety Level 1 course, specifically designed for developmental service workers.



mandate to rewrite the employer's Health & Safety policies to ensure that they are relevant to all aspects of the employer's operation. Outside of her own workplace and sector, Violet has provided Health & Safety training to employees in other workplaces and has developed and delivered Health & Safety courses in schools. ☺

Local 448, Pathways to Independence, has become a leader within the sector on Health & Safety issues. Sister Stringer convinced her employer to create a full-time Health & Safety Coordinator/Trainer, a position she now holds.

Violet provides Health & Safety training to employees before they start to work with clients. She was given a

That's All Folks....

The Executive Board had an unprecedented low number of nominations submitted for the annual OPSEU awards. There was no Local Health & Safety Award, Individual or Local Human Rights Awards, Live and Let Live Award or Stanley Knowles Humanitarian Award this year.

CAUCUSES - April 14

Francophone Caucus, 12 noon, Elgin	Canadian Blood Services Caucus, 4 p.m., Peel Room
Youth Caucus, 12 noon, Kent	Hospital Professionals Division Caucus, 5 p.m. Conference B & C
Developmental Services Sector 2 Caucus, 12 noon, Conference B & C	OPS Caucus, 5 p.m., Grand Ballroom
Aboriginal Circle Meeting, 12 noon, Peel	Pension Trustees Q & A Session, 5 p.m., Kent Room
CAAT(S) Caucus, 12 noon, Dufferin & Simcoe	Aboriginal Circle, 5 p.m. Dominion Ballroom North
Health Care Support – Sector 11 Caucus, 12 noon, Wentworth	Children's Aid Sector, 5 p.m., Conference E
COMSOC Caucus, 12 noon, Conference E	Rainbow Alliance Caucus, 6 p.m., Kenora Room
Probation & Parole Caucus, 12 noon, Civic Ballroom North	Workers of Colour Forum/Caucus, 6 p.m., Wentworth

Brought to you by *IN SOLIDARITY*

This is the twelfth year that the editorial committee of *In Solidarity* has produced the daily updates. We will provide a record of Convention events and happenings.

Who we are: Len Mason, Local 737; Laurie Sabourin, Local 438; Larry Farr, Local 559; Suzanne Clancy, Local 240; Ken Palmer, Local 456; Jamie Tocker, Executive Board Liaison; and Don Ford, OPSEU Communications.

