



FRONT *lines*

Information for OPSEU members in the Ontario Public Service • April 10, 2006

Deadline extended for MTO security checks

OPSEU members in the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario who will be required to sign consent forms related to security checks now have until April 18 to do so.

OPSEU and the ministry will discuss some outstanding issues related to the forms at a grievance hearing this week. MTO members are advised to wait before signing. More information

should be available by Thursday.

For background information on the security checks, see the Dec. 9, 2005 and March 30, 2006 editions of *FRONTlines*. If you have a specific question, please contact your OPSEU local president or staff representative, or call OPSEU Job Security Officer Marg Simmons at 1-800-268-7376 ext. 8377 or (416) 443-8888 ext. 8377.

Federal workers inch closer to OPS

Info sessions planned for OPSEU members

OPSEU members are about to find out more about a plan to transfer about 700 federal jobs into the Ontario Public Service.

Ottawa and Queen's Park have agreed to move certain federal Employment Insurance programs to the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities. The federal jobs will end up in the Labour Market and Training Division of MTCU on Jan. 1, 2007.

The transfer plan and an accompanying Q&A are posted on the ministry web site. Information sessions for current federal workers are under way this week; sessions for current OPS workers in the Labour Market and Training Division will happen April 18-21.

An OPSEU representative will attend each session along with management representatives.

As reported earlier in *FRONTlines* (Nov. 25, 2005), federal employees will be covered by the OPSEU collective agreement as soon as they come into the OPS.

For more information, contact OPSEU Job Security Officer Stephen George at (416) 443-8888 ext. 8715 or 1-800-268-7376 ext. 8715.

Community groups stand up for Human Rights Commission

Human Rights advocates launched a blistering attack last week on Attorney General Michael Bryant's plan to dismantle the Ontario Human Rights Commission. In a question to Bryant in the Legislature last Wednesday, NDP MPP Peter Kormos summed the issue up succinctly: "It's real nice to hear that the lawyers are onside. The problem is that the victims of discrimination aren't onside. You are slashing and burning, and you're going to dismantle the commission with your direct-access proposal. Since your announcement six weeks ago, group after group, individual after individual who works out there on the front lines, on the street, on the ground with victims of discrimination and racism, amongst other things, has been condemning your proposal. Why won't you back off, sit down with these folks, consult in a way that you haven't consulted, and develop reforms that are going to work for everyone, not just your lawyer friends?"

Find out more at www.protectyourrights.ca.