



FRONT *lines*

Information for OPSEU members in the Ontario Public Service • January 11, 2007

OPSEU reaches “workforce adjustment agreement” for members in Ministry of Finance

OPSEU and management representatives on the CTAR Working Group have signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to help protect OPSEU members who may be impacted by the Corporate Tax Administration Redesign (CTAR). Under CTAR, approximately 600 OPSEU positions in the Ministry of Finance’s Corporate Tax Division are to be transferred to the federal government over the next several years.

The MOA will reduce the impact on full-time classified members affected by CTAR by increasing options for lateral transfers to other vacant positions within the ministry. It also gives the employer greater flexibility in back-filling temporary vacancies that result from these lateral transfers.

“This agreement is good news for members who are affected by CTAR,” said Kathleen Demareski, OPSEU Co-chair of the Ministry Enforcement and Renewal Committee (MERC).

The agreement increases the number of positions in the ministry that are considered “suitable” for lateral transfers by members affected by CTAR. The specific positions are listed in two appendices to the MOA. Both parties have agreed to continue exploring other positions that may be identified as suitable for lateral transfers in the future.

Lateral Transfer Request Form

Under the agreement, members interested in transferring into a position that will remain in the OPS must complete a special CTAR Lateral Transfer Request Form. Once a vacancy arises in one of the identified positions, the member with the most seniority will be transferred to the new position. *For the purposes of current vacancies, members must submit their Lateral Transfer Form by 9 a.m. on January 23.*

Once your transfer has been approved, however, there may be an operational need for you to continue work in your corporation tax function on a temporary basis. In this case, your new position will be temporarily filled by a ‘limited term appointment’ (LTA) employee. Limited term appointments will be used for periods of over two years but not more than five years. Specific provisions of the Collective Agreement that will apply to LTA positions are outlined in the MOA.

The full Memorandum of Agreement – including the lists of positions eligible for lateral transfers – and the CTAR Lateral Transfer Request Form are available on the OPSEU website at: <http://www.opseu.org/ops/merc/finance/taxprogramtransfer.htm>.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your Local Union steward or a member of the CTAR Working Group.

OPSEU representatives on the Working Group are: Kathleen Demareski (Co-Chair), Leo Herskovits, Betty Marchegiano, Marg Simmons (OPSEU Job Security Officer) and Brian Gould (OPSEU OPS Supervisor). To reach an OPSEU member of the working group, contact them directly or call 1-866-389-3037.

Make sure it’s right

As the New Year unfolds, OPSEU members in the Ontario Public Service are reminded to check your information on the Workforce Information Network (WIN). It is important to verify that your continuous service date and your new rate of pay is correct. If this information is not correct, please contact your manager to have the error corrected immediately.