



APRIL/MAY 2025

OPSEU Frontlines

OPSEU Local 101's monthly newsletter

Greetings from your Local President

SUSAN BOHNERT HAMELIN

Hi Everyone,

The last few months have been fast and furious. There is much going on with Notices to Bargain for WRH, HDGH and ESHC. The Demand Set meetings were held and the Teams have undergone Bargaining training. The next step is to prepare the proposals for the Negotiations with the respective Employers. The OPSEU Annual Convention in April, gave us an opportunity to network and participate in rallies and conversations about our Union. Those in attendance were able to share interests and stories with other OPSEU Leaders and members from every Region. The Local is planning on having upcoming LEC meetings in June and September, noting a break for the summer months and everyone's need to relax and disconnect from work for a bit. Our Local continues to grow with the addition of new members, so if you know of anyone new in your department, please make sure they reach out to me or one of the LEC members so that we can get them registered with the Union. If anyone is in need of a paper copy of their Collective Agreement, please let me know, as I have a few copies left of the current versions. If you wish to access online, please make sure you log onto the opseu101.org website, and click on the current Collective Agreement link.

As always, if you have questions about the CA, your work environment or general inquiries, please feel free to reach out to myself or a Union Executive or Steward. Wishing you all a safe and fun summer ahead. Please look for any emails on upcoming events in our areas, or other areas that are being offered for educational training, rallies, events and social functions in support of the Union.

In Solidarity,
Susan



Meet a member

CHERYL WINDRAM

I've been with Windsor Regional Hospital for 15 years, first at Met and now at Ouellette Campus. You will always find me pushing my WOW cart, collecting blood samples from all patient care floors. I work for the Laboratory in Specimen Procurement as a Lab Assistant.

Our SPD team covers the entire hospital, everyone from ER patients, trauma cases, newborns, pediatrics, cancer center patients, literally all patients demographics and even new hires. If someone needs a blood test, they see our incredible Lab team.

I love the behind-the-scenes world of lab life, the science, the diagnostics testing of what these little blood samples tell us. Our frontline care in acquiring them is truly unique, we share vulnerable moments with patients, whether it's the joy of a newborn, the shock of unexpected news, or the emotions of end-of-life care. We witness it all. What I take the most pride in with my job is the conversations and life wisdom people share with me. Some of my most meaningful moments have come from patients facing their own mortality, their own life-altering events. It leaves me with deep appreciation and gratitude to be able to come to work healthy and to offer even five minutes of listening or some kind of comforting gesture.

Outside of the shift work life style I have two young boys who keep me busy, organizing park playdates with friends, going to the zoo, or a even a bike ride, I truly enjoy the outdoors. I love hosting a good homemade pizza and wine night too.

I'm grateful for my family and for my work family and to be part of an amazing team that supports one another through the challenges and demands of healthcare.

In the lab, teamwork is everything, whether it's assisting a colleague during a busy shift, troubleshooting unexpected issues, or ensuring every sample is handled with care. As an OPSEU member, I believe in advocating for a workplace where we all feel heard, respected, and valued, also ensuring we have the support, resources, and fair working conditions we need to provide the best care possible. All of our roles are important.

Local 101 Donations Committee will be presenting cheques to our 2025 donations recipients on June 5th between 5 and 6pm at the local office, 3005 Marentette. Members are welcome to attend!

Region 1 Educationals - March

Some of your Local 101 members attended recent Educationals in March. Weekend educational like this one are fantastic ways to learn more about your union, build skills and connect with other members across the region. There are workshops on a variety of topics whether you're new to the union or looking to grow your activism. If you're interested in attending a future educational, check out the OPSEU website or reach out to a member of the LEC. We would be happy to help you find a workshop that fits your interests! Your time will be paid and lunch/snacks are provided. Here is some feedback from those that attended recently...

Shannon Duncan - I had the exciting opportunity to attend the Region 1 educational as a co-facilitator for the "Social Media in the Union" workshop. It was an incredible experience to help lead conversations about how we can use social media to engage, inform and empower our members.

Jen Burton Liang - I attended the educational "Follow the Money: A first course in public economics." It was lead by a dynamic instructor who taught me so much about understanding the basics of how public funding and politics are intertwined. I also met fellow OPSEU members from across the province and sectors and had some great discussions.

Anna Rowles - I took the Public Speaking - Finding your voice, Connecting with your audience. It was an incredibly educational course with wonderful facilitators. From learning tips and tricks on how write a speech, whether a short informal one or a more serious, lengthy speech, to gaining confidence and hearing critiques on how to maintain that connection with the audience; I was able to leave the course with a renewed sense of confidence in my public speaking abilities and some tricks of the trade to ensure any speeches I give are well received. The OPSEU offered educationals are always a great learning experience and a wonderful time networking with other OPSEU members.



OPSEU shares its Reconciliation Journey

OPSEU has created a wonderful resource to let members know about the history of our reconciliation journey. Through photos, videos, website links and articles we can learn about our union's history in promoting reconciliation and indigenous awareness. This inspires us in our future endeavours!

Go to www.opseu.org/reconciliation-story

New Blue Cross Health Care provider (WRH & Erie Shores)

All our coverage from Greenshield is identical with our new provider Blue Cross. If you have questions about your health insurance coverage, know that you have the ability to contact the provider directly to inquire about specific items or services. They can provide detailed information about what is and isn't included in your plan. If you feel that certain items should be covered but are not, or if you're unsure about the response you've received please reach out to a member of the LEC and we can assist you with finding the correct information.

Wednesday, May 28, 2025
12 pm - 1 pm

Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel
at 123 Queen Street West

*ALL OUT TO SUPPORT HOSPITAL
PROFESSIONALS IN BARGAINING*

RALLY



Value our work NOW!

Do you have a child or grandchild entering a Canadian university or college this year? Check out our OPSEU Local 101 Scholarships!

There are 15 x \$1000 Scholarships available!

Scholarship information and forms have been updated on our website:
www.opseu101.org/scholarships

Deadline is June 4, 2025



Local 101 delegates and alternates at OPSEU convention 2025