

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

OPSEU Frontlines

OPSEU Local 101's newsletter

New Local Membership Office!

The OPSEU/SEFPO Region 1 Windsor Regional Office has moved to 4510 Rhodes Drive, Unit 100, Windsor, ON, departing from its previous Marentette Avenue location. This is an exciting moment for both members and staff to have renewed space that will provide for increased work areas, boardrooms, and membership space.









Local 101 Membership Office, 4510 Rhodes Drive, Unit 100, Windsor, ON

OPSEU Fall 2026 Educationals, Training and Networking

OPSEU offers its members excellent education and networking opportunities! Many educationals will cover your lost wages to attend as well as other costs such as travel, hotel and food. Educational programs and networking empowers members to create meaningful change in our workplaces and communities. If you are ever interested in attending one of these opportunities, check out www.opseu.org/education or ask an LEC member for info about local offerings.

Oct 7-8, 2026 - Sector 10 HPD Bootcamp, Collingwood, ON

The Sector 10 HPD Bootcamp was held from October 7-8, 2026 in Collingwood. It brought together locals to network, strategize, educate, and provide resources on several topics of key importance to the members in the Division such as Health & Safety, Grievances, and Legislation Updates. There was fruitful discussion on whether OPSEU will challenge HLDAA. Keep an eye on your email for a survey from HPD which is looking for our input on how to navigate this.



Local 101 LEC members in attendance at the Sector 10 HPD Bootcamp: (Left to right) Anna Rowles, Ema Sisic, Susan Bohnert Hamelin, Nichole Strong



Oct 16-18, 2026 - Editor's Weekend Toronto, ON

Communications Chair, Jen Burton Liang, attended a weekend Educational to learn new skills related to our webiste, newsletter and social media. Topics included: accessibility, effective writing, web design and graphic design.

Sept and Oct, 2026 - Stewards 1 Training, Windsor, ON

Stewards 1 is the foundational training program for union stewards. It builds the core skills and knowledge needed to represent members and strengthen the union locally. All elected stewards are required to have this training. Our local was able to ensure 18 of our stewards received training this fall.



Complete your HPD Action Survey today!

If you did not receive an email link to the HPD survery, please check your email as this has been sent out to you. You can also click here

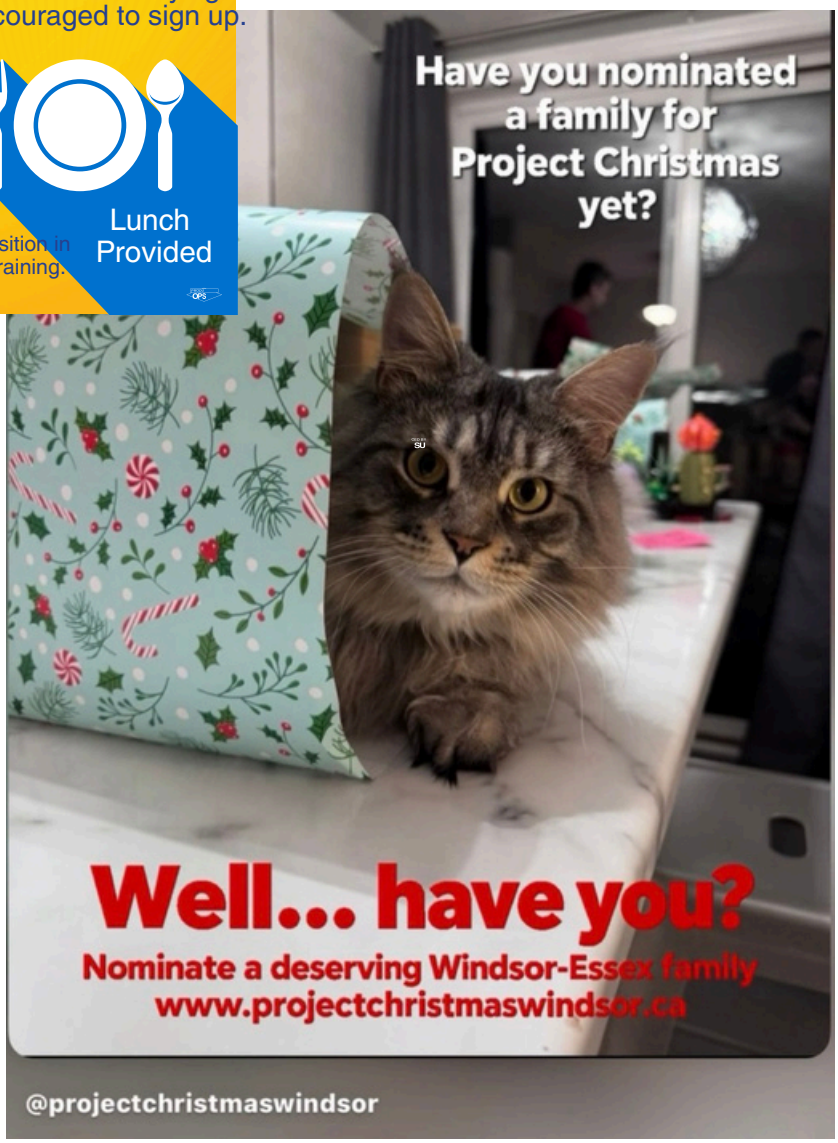
Your input is needed to make important decisions concerning labour disputes in the health care sector. Your voice will play a role in choosing which direction your union goes!

Complete by November 1st, 2026

Nominate a family to Project Christmas!

Our local has worked closely with Project Christmas for several years supporting their Christmas giving to deserving local families. Now is your chance to nominate a family you feel needs help to have a special holiday this year. Go to www.projectchristmaswindsor.ca

Project Christmas is also looking for large cardboard moving boxes to help with organizing and delivering gifts. Reach out to them if you have some. Stay tuned for more info on their gift wrapping event!



Meet a member

JESSICA AUSTIN



I have been a social worker for over 20 years. I began my career at Windsor Regional Hospital and transitioned to Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare during re-alignment. Throughout my career, I have worked across many different departments, including Problem Gambling Services, the Regional Children's Centre, geriatric care, and inpatient mental health, before accepting my current role as an inpatient social worker and discharge planner in inpatient rehabilitation.

In this role, I organize and facilitate safe discharge plans for patients who are either returning home or transitioning to retirement homes and long-term care facilities. A major part of my job involves communicating with patients and their families, as well as liaising with community partners, to ensure the safest and most appropriate destination for each patient based on their current support systems and physical abilities.

I have lost track of exactly how long it has been since I stepped into the role of a union steward for OPSEU, but I have always been a vocal champion for fairness and equality. Naturally, becoming a steward felt like the perfect fit!

In my free time, I enjoy reading, travelling, attending concerts, and spending time with my family and friends. I have a partner who highly appreciates that I get all my arguing done at work, a teenage son who no longer thinks I am cool, and a dog that absolutely loves to fetch.

I encourage all OPSEU employees to take an active interest in our union, our contract, and our shared advocacy. If you ever need a hand or a voice, I am always happy to help!

Negotiating Team Update

Your Negotiating Team has a caucus day (working day) on October 20 and will return to bargaining with the employers Oct 28 & 29 (WRH), Nov 18 & 19 (HDGH) and Nov 10 & 25 (ESHC)