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## ONIWG AGM & Conference 2011

Fighting Back to Restore Yours Rights & Dignity

### Conference Agenda

**November 15 & 16, 2011**

**Location: United Steel Workers' Hall, 25 Cecil St., Toronto**

#### Conference Objectives:

- Consulting with you about the need for change in the Workers' Compensation system in Ontario
- Build stronger links between OH&S and WCB/WSIB issues and activists
- Learn more about the WSIB Funding Review
- Explore how we can better protect workers' health and safety
- Build an increased awareness of our issues in the general public, the government and the media
- Opportunity for union and injured worker activists to get together and share knowledge and experiences. There will also be a table where participants can display written material about their events and organizations during the conference.
- Identify recent changes at WCB/WSIB and how they impact injured workers.
- Have fun – please bring an item to donate for the auction at the dinner / social

### Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup>

**8:30 – 9:00 Registration**  
Continental breakfast provided

**9:00 – 9:30 Welcome** (Conference Co-Chairs)  
**Housekeeping**  
o harassment, designated persons; washrooms; smoking; scents; meals; time keeper  
**Opening Remarks / Report from AGM / Report from Labour Injured Worker Advisory Committee (LIWAC)**  
**Review Objectives and Agenda**

**9:30 – 11:30 Plenary: Responding to Current Challenges in Workers' Compensation**  
Michael Green, Barrister and Solicitor; Joel Schwartz, Industrial Accident Victims Group of Ontario; Gerry LeBlanc, Program Coordinator, Steelworkers Injured Worker Program; moderator: Kevin Brown, Office of the Worker Adviser (break 10:15 to 10:30)  
Presentations followed by open mic for questions and comments.

**11:30 – 12:00 ONIWG Poverty Survey Results**  
Bonnie Heath, PhD student, Critical Disability Studies, York University.

**12:00 – 1:00 Lunch** - provided

**Afternoon Workshops:**

- There are three different workshops running simultaneously and repeated after the break.
- You may choose 2 of them.

**1:00 – 2:30 Workshops 1,2,3**

**2:30 – 3:00 Break**

**3:00 – 4:30 Workshops 1,2,3 - repeated**

**Workshops:**

1. **Alternative Forums to Address Injured Worker Issues:** The Ombudsman of Ontario, Michelle Bird, Leanne Jackson; The Ontario Human Rights Tribunal and Legal Support Centre, Judy Kondrat, Human Rights Legal Support Centre
2. **The Role of the Fair Practices Commission:** Tom Irvine, Deputy Commissioner
3. **Media / Lobby Campaigns:** Steve Mantis, ONIWG; Nick DeCarlo, Canadian Auto Workers; representatives from Injured Workers Fighting For Justice and from the Women of Inspiration groups

**4:30 – 5:00 Closing Plenary Remarks** (Conference Co-Chairs)  
Reflecting on what we heard today and issues to bring forward to LIWAC.

**Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 – 9:00 Continental Breakfast** - provided

**9:00 – 10:15 Plenary: Economics and Workers' Compensation Funding**  
Jim Stanford, Economist, Canadian Auto Workers

**10:15 – 10:30 Break**

### **Workshops:**

- There are three different workshops running simultaneously and repeated after lunch.
  - You may choose 2 of them.
4. **Stigma and Injured Workers:** Marion Endicott, Injured Workers' Consultants; and others tba
  5. **What Causes Workplace Injury and Disease?:** Prof. Robert Storey, School of Labour Studies, McMaster University
  6. **The October 2011 KPMG Report on WSIB Adjudication** (look what they've done to my Board): Maryth Yachnin, Alberto Lalli, Industrial Accident Victims Group of Ontario; Orlando Buonastella, John McKinnon, Injured Workers' Consultants.

**10:30 – 12:00 Workshops 4,5,6 – please choose one**

**12:00 – 1:00 Lunch – provided**

**1:00 – 2:30 Workshops 4,5,6 repeated – please choose one**

**2:30 – 3:00 Break**

**3:00 – 5:00 Plenary: Reflections on Our Experience - Lessons Learned, Thoughts for the Future**

Terence Ison, Professor Emeritus, Osgoode Hall Law School; Ellen MacEachen, Scientist, Institute for Work and Health and assistant professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, U of T; Nick De Carlo, National Representative for Environment and Workers Compensation, CAW Health, Safety and Environment Department; Steve Mantis, Secretary, Ontario Network of Injured Workers Groups.

Presentations followed by open mic for questions and comments

**4:45 – 5:00 Closing Plenary Remarks (Conference Co-Chairs)**

Reflecting on what we have heard the past two days and issues to bring forward to LIWAC.

**5:00 Cash bar opens for the evening**

**5:30 Cultural 'open mic' - music/poetry/skits**

**6:00 Dinner and Auction / fundraiser for ONIWG**

All participants are invited to stay for the dinner and to bring an interesting item for auction by the irrepressible auctioneer Alberto Lalli. Examples from previous auctions include T shirts from your group, a jacket or souvenir from your union, books, pictures, posters, movies, something made or grown by you or a friend, a treat to eat (or drink), a donation from a local business or something that will surprise, puzzle or entertain the group.