



PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE BOARD SUMMARY: 30 July 2008

Member Resource Centre

'MRC's are "changing the labour movement," President Sharleen Stewart told Executive Board members. New member phone-in assistance centres are improving the way members are being serviced throughout the union. A MCR for our Local is slated for fall of 2008.

SEIU Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to three SEIU members' daughters. Jessamine Esteva (U. of Guelph) received the Leading the Way Scholarship. Her mother works at Greater Niagara Hospital. Lindsay Board (Queen's U.) received the Albert G. Hearn Scholarship. Her mother works at Quinte Healthcare. Audrey Crisostomo (U. of Guelph) received the Ted Roscoe Memorial Scholarship. Her father works at Princess Margaret Hospital.

Ongoing Agenda Items

Justice for All
Nursing Home Care Campaign
LHINS ALERT
Member Resource Centre
Role of Union Representatives
Member Education
Health Care Day of Action, Sep 27

NEXT MEETING: Sep 2008

Home Care Project and Red Cross bargaining converge

After meeting with SEIU Canadian Red Cross members in 23 communities in June and July, SEIU's Red Cross home care workers voted 88 per cent in favour of labour action, up to and including strike action.

The Executive Board confirmed that Local 1 Canada's home care members are sending a clear message to their employer: that SEIU members want to see improvement in their working conditions or they are prepared to go on strike.

The board learned that Red Cross members are solidly behind their bargaining team, and a motion was passed by the Board to cover the associated costs involved with the strike votes.

SEIU and the Canadian Red Cross met again on Jul. 30 and agreed to schedule further bargaining dates.

If a tentative agreement can be reached through continued bargaining, SEIU will

not take action against the employer.

Home Care Project

Public inquiries hosted by the Ontario Health Coalition and sponsored by SEIU were held across Ontario in June as part of the Local 1 Canada Home Care Project.

Four expert health care specialists heard more than 70 submissions from a range of individuals and groups, including employers, community organizations and coalitions, seniors advocates, and home care workers.

The Home Care Project is raising awareness of the plight of these essential community health care workers. The panel is currently meeting and preparing a report of its findings.

"Activating Members"

Executive Board member Teena Burne reports that information and education are the keys to activating members. There is a need to give members information on a monthly basis, about attending meetings, supporting local events, scheduled classes on employment issues, workplace standards, contracts, and ensure these opportunities are made available to all members, not just stewards.



Cathy Carroll,
Secretary-
Treasurer,
SEIU Local 1 Canada, Home Care Project Chair,
and Red Cross Bargaining Chief Negotiator