



PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE BOARD SUMMARY: 26 November 2008

## Local's President Invited to U.S. Inauguration

SEIU Local 1 Canada President Sharleen Stewart will join the International Executive Board at the inauguration of Barack Obama. SEIU's American Locals supported Obama, and will continue to work with the President-Elect.

## Dec 6: Day of Remembrance

To mark the day, the Womens' Committee is running an awareness and fundraising campaign. Dec 6 is a day of remembrance for the 14 women killed in Montreal in 1989.

[www.RunningonEmpty.ca](http://www.RunningonEmpty.ca)

SEIU Canada's home care campaign has earned 'huge support from the public'. Even home care clients are joining the campaign, the Executive Board was told. With the combination of Red Cross bargaining, an OHC-SEIU home care report, a government relations campaign and lots of media interest, Running on Empty is shaping up to be 'the perfect storm.'

## Ongoing Agenda Items

- Action Plan 2009
- Ontario NDP Leadership
- Economy and its impact

**NEXT MEETING: Jan 2009**

# Hospital Workers' Council

## Local preparing for 2009 round of Central Hospital Bargaining

In anticipation of Central Hospital Bargaining in 2009, the Executive Board learned that the Local has formed a Hospital Workers Council.

The HWC was officially established at a GTA Hospital Leaders Rally Oct. 16 in Toronto. The HWC's planning committee includes representation

from most of the Local's departments: Servicing, Organizing, Legal, Research, Communications, even IT.

Many Board members and Trustees participated in the event where 100 delegates were requested to discuss, debate, and decide, at least for the GTA hospitals, how they would like

bargaining to be organized and executed. For example, the attendees made recommendations on setting bargaining priorities, improving the bargaining process, communicating bargaining updates to members, and so on.

SEIU is starting the contract action campaign now, not when we start bargaining, President Stewart told the Board and attendees at the rally.



Oct 16: GTA hospital members attend a Hospital Leaders' Rally in Toronto to begin the process of 2009 Hospital Bargaining.

# Hundreds of workers joined SEIU in '08

The Local's Organizing team worked hard to assist unorganized workers form unions in their workplaces. As reported to the Executive Board in Sep. 2008, it has been a tough year for unorganized workers.

Despite the challenges more than 400 new members joined SEIU Local 1 Canada in 2008, and many campaigns, especially in home care, are

still in full operation and will continue well into 2009.

Amongst the wins there is sometimes a loss. Despite a hard fought campaign by SEIU's Essex County paramedics, SEIU lost 90 EMS members to CUPE, who had 120 paramedics in the region, in a representation vote that was called after the amalgamation of all EMS service in the Windsor area.