



**“Social Change through Social Media”
The Sheraton Parkway– Richmond Hill, Ontario
November 16– 18, 2012**

Dear Members:

The Provincial Human Rights Committee, the Provincial Young Workers Committee, the Workers of Colour Caucus, the Disability Rights Caucus, the Rainbow Alliance, the Francophone Caucus and the Aboriginal Circle invite applications for the 2012 OPSEU Human Rights Conference. We look forward to meeting you!

This event can accommodate approximately 115 members who will be selected to participate in the conference by the Human Rights Conference Planning Committee. The selection process will try to achieve a diverse group of attendees, representative of the many groups within our membership and their distribution among our regions. We are aiming for a rich mix of backgrounds and points of view among the Human Rights Conference participants.

The conference aims to integrate human rights advocacy and social media by combining a focus on practical advocacy skills for using social media with discussion on key human rights issues. The groups planning the Conference want participants to go home with ideas for immediate action in their communities.

The deadline for applications is September 7, 2012. Confirmations will be sent to the selected participants in late September.

Don't miss this opportunity to network, learn, share experiences *and* have some fun. Join us as at the 2012 OPSEU Human Rights Conference.

In solidarity,

Kim McDowell and Robert Hampsey,
Chairs, Human Rights Conference Committee

Distributed with permission:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim McDowell", enclosed in a rectangular box.

OPSEU 2012 HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE: November 16-18

About the 2012 Human Rights Conference

The conference aims to integrate human rights advocacy with social media. We will combine a focus on practical advocacy skills for using social media with discussion on key human rights issues, a review of emerging trends, case studies, guest speakers and tools and exercises for using social media for human rights campaigns, organizing and networking.

Who Should Attend?

The Conference is open to all OPSEU members, regardless of their union experience. There are about 115 available spots across all OPSEU's regions. Members of equity-seeking groups are especially encouraged to apply. The Conference will include a diverse group of participants.

Conference Outline

Friday, November 16, 2012

- 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Registration and Welcome**
- 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Conference Plenary: "SOCIAL MEDIA FOR SOCIAL CHANGE"**
An introduction to different approaches for using social media for human rights activism

Saturday, November 17, 2012

- 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Breakfast (provided)**
- 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Conference Plenary: "MODELS OF SOCIAL MEDIA ADVOCACY"**
A discussion of effective uses and abuses of social media and case studies for how to use social media for human rights advocacy
- 10:30 to 10:45 a.m. Break**
- 10:45 to 12:30 p.m. Conference Workshops: "PRACTICING SKILLS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION"**
Developing practical skills for using social media strategically for human rights campaigns, networks and for organizing
- 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Lunch (provided)**
- 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Workshops Continue**
- 3:30 to 3:45 p.m. Break**
- 3:45 to 5:00 p.m. Workshop Reflection and Insights**
- 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Equity Committee and Caucus Meetings**
- 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Dinner break (dinner not provided)**
- 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Entertainment (T.B.A.)**

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TO THE EQUITY UNIT BY SEPTEMBER 7, 2012
PLEASE SEND VIA E-MAIL: equity@opseu.org OR FAX: 416.448.7419

Conference Outline (Continued)

Sunday, November 18, 2012

7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Breakfast (provided)

9:00 to 10:15 a.m. Conference Plenary:

Strategies and Tools for work back home

Report back from workshops and development of local, community and regional action

10:15 to 11:00 a.m. Presentation from OPSEU Committees and Caucuses

11:00 to 11:15 a.m. Break

11:15 to 12:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker (T.B.A.)

**12:00 to 12:30 p.m. Wrap-up and evaluation
Closing Ceremony**

12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Lunch (provided)

REGISTRATION FORM

(Please Print or Type)

Personal Information	Local #: _____ Union # _____ Name: _____ <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;">Last</div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-right: 100px;">First</div> Home Address: _____ _____ Phone Numbers: _____ <div style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;">Home</div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-right: 100px;">Other</div> Email Address: _____
Sector	_____ OPS _____ BPS _____ CAAT-A _____ CAAT-S
Hotel	<p>Members are responsible for making their own accommodation arrangements at the Sheraton Parkway North (at 600 Hwy 7 E in Richmond Hill) by contacting the hotel directly. A block of rooms is being held until October 16, 2012.</p> <p>Information about hotel reservations will be sent to successful applicants upon completion of the selection process. All participants are entitled to stay at the hotel on a shared room cost basis. The 60km rule has been waived for this event.</p>
Car Pooling	Are you able to offer a ride? _____ Do you need to carpool? _____
Accommodation Required?	_____ Yes _____ No
Advance / Time Off Letter Required?	_____ Yes _____ No
Childcare Required?	_____ Yes _____ No

Applicant Number (to be assigned by Equity Unit): _____

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TO THE EQUITY UNIT BY SEPTEMBER 7, 2012

PLEASE SEND VIA E-MAIL: equity@opseu.org OR FAX: 416.448.7419

Registration Form (Continued)

Applicant Number: _____

About 115 spaces are available for members attending the Conference. These spaces will be divided amongst OPSEU's 7 regions. The selection committee will try to ensure that participants represent the diversity of identities and experience in OPSEU, based on the following considerations:

1. Which of the following groups do you identify with? (please select all boxes that apply):

- A racialized person** (a person who may experience differential treatment on the basis of race, ethnicity, language, religion or culture; e.g. a person whose heritage is Asian, African or Caribbean).
- A non-racialized person** (a person who does not experience differential treatment on the basis of "race", ethnicity, language, religion or culture e.g. a person who considers themselves to be white and/or European heritage)
- Francophone** (a person whose first language is French and who still speaks French)
- Anglophone** (a person whose first language is English and who still speaks English)
- A person of aboriginal ancestry** (e.g. Métis, Inuit, First Nations)
- A person with a disability** (based on a long term or recurring physical, mental, sensory, mental health/emotional disability or learning impairment)
- An able-bodied person** (a person without a physical/sensory, mental/emotional, or learning disability)
- Gay** (males with a sexual orientation to males)
- Bisexual** (persons who have a sexual orientation to females and males)
- Lesbian** (females with a sexual orientation to females)
- Questioning** (persons who are questioning their sexual orientation)
- Two Spirited** (a term adopted by Aboriginal communities to refer to those who embody both the male and female spirit)
- Gender Variant** (persons who are transgendered, transsexual and inter-sexed)
- Heterosexual** (persons who have a sexual orientation to the opposite sex)
- Male**
- Female**

2. Which of the following age groups do you belong?

- 16-25**
- 26-35**
- 36-45**
- 46-55**
- 56-65**
- Over 65**

3. Did you attend the 2010 OPSEU Human Rights Conference?

- No Yes

Registration Form (Continued)

Applicant Number: _____

4. Are you active in OPSEU (e.g. elected to union position)?

No Yes

5. Are you active in the community (e.g. Volunteer at a community agency or religious organization?)

No Yes

6. If you are active in OPSEU and/or the community, please tell us what you do.

7. In a few words, please tell us why you would like to attend the Conference.

(You might want to consider addressing the following in your answer - your previous union or community-based experience; your particular passion or interest in equity and human rights issues and how the conference relates to your union or community work.)
