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CAW/BRUCE COUNTY ROAD 25, R.R. #1, PORT ELGIN, ONTARIO N0H 2C5
TEL: (519) 389-3200 • FAX: (519) 389-3222



To: Local Union Presidents, Financial & Recording Secretaries,

Re: PEL Women's Programs – Summer and Fall 2009

Greetings!

This is a call letter to announce the Women Activists, Women in Leadership and the "new" Women in Collective Bargaining one week programs being offered by the P.E.L. Program at the CAW Family Education Centre this summer/fall.

Please submit all correspondence regarding these courses to:

CAW-PEL Program - Mardi Vaughan
R.R. #1, Port Elgin ON N0H 2C5
1-800-265-3735 ext 3217
Fax: 519-389-3845 Email: cawpel2@caw.ca

The following one (1) week courses will be offered:

COURSE NAME	COURSE DATE	COURSE DEADLINE
On site child Women Activist care available Women In Leadership this week	August 23 - 28	July 10 th
Women Activist Women In Leadership Women in Collective Bargaining	September 20 - 25	August 14 th

Delegates requiring on site child care must pre-register by Friday, July 31st, 2009.
**CONTACT THE CAW CHILD CARE CENTRE FOR THE ON-SITE CHILD CARE
 REGISTRATION FORMS - 1-800-265-3735 EXT. 3233 EMAIL: cawchild@caw.ca**

Page 2

These will be very rewarding programs, so please respond before the noted deadlines to avoid disappointment. The program descriptions and deadline listing is on page 3 of this mailing. As with all PEL Programs, participants must be from CAW Units that have negotiated PEL monies from their employers.

When you return your "Application Form(s)" (**enclosed-please make copies**) you **must** specify the program/date to be taken in the space provided in the top right-hand corner. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE ARE USING A NEW FORM - PLEASE DESTROY ALL PREVIOUS VERSIONS. **In order to assist with problems verifying wage rates, we are requesting a copy of the participants most recent pay stub to be faxed with the Application Form.**

The National Union, in conjunction with the Local Union, will determine the final selection of participants. We will be accepting a maximum of 20 participants for each of these programs, and we will be ensuring that participants reflect the diversity of our membership (for example, race/colour, sector, geography, sexual orientation, dis/ability, etc.). Please assist us by ensuring that the candidate(s) you put forward help us achieve our equity goals. Confirmation of enrollment letters will be sent to each participant (cc'd to the local by fax) from our PEL Program office, after the program deadline date has been reached. Locals of unsuccessful applicants will be notified at that time as well.

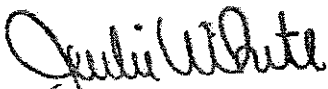
Please note the Women Activists, Women in Leadership and Women in Collective Bargaining programs all have 3 scheduled evening classes during this week.

Please ensure that you read the enclosed "PEL Guidelines" which outlines additional rules governing PEL programs. We encourage your locals (and units) to take advantage of these important educational programs.

Please ensure that the student has committed to attend and your unit has sufficient funds BEFORE sending their Lost Time Wage Verification Form. If a "Student Subsidy" is required, please call this office. Replacements/additions of students WILL NOT be accepted within 2 weeks of the start of the program. Also, failure to notify us 24 hours in advance of cancellations will result in a one night room charge to your Local's Unit Fund.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at:
519-691-2489, 1-800-265-1891 extension 2489 or e-mail: women@caw.ca

In solidarity



Julie White, Director Women's Department
CAW-TCA Canada

jw/racope343

Attach: Course descriptions, Guidelines, Application Form

cc: Education & Unit Chairpersons, Chairpersons of Local Union
Women's Committee (except Quebec), K. Lewenza, J. O'Neil, Assistants, National
Representatives, CAW Council Women's Committee, S. Keith/PEL Accounting, CAW Child Care

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

WOMEN ACTIVISTS

The new CAW Women Activists program provides women with the tools to organize, hold ground on the gains we've made, and push forward to build a movement for women's economic and social equality. The course covers a wide range of issues, such as women's work; understanding oppression, harassment and violence; women's history; and women in unions. Participants develop skills to make real change in the union, the workplace, and the community around equality issues. This course reinforces the CAW commitment to take on and advance the goals of working women. We know that when women's voices are part of the debate something positive happens. Women bring a different voice to the union, different experiences and different solutions.

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Women in the union are very excited about this leadership program which picks up where the first program leaves off. The course provides CAW women with practical hands-on tools for effective campaign-building, bargaining an equity agenda, creatively responding to sexism and gender discrimination and much more. Our union needs more women leaders -- this course is designed to further equip and inspire women in the CAW to increase their activism and involvement in the union and the broader women's movement to create social change. The course is open to all women who have completed either the old 2-week Women's Activist Course or the new 1 week Women Activists Course.

WOMEN IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Our Union needs the voices and priorities of women at the negotiating table. Are you already a member of your bargaining committee, or interested in developing skills to take an active part in union negotiations? The "Women in Collective Bargaining" course will equip participants with skills and knowledge of the Union's bargaining priorities and practices. You will learn the importance of contract language, preparation and research, leadership, and maximizing your bargaining power by developing a strategic approach to bargaining. This course covers the materials in the CAW Collective Bargaining Program and focuses on viewing our agreements with an equity eye, and increasing women's presence and issues at the bargaining table. A program that will connect you with women mentors who will demystify the collective bargaining process and inspire you to get involved!