



July 2016

Dear Members:

OPSEU's Equity Committees and Caucuses invite you to submit your application to attend the 2016 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 endeavour to invite 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 participants.

The conference will focus on the impact of current immigration laws within the labour movement. The topics explored will include, but are not limited to, discussions on key human rights issues such as islamophobia and the criminalization and exploitation of racialized communities. In addition, participants will also be asked to think critically about current misconceptions surrounding migrant workers, immigrants and refugees. The overall goal will be for participants to go home with ideas for immediate action in their communities.

Do not miss this opportunity to network, learn, share experiences and have some fun. Please submit your completed application by e-mail to humanrightsconference@opseu.org or fax to the Equity Unit **no later than midnight, September 5, 2016**. Please note that we will be using an anonymous selection process and will be applying the criteria as set out on pages 5 and 6 of this application. Confirmation will be issued to the selected participants in September. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

In solidarity,
Human Rights Conference Planning Committee

Original signed document on file. Please contact the Equity Unit for further information or to view a copy of the original document.

OPSEU Human Rights Conference, 2016

About the 2016 Human Rights Conference

This year's theme aims to be interactive where participants will be utilizing electronic polling at the conference to shape the discussions arising from the scheduled presentations. Human rights speakers and advocates will focus on key current human rights issues and emerging trends.

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.

Tentative Conference Agenda

Friday November 18, 2016

5:00 to 7:00 PM	Registration (dinner on your own)
5:00 PM	Smudging Ceremony
5:00 to 7:00 PM	Speakers Corner
7:00 to 7:15 PM	Welcome, Conference Logistics, Meet the Conference Planning Committee Members, Statement of Respect
7:20 to 7:40 PM	Conference Icebreaker
7:40 to 7:45 PM	Introduction to e-polling
7:45 to 8:50 PM	Current Human Rights Issues – Myths vs Reality
8:50 to 9:00 PM	Wrap-up and adjourn

All requests must be received no later than midnight Monday, September 5, 2016
By e-mail: humanrightsconference@opseu.org or by fax: 416-448-7419

Chelsea Hotel, 33 Gerrard Street West, Toronto (Ontario) M5G 1Z4, November 18-20, 2016

Saturday November 19, 2016

7:30 AM	Smudging Ceremony
8:00 to 9:00 AM	Registration Re-opens, Breakfast (not provided)
9:00 to 9:15 AM	Conference Opening, Address from OPSEU President, Smokey Thomas
9:15 to 9:45 AM	Keynote Address: Human Rights in Ontario today with Renu Mandhane, Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission
9:45 to 10:30 AM	Question Café
10:30 to 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 to 11:15 AM	Guest Speaker: Syed Hussan, Migrant Workers Alliance for Change
11:15 to 11:55 AM	Question Café
11:55 to 12:00 PM	Morning Wrap-up
12:00 to 1:30 PM	Lunch (not provided)
1:30 to 3:00 PM	Workshop 1 – Human Rights, Union Rights and Global Solidarity
3:00 to 3:15 PM	Break
3:15 to 4:25 PM	Workshop 2 – Cross Cultural Communication
4:25 to 4:30 PM	Wrap-up and adjourn
4:30 to 7:00 PM	Dinner (not provided)
7:00 to 9:00 PM	Film Presentation: Pride <i>U.K. gay activists work to help miners during their lengthy strike of the National Union of Mineworkers in the summer of 1984.</i>

Sunday November 20, 2016

7:00 AM	Smudging Ceremony
8:00 to 9:00 AM	Breakfast (not provided)
9:00 to 10:30 AM	Workshop 3 – Human Rights and Labour Activism
10:30 to 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 to 10:50 AM	Speakers Corner Video
10:50 to 11:15 AM	Developing an Action Plan
11:15 to 11:45 AM	Commemorating the Transgender Day of Remembrance
11:45 AM to 12:00 PM	Conference Wrap-Up, Evaluation and Adjournment

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APPLICATION FORM

(Please Print or Type)

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

Personal Information	Local #: _____ Union # _____ Name: _____ Last First Home Address: _____ _____ Phone Numbers: _____ Home Other Email Address: _____
Sector	<input type="checkbox"/> OPS <input type="checkbox"/> BPS <input type="checkbox"/> CAAT-A <input type="checkbox"/> CAAT-S
Hotel	<p>A block of rooms has been reserved at the Chelsea Hotel (33 Gerrard Street West) in downtown Toronto. As per policy, members must stay at the event hotel.</p> <p>More information about hotel reservations will be sent to successful applicants upon completion of the selection process.</p> <p>The 60km rule has been waived for this event. Therefore all participants will be entitled to stay at the hotel on a shared room cost basis based on the approved rate.</p>

NOTE: Information regarding Advance, Time-Off, Human Rights Accommodation, Childcare Requests, Hotel Accommodation and Carpooling options will be sent to successful participants upon completion of the selection process.

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APPLICATION FORM – continued

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

Spaces available for members attending the Conference will be divided among 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. Please indicate which of the following groups 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 descended)
 - Francophone** (a person whose first language is French, and who still speaks French)
 - A person of indigenous ancestry** (Métis, Inuit and First Nations)
 - A person with a disability** (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 an orientation exclusively to males)
 - Bisexual** (persons who have an orientation to more than one sex)
 - Lesbian** (females with an orientation exclusively to females)
 - Questioning** (persons who are unsure of their sexual orientation)
 - Two Spirited** (a term specific to Aboriginal people)
 - Gender Variant** (persons who are transgender and transsexual)
 - Intersexed** (persons who are not easily classified as either biologically male or female)
 - Heterosexual** (persons who have an orientation to the opposite sex)
 - Male**
 - Female**

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APPLICATION FORM – continued

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

18-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 56-65 Over 65

3. Have you attended a previous OPSEU Human Rights Conference?

No Yes If yes, what year? _____

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

No Yes What region are you from? _____

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.

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APPLICATION FORM – continued

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- 7. In a few words, please tell us why you would like to attend this event. (You may want to consider addressing how the conference relates to your union or community work.)**

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