

11 October 2024

**To:** Region 5 Local Presidents, L.E.C.s, and E.B.M.s  
**From:** Region 5 Education Committee

**LOCATION:** Chelsea Hotel, 33 Gerrard St W, Toronto, ON M5G 1Z4

**DATES:** Saturday, 07 December 2024 – 9:00AM to 5:00PM  
Sunday, 08 December 2024 – 9:00AM to 1:00PM

**CHILDCARE:** Childcare will be available Saturday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM and Sunday from 9:00AM to the end of classes. **Parent/Guardians MUST be on site at all times when utilizing childcare provided by OPSEU/SEFPO**

**COURSES:** We are pleased to offer the following nine courses:

1. **Stewards 1: Making a Difference in the Workplace** - Prerequisites: None

This updated version of Stewards 1 includes a more detailed description and history of OPSEU/SEFPO's equity-seeking groups. The course continues to support stewards through a range of tools and practical activities. The key aims are to strengthen steward skills to orient a new employee to the union, have effective one-on-one conversations with a cross-section of members, develop a communications strategy to enlist diverse member involvement, and develop approaches to everyday workplace problems.

Throughout the course, participants are supported as they develop a profile of their members, clarify the tasks of the steward, find the resources and information in OPSEU/SEFPO, and understand the grievance process and their role in it. Stewards 1 is a prerequisite to Stewards 2 and must be completed before taking Stewards 2. Participants should bring their Collective Agreements to the course.

2. **Stewards 2: Facing the Employer, Building Member Involvement** - Prerequisites: Stewards 1

This revised follow-up to Stewards 1 focuses on investigating and writing a grievance, facing management, and involving members in worksite action. Participants will use their own collective agreements to identify grievances. They will become immersed in an evolving case study in order to interview a grievor, write up a grievance, face the employer at a step 1 and make a presentation on safety issues to the union side of the Joint Health and Safety Committee. They will examine the elements of effective mobilization and develop a campaign strategy for a local. Participants should bring their collective agreements to the course.

**3. Stewards 3: Dealing with Discipline - Prerequisites: Stewards 1 & Stewards 2**

This is an advanced level steward course. It is suggested that participants take Stewards 1 and Stewards 2 prior to signing up for this program. Dealing with Discipline is a skills and knowledge focused workshop that will assist union activists in their duties representing members that are facing discipline up to and including dismissal.

The course bridges concepts from Stewards 1 and 2, Basic and Advanced Grievance Handling and Workplace Investigations. Participants should bring their Collective Agreements to the course.

**4. Health & Safety: Level 1 - Prerequisites: None**

This course is designed for members and Stewards who want to become more involved in health and safety activities in their workplace. There is a strong focus on health and safety legislation to enable participants to use the legislation effectively in their own workplaces.

Participants work in groups to explore the legislation and to gain a better understanding of their rights and employers' obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act and its regulations. Participants are introduced to the concepts of hazard identification, assessment and control and develop a greater understanding of the components of an effective health and safety system.

**5. Health & Safety: Level 2 - Prerequisites: Health & Safety Level 1**

This course is designed for Health and Safety committee members and union activists with a strong interest in Health and Safety. Participants learn how to be more effective members of their JHSC's as they work in small groups learning how to better identify, categorize, and control hazards.

Using case studies and examples from their own workplaces, participants learn how to improve workplace inspections, and how to begin accident and illness investigations.

The course offers the opportunity to prioritize and strategize around health and safety problems and to address problems specific to participants' own workplaces. The course builds on the material in OPSEU/SEFPO's Level 1 course and assumes that participants have a basic knowledge of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

**6. The Indigenous Journey: Walking Together: Part 1 - Prerequisites: None**

Would you like to learn more about Indigenous peoples? Do you know that the First Nation, Inuit and Métis peoples have differences in their traditions, beliefs, communities and cultural identities as well as some commonalities?

Through activities, inspired by the teachings and traditions of Indigenous peoples, we will take you through an overview of the lives of the First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples as well as allow you an opportunity to share in some of their stories.

You will take a journey of examining both historical and current relationships between Indigenous people and governments within Canada and the world today. If you would like to share in the rich history of Indigenous peoples and spend time understanding why being an ally is important, this course will offer that opportunity.

7. *Challenging Discrimination in Everyday Union Work* - Prerequisites: None

This course looks at everyday situations in our workplaces and union where inequality and racism are at work, and where people can take effective action. It uses case scenarios and analysis to examine different forms of discrimination – race, gender, age and disability – and its divisive effects. It draws from videos and role play to get people to practice responding practically to situations.

The course helps us to see equity and human rights as basic union work for all. And it strengthens our skills as effective allies and advocates to build more inclusive workplaces and locals.

8. *Poverty, Equity and Racism* - Prerequisites: None

In this course, participants will develop an understanding of the impact of poverty, economics and racism on women and, by the course's end, will make the commitment to challenge the poverty and inequality found in their communities and workplaces. Participants will be asked to define poverty and identify the causes of it and understand its impact, especially on women. They will learn to analyze statistics on poverty and be able to engage in conversations around discrimination, bias and assumptions based on race. And finally, participants will explore and challenge the myths related to diversity, cultural differences and their own unseen bias, while thinking of ways to tackle these issues in their everyday lives.

9. *Women in Activism – Staying Connected* Prerequisites: None

Are you a woman who wants to get involved in your Union but you are uncertain as to where and how to begin? Have you wondered how activists got into the position they are in and why they got involved? Do you have the energy and interest but lack the confidence in getting yourself elected to a position? The this is a course for you.

This new course will take you through the journey of successful women in unions and the political arena, how they got there and what they have achieved. You will understand your role as an activist gain confidence in taking the first steps and feel motivated in encouraging others to do the same. You will review your own time management strategies and work out a schedule for yourself.

Through scenarios, role-play, interactive videos and checklists, you will understand the issues women have faced over the years; some of which still continue today. You will learn how to build on these wins to make further inroads for women.

Suggested Pre-requisite – one elected activist and one partner who is not elected (take a closer look at who you may want to bring). This can be an encouragement to mentor others.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

- ✚ The Participant and Course Selection Process will be carried out in accordance with OPSEU/SEFPO Education Policy.
- ✚ Confirmation will only be sent to applicants who are accepted.
- ✚ Lost Wages will not be provided for this Educational.
- ✚ Single **room** accommodation is approved for this Educational.
- ✚ OPSEU/SEFPO's 60km rule will be waived on Saturday – this means that if you live further than

60km from the hotel you are entitled to single accommodations on Friday and Saturday; if you live within 60km of the hotel you are entitled to single accommodations on Saturday night only.

✚ You are responsible for booking your own accommodations directly with the hotel, if required. An online direct booking link for rooms in the Event Group Block will be issued to successful applicants at the following rates: Single \$169.00 (taxes not included). Individuals may also call the hotel directly, toll free 1-800-CHELSEA (243-5732) or 416-595-1975. These individuals must also identify themselves as part of **OPSEU December Educationals** to take advantage of the discounted group rate.

✚ Valet parking will **NOT** be covered

✚ As a reminder, in accordance with OPSEU/SEFPO policy, **full attendance is mandatory** for participants at the educational. If you are unable to attend with full attendance without an acceptable reason, you will not receive credit for the course and your expenses (if any) may not be paid.

✚ Persons attending OPSEU/SEFPO meetings are requested to refrain from using perfume, cologne and other fragrances for the comfort of other participants.

✚ Participants are also to refrain from bringing nut products, bottled water and Coca Cola products to OPSEU/SEFPO Events.

All applications must be approved/signed by a Local Executive Committee member from the applicants Local, per OPSEU/SEFPO Policy 6.2.2.

**Applications without the required signatures will not be processed.**

Applications must be received by:

**01 November 2024,**

All applications must be sent to [r5educational@opseu.org](mailto:r5educationals@opseu.org)

**LATE APPLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS SENT  
ELSEWHERE WILL NOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED**



# IN-PERSON APPLICATION FORM

Region 5 Weekend Educational  
7 & 8 December 2024

<b>Personal Information</b>	<b>Local:</b>	<b>Union No.:</b>
	<b>Name:</b>	
	<b>Address:</b>	
	<b>City:</b>	<b>Postal Code:</b>
	<b>Personal Email:</b>	
<b>Hotel Information</b>	<p>Chelsea Hotel, 33 Gerrard Street West, Toronto, ON M5G1Z4 Phone: (416) 595-1975</p> <p style="background-color: yellow; display: inline-block; padding: 2px;"><b>PLEASE SEE ATTACHED INFORMATION SHEET FOR BOOKING DETAILS</b></p> <p>Members who require hotel accommodations will be responsible for booking their own room before <b>15 November 2024</b>. A direct booking link will be issued to successful applicants at the OPSEU/ SEFPO group rate: Single: \$169.00 (taxes not included).</p>	
<b>Course Selection</b>	<p>Please indicate your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice of which courses you would like to attend:</p> <p>_____ Stewards 1: Making a Difference</p> <p>_____ Stewards 2: Facing the Employer</p> <p>_____ Stewards 3: Dealing with Discipline</p> <p>_____ Health and Safety Level 1:</p> <p>_____ Health and Safety Level 2:</p> <p>_____ Indigenous Journey</p> <p>_____ Challenging Discrimination</p> <p>_____ Poverty, Economics and Racism</p> <p>_____ Women in Activism</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> I have taken the prerequisite to this Course (Stewards 1)  <input type="checkbox"/> I have taken the prerequisite to this Course (Stewards 2)  <input type="checkbox"/> I have taken the prerequisite to this Course (Health &amp; Safety Level 1)         </p>	
<b>Human Rights Accommodation</b>	<p>Complete the attached Human Rights Accommodation Form for any specific accommodation needs. Please email completed form to <a href="mailto:r5educationals@opseu.org">r5educationals@opseu.org</a>, or directly to the OPSEU/SEFPO Equity Unit at <a href="mailto:equity@opseu.org">equity@opseu.org</a></p>	
<b>On-site Childcare</b>	<p>Childcare will be available on-site at the hotel on Saturday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM and Sunday from 9:00AM to the end of classes. <b>Parents/Guardians MUST be on site at all times when utilizing childcare provided by OPSEU/SEFPO.</b> To register your child/dependent for on-site childcare, please complete return the Childcare Registration Form with your application package.</p>	



# IN-PERSON APPLICATION FORM

Region 5 Weekend Educational  
7 & 8 December 2024

<b>Off-site Family Care (Child/Elder/ Dependant)</b>	Family/Attendant Care will be reimbursed as per OPSEU/SEFPO Policy. Such allowance is not intended to reimburse the claimant for Family/Dependant expenses they would have normally incurred as a result of employment except where the absence exceeds the normal workday or week. Family/Dependant care will be reimbursed at the rate of \$15.00 per hour to a maximum of \$220.00 within a 24-hour period. For additional information, please refer to OPSEU/SEFPO Policy Section 4.2.2.
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# IN-PERSON APPLICATION FORM

Region 5 Weekend Educational  
7 & 8 December 2024

<b>Prior Union Experience &amp; Education:</b>	
1.	Position(s) previously held in your Local
	Length of service in this position:
2.	Positions/activities previously held/accomplished in your Local (ie. Steward, committee officer, campaigns), and length of service:
3.	Type of Local: ___ Single                      ___ Composite                      ___ Multi-Unit
4.	Your work location:
	Your position at work:
	Type of work:
5.	Other OPSEU/SEFPO Local/Regional Educationals attended:
6.	<p>OPSEU/SEFPO is committed to achieving equitable participation of designated group members in its education programs. Indication of your designated group status on this application will assist us in assessing our progress in reaching this goal:</p> <p>___ Indigenous Worker                      ___ Francophone Worker</p> <p>___ Racialized Worker                      ___ Young Worker</p> <p>___ Woman Worker                      ___ LGBTTIQQ2S Worker (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Transgender, Intersex, Asexual, Queer, Questioning, Two Spirited)</p> <p>___ Worker with a Disability</p>
<p>_____</p> <p>Local Executive Officer Signature*</p> <p>Or attach approval email with attendance form</p> <p><i>If you require support in receiving LEC approval, please contact <a href="mailto:r5educationals@opseu.org">r5educationals@opseu.org</a></i></p>	
<p><b><i>Before you submit, please make sure that you have completed all sections of this registration package, and included any additional request forms that are applicable to you:</i></b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Advance Request Form</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Human Rights Accommodation Form</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> On-site Childcare Registration</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%; font-style: italic;"> <p>If you <b>do not</b> require an Advance, Human Rights Accommodation, or On-Site Childcare, you do not need to return these sections with your application.</p> </div> </div>	



**Deadline for Applications: 01 November 2024**

Email to: [R5educationalso@opseu.org](mailto:R5educationalso@opseu.org)

# Human Rights Accommodation Request Form

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Event Name: Region 5 In Person December 2024 Educational

Date: (mm/dd/yyyy) 12/07-08/2024

Note: *This form is to be completed only if you are requesting an accommodation in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code. Sufficient information must be provided to prove the need for the accommodation and to show a link to a code-related ground. If necessary, an Equity Unit Officer will contact you to obtain further information.*

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Local #: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # for contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you prefer to be contacted?  Phone  Email

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1. Do you have an existing human rights accommodation approved by the Equity Unit (i.e. you have submitted a request form before)? (Check one.)

- a) Yes, and I need the same human rights accommodation as previously approved
- b) Yes, but I require changes to my previously approved human rights accommodation
- c) No, I have never been approved for a human rights accommodation

Note: *If you checked (a) above, you do not need to complete the rest of the form, but the form still needs to be submitted. If you checked (b) or (c), please finish the form.*

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2. Please check all the Code-related grounds related to your request:

- Disability (including food allergy)  Family Status
- Sex / gender (including pregnancy)  Creed or religion

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Why do you require a human rights accommodation (i.e. what are your restrictions or limitations)?  
Please be as detailed as possible.

Note: *All information is kept confidential except where necessary to arrange the accommodation or to process expense claims.*



# Human Rights Accommodation Request Form

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4. Do you need this human rights accommodation for this event only or for all future union events?  
(Check one.)

For this event only

For all future union events

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5. What type of human rights accommodation or additional arrangement do you require to allow you to participate fully in Union-related activities? (e.g. assistance during emergency evacuation, material in alternate formats, interpreters, arrangement / expenses beyond those provided at the event or through OPSEU policy). Please be as detailed as possible.

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6. Please provide any additional information that may assist us in reviewing your request.  
(Attach any relevant documents.)

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Signature of Member

\_\_\_\_\_

Please forward completed forms to: Region 5 Educationals  
by email: [r5educationals@opseu.org](mailto:r5educationals@opseu.org) no later than:

**01 November 2024, at 4:00PM**

Alternatively, this form may be sent directly to the Equity Unit via email to [equity@opseu.org](mailto:equity@opseu.org).

NOTE: Please do not fax documents. Email is the only accepted method of submission. Thank you.

## REGISTRATION

# INFORMATION SHEET

Application forms must be signed by one (1) Local Executive Officer (OPSEU/ SEFPO Policy 6.2.2) and received by [r5educationals@opseu.org](mailto:r5educationals@opseu.org) **No later than 01 November 2024 by 4:00PM.**

## LATE APPLICATIONS MAY NOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED

### ACCOMMODATION

- A block of rooms has been reserved at the Chelsea Hotel, 33 Gerrard St W, Toronto, ON M5G1Z4
- Members are responsible for making their own Accommodation and Payment arrangements. Accommodations must be booked no later than **15 November 2024.**
- All unreserved rooms will be released for re-sale after this date. OPSEU/SEFPO Policy states that members are responsible for their own rooms AND paying for same, you are also responsible for any cancellation. Failing cancellation, you are responsible for the room charges.
- An online direct booking link, and telephone instructions for reserving a hotel room will be issued to successful Educational applicants prior to the hotel booking deadline of **15 November 2024.**
- For this event, members living **outside** 60 kms of the hotel **will** be entitled to room accommodation for both Friday and Saturday nights of the weekend educational as per OPSEU/SEFPO policy. Members living **within** 60 kms of the hotel **will** be entitled to room accommodation for Saturday night only, as required. **Members will be reimbursed for the cost of a single room.**

### CANCELLATIONS

- Notification by a member to cancel course attendance should be received by both the local president and the Regional Office no later than 48 hours prior to the Weekend Educational (no later than 9:00 A.M. on the Thursday prior to the Educational). **When a member does not attend and the Regional Office has not been notified forty-eight (48) hours prior to the Weekend Educational, the member will be assessed a Fifty Dollar (\$50.00) penalty. Extenuating circumstances will be taken into consideration.**
- **A member cancelling participation must notify [r5educationals@opseu.org](mailto:r5educationals@opseu.org) and their local president on or before 9:00AM on 05 December 2024**
- All hotel reservations must be cancelled by 4:00pm EST 48 hours (2 days) prior to the day of arrival. Late cancellations will result in a charge of a 1-night stay plus taxes. A valid credit card is required at time of booking.

## **CHILD CARE / ELDER / DEPENDANT CARE**

- Use of the On-site Childcare is encouraged.
- Members who arrange their own childcare will be reimbursed at \$15.00 an hour to a maximum of \$220.00 per 24-hour period, per OPSEU/SEFPO Policy 4.2.2.
- Childcare claims will be honoured for children up to and including age 16, for whom the member is the **parent/guardian**.
- Friends, family, or professional or Commercial Services or any other arrangement satisfactory may provide care to the member making the claim. Claims may be verified and must be signed by the service provider.
- Members seeking childcare through OPSEU/SEFPO for this educational must include the completed Childcare Registration paperwork with their Application forms.
- **If childcare is requested, the child/dependant must be in attendance with the program.**
- Family/Attendant care will be reimbursed at the rate of \$15.00 per hour to a maximum of \$220.00 per 24-hour period and must be signed by the care provider(s). Please specify hours claimed for each day. This policy covers the expenses for persons over the age of 16, permanently residing with, and under the care of a member, who are differently abled and/or aged.

## **EXPENSE CLAIMS**

- A member will be reimbursed for the actual cost incurred for travel by public transportation. As per the policy of the Union, the most economical means of transportation should be used.
- Where a member is required to use their private vehicle, they may claim for such travel at the current rate. The total distance travelled, and destination points are to be indicated on the expense form.
- Members must arrange their own travel and are encouraged to carpool.
- Transportation/ Kilometric Rate will be as follows:
  - One (1) OPSEU/SEFPO member travelling alone \$0.55/km.
  - Two (2) OPSEU/SEFPO members, \$0.60/km.
  - Three (3) OPSEU/SEFPO members \$0.65/km.

**Any transportation/kilometric expense claim form involving OPSEU/SEFPO members as passengers must have the members name and address on the expense form.**

- **ALL** expenses **MUST** be submitted on proper Expense Claim Forms or via the MemberPortal.

## **LOST WAGES**

- Lost Wages *will not* be provided for this Educational as per OPSEU/SEFPO Policy; this means that time-off letters are *not* being issued for this Educational.

## **MEALS**

- **BREAKFAST:** Members who stay at the hotel or had to be present for an OPSEU/SEFPO event before 0800 hours (8:00 a.m.) are eligible to claim twenty- two dollars (\$22.00).
- **LUNCH:** Members attending this educational may claim thirty dollars (\$30.00) lunch on both Saturday and Sunday.
- **DINNER:** Members who stay at the hotel or had to be present for an OPSEU/SEFPO event past 1700 hours (5:00 p.m.) are eligible to claim thirty-nine dollars (\$39.00).

## **ADVANCE**

- Indicate the amount required on the Advance Form and return to [advances@opseu.org](mailto:advances@opseu.org)