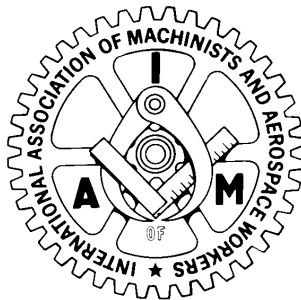
**ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING**Monday February 14<sup>th</sup>, 4:15 PM

At the Ajax Legion Hall • 111 Hunt St. Ajax

**LOCAL 905 EXECUTIVE**

President	Dave Thompson
Vice President	Dan Robertson
Secretary	Doris Duck
Financial Secretary	Kris Socha
Sentinel	Rob Blair
Trustees	Daryl Rowe Pavel Blaha Rasheed Houssain
Committeeman	Shane Kingston
Chief Stewards	Dan Robertson Kent Danforth Janice McKenzie Don Beadle
Stewards	Lynn McKenzie Martin Bessel Todd Desmoulins Gary Cooper Ian Kimble
Auditor	George Gaffney



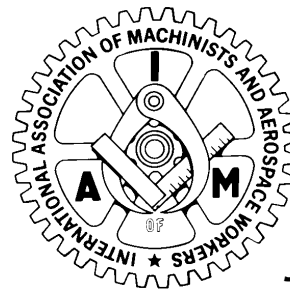
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Local Lodge 905  
P. O. Box 14567  
75 Badly St. W.  
Ajax, On.  
L1S 7K7  
905 683-4677

Fax 905 683-4677

Editor  
Leonard Yeung

E-mail:

[info@iamaw905.ca](mailto:info@iamaw905.ca)**THE "905"**

JAN 2011

***JUSTICE ON THE JOB,  
SECURITY FOR THE FAMILY  
AND  
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY***

**President's Message**

I received a letter recently on our recent increase in union dues. The dues are based on our hourly rate, but they are calculated in August. Since we don't receive a raise in August, it seems that they go up even when we have not received a raise. In fact what is happening is a catch up from raises since last August. This year we had an additional Grand Lodge Tax of two dollars per month per member. This was passed at the last Grand Lodge Convention, when the 2% dues structure was defeated. The 2% structure would have doubled our dues. Our dues are still low when compared to other Unions.

These are times for concern, our anger must be kept under control and our focus on bargaining new contracts at our respective employers. Negotiating a fair and decent contract does not come from paying dues, It comes from Solidarity!

I once had a conversation with a very good worker, a peak performer. The peak performer complained that he deserved more money because he was better at his job than everyone else, and the union was holding him back. Now although we have many great workers, I recognized the fact that he would

Cont. P2

make more money than the average worker in a non union shop, and I told him so which gave him some satisfaction. I then quoted the hourly rate he would receive at this non union shop. I drew his attention to his co-workers who were diligently working and said these brothers and sisters stood with you on the strike line demanding a fair wage with decent benefits. Their families went without and struggled through those difficult times so we all could live a better life. I asked him to stand with them again, because even though he was a peak performer, alone he had little bargaining power.

I ask you all, respect your co-workers, stand together with pride in Solidarity. Together we will demand the better life!

**Dave Thompson**

## **LL 905 Members at Messier-Dowty Inc Contract and Vote Information**

**Date: Sunday January 23, 2011**

**TIME: 6:00 P.M.**

**PLACE: Ajax Community Centre  
75 Centennial Road  
(off Clements and Monarch)  
H.S.M. Ajax Room**

**Your support throughout this process is essential to our success. Please make every effort to attend this all important session so as to be able to make a fully informed decision and exercise your contractual rights.**

## **CELEBRATING YEARS OF SERVICE IN 905 DURING JANUARY**

30 Years James Wilson  
27 Years Bryan Heroux  
26 Years Michael Gatenby  
26 Years Daryl Rowe  
25 Years David Mette  
24 Years Aly Elassal  
24 Years Peter Ward  
23 Years Ross Walmsley  
21 Years Brian Greenslade  
20 Years Christopher Rhodes

15 Years Gary Nemisz  
14 Years Shawn Ferguson  
14 Years George Vanin  
13 Years David Swerdfeger  
6 Years Robert Curtis  
5 Years Glenn Gaffney  
4 Years Ken Ngai  
3 Years Martin Bessel  
3 Years Justin Vongprachanh



### **Get Well Soon**

**Angela D'angelo**

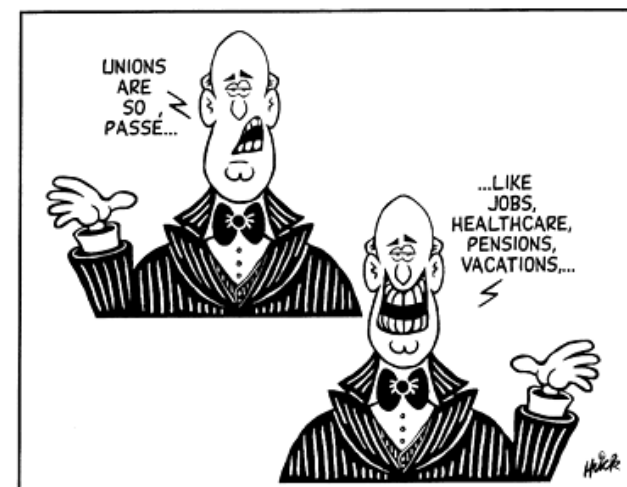
**Jamie Farr**

**Delfin Flores**

**Martin Price**

**Pauline Reilly**

**Douglas Teske**





**Sat., Jan. 29, 2011**

# Hamilton Day of Action

## THE PEOPLE VS. U.S. STEEL

**1 p.m., Hamilton City Hall, 71 Main Street West**

USW Local 1005 and its 900 members and 9000 pensioners are waging a battle on behalf of ALL of us. Foreign-owned companies think we're just body parts to be thrown away at the end of our work lives.

U.S. Steel locked out its workers Nov. 7. It is trying to drive pensioners into the dirt by deindexing their pensions! AND they want defined benefit plans closed to new hires and replaced with defined contribution plans that are nothing more than glorified savings accounts.

The OFL, CLC, USW Local 1005 and Hamilton and District Labour Council are calling for a massive province-wide mobilization to stop U.S. Steel and other foreign-owned companies from wrecking our communities and stealing our futures. Let's get going!

In Solidarity, *Sid Ryan*

**To book a seat on buses going to Hamilton**

**call Ed 905-579-3272 by Jan. 22**

**buses leaving at 10:30 from CAW Local 222 hall**

**1424 Phillip Murray Ave.**

## World Bank report needs overhaul

The 2011 edition of the World Bank's *Doing Business* report has stopped granting countries with the lowest levels of workers' protection its best ratings.

*Doing Business 2011* finally removed the Employing Workers Indicator (EWI) from their Ease of Doing Business Index and the country rankings. The World Bank has instructed staff not to use the EWI indicators as a basis for providing policy advice or evaluating country development programs or assistance strategies. However, the basic data from which the EWI is calculated and remains in an annex to the report.

International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) general secretary Sharan Burrow suggests the World Bank complete the overhaul by not considering labour regulations from the view of whether they are deemed to be good for business.

"The global economic crisis has made clear that well-designed and enforced labour regulations and social protection are essential for securing employment and for providing adequate income for those who lose their jobs. The bank should carry through on the positive step it has made in *Doing Business 2011* by removing the EWI from all future editions and instead, adopt policies on labour issues that recognize and reward the importance of adequate labour regulations and comprehensive social protection," said Burrow.

The ITUC notes that even though *Doing Business'* annex on employment speaks positively of countries that provide financial support for reduced work time programs—designed to prevent lay-offs and increase unemployment benefits. The report continues to penalize countries that require contributions from employers for unemployment insurance, worker's compensation, old-age pensions, maternity leave or other social protection programs.

The report's Paying Taxes Indicator, was not modified for *Doing Business 2011*. The bank continues to advocate that businesses should be exempt from all forms of taxation including corporate income tax, property tax, social security contributions, property tax, capital gains tax or financial transactions tax.

*Doing Business 2011's* top ten best performers for their low total tax rates on businesses are Timor-Leste, Vanuatu, Maldives, Macedonia, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Georgia.

### ITUC/CALM

## Unionization in Canada has risen up to 4.2 million

Statistics Canada says more than 4.2 million workers belonged to a union in Canada during the first half of 2010, up 64,000 from the same period last year.

Union membership has risen at a slightly faster pace than total employment. As a result, the nation's unionization rate edged up from 29.5 per cent in 2009 to 29.6 per cent in 2010.

The gap in unionization rates between men and women widened slightly in 2010. Women experienced disproportionately more gains in unionized jobs. Consequently, their unionization rate inched up to 30.9 per cent, while the rate for men remained constant at 28.2 per cent.

Just more than 2.2 million women belonged to a union in 2010, compared with just under 2.0 million men.

The unionization rate for permanent workers increased to 30.0 per cent between 2009 and 2010 while it decreased to 27.3 per cent for those in non-permanent jobs. The rate rose in larger firms (100 workers or more), declined among those with

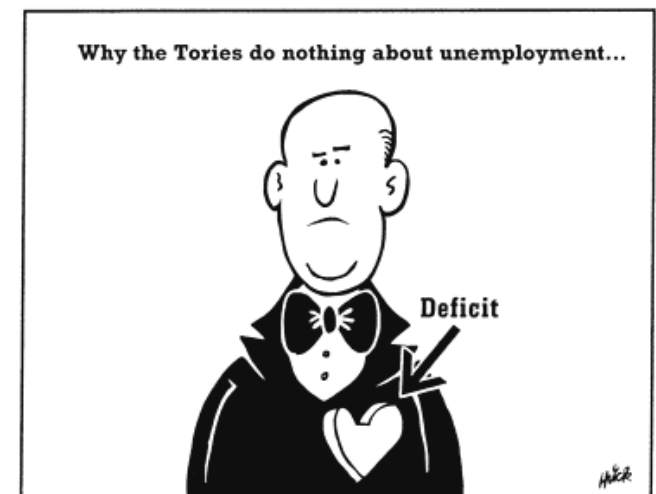
Canada is one of only 29 countries whose laws do not comply with the ILO's rules for child labour, as outlined under C138. This places us in the company of nations such as Afghanistan, India, Iran, Korea, and Myanmar.

C138 states that the age of employment "shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and, in any case, shall not be less than 15 years." Young people are compelled to attend school until at least the age of 16 in all Canadian provinces and territories.

Minimum age laws in all Canadian jurisdictions contravene C138. In some cases, those laws have been weakened in recent years, dropping to as low as 12 years of age. Injury rates among young workers are on the rise and too many of them do not know about their rights at work.

Please write to your Member of Parliament, asking him/her to take a stand to ensure Canada signs on to C138 and leads by example to stop the practice of child labour once and for all. Today it is more important than ever for trade unionists around the world to stand up for their rights to decent work and a decent life.

### CLC



The employer may choose to lock-out its employees. No questions asked. On the other hand, a union must seek permission from the Ontario government to go on strike.

The provincial Liberal government will boast that it is "neutral." That, as a government, it has done all it can to maintain fairness and to promote "balanced" negotiations. Yet, who's interests are served when replacement workers are used and a private security firm hired to spy on your striking neighbours?

Currently, there is a private member's bill which would ban replacement workers during a strike of a lock out. The bill passed first reading with the support of Liberal MPPs. As the bill approaches second reading, MPPs on the government side of the aisle need to be reminded of their promise to working families.

**France G  linas MPP-Nickel Belt/  
OCARE  
(Ontario Coalition Against Replacement Employees)**

## **CLC wants action on Canada's child labour laws**

The CLC wants immediate action from the federal, provincial and territorial governments to prevent child labour in Canada by ratifying the International Labour Organization's Convention 138 (C138) on Minimum Age.

This call coincides with October 7, the World Day for Decent Work, which raises up the ILO's definition of workers' rights, including the need for proper minimum labour standards. On this day in previous years, millions of trade unionists have taken action in support of Decent Work. In Canada the CLC has focused on the ratification of ILO Convention 138.

20 to 99 workers and remained constant for firms with fewer than 20 workers.

The provincial picture was mixed. Unionization rates fell in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The largest gain in rates occurred in B.C. while the rate was highest in Newfoundland and Labrador (37.9 per cent).

Among industries, rates were highest in public administration (68.5 per cent) and education (67.0 per cent). Notable declines occurred in agriculture, health care and social assistance and education. Notable increases occurred in transportation and warehousing and public administration.

An average 288,000 workers were not union members but were covered by a collective agreement in the first half of 2010, down from last year's total of 300,000.

In 2009, there were 157 strikes or lockouts that involved a loss in working time of at least 10 person-days. This was the second lowest number on record. At the same time, 67,000 workers were involved in these strikes or lockouts and just under 2.2 million person-days in working time were lost—the highest number of days lost since 2005.

## **NUPGE/CALM**

## **National pharmacare program could save billions**

The Canadian Health Coalition (CHC) is urging the Harper government to start working with provincial and territorial governments to bring in a universal pharmacare program.

The coalition has sent a letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper following the release of a report laying out a formula for pharmacare that would offer coverage to all Canadians and could save up to \$10.7 billion annually.

*The Economic Case for Universal Pharmacare* was authored by

Marc- Andre Gagnon and commissioned by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) and the Institut de recherche et d'informations socio- économiques (IRIS).

*The Economic Case for Universal Pharmacare* has been endorsed by a number of doctors, economists and researchers. "The way we pay for prescription drugs is broken," says Joel Lexchin, a professor at the school of health policy and management at York University. "Politicians hide behind the excuse that universal public coverage is too expensive. This study exposes that excuse as a fallacy. We can save money and cover everyone in the country. Medicare works and pharmacare is no different."

Robert Evans, a Harvard economist whose work includes comparative studies of various health care systems and funding strategies, says Canada has a U.S.-style system of paying for drugs. "It yields American results—inequity, waste and high costs," he says.

The report says a national pharmacare plan would enable all Canadians to enjoy equitable access to medicine while controlling the growth of drug costs. Many countries, including France, the U.K., Sweden, Australia and New Zealand, have universal drug plans and pay far less than Canada.

CHC chairperson Kathleen Connors argues that Canadians have waited too long for action by government leaders at all levels.

"It is no longer credible for politicians to say we cannot afford pharmacare," she says. "The reality is Canadians cannot afford not to have pharmacare."

The CHC sets out two scenarios for reaching the goal of sustainable drug prices with universal public Pharmacare. These calculations already take into account an increased cost of 10 per cent for universal pharmacare, covering all Canadians.

The coalition's report also proposes additional policy measures to offset the additional cost.

### **Scenario One**

Current expenditure on prescription drugs—\$25.1 billion. Cost savings with a universal pharmacare plan are found by

- eliminating multiple private plans and saving with administrative and federal tax subsidies—\$1.5 billion
- reducing brand name drug prices to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) average—\$1.4 billion
- eliminating of the costly rebate system for generic drugs—\$1.3 billion
- elimination of the monthly deductible and the 15-year patent protection for drugs in Quebec —\$246 million

Total savings with pharmacare—\$4.5 billion

### **Scenario Two**

- rigorously review drug companies and negotiate pricing (as in New Zealand)—\$9.3 billion
- eliminate multiple private plans and save with administrative and federal tax subsidies—\$1.5 billion

Total savings with Pharmacare—\$10.7 billion.

### **NUPGE/CALM**

## **Ontario Anti-scab legislation**

On the surface, collective bargaining in Ontario would appear to be fair and balanced.

And like most democratic jurisdictions in the Western industrialized world, groups of employees in Ontario have the legal right to organize into unions; they have the legal right to negotiate fair wages, health and safety, pensions, vacation time, seniority and other matters of concern to employees.

On occasion negotiations reach an impasse. And unionized employees must choose how to respond. One of those choices is to withdraw their labour.