

Local 229 Update October 9, 02

Union Activist Scott Drake from CAW Local 1075 spoke at our General Meeting this month on the **CAW Flying Squad** and encouraged our members to join up. The Flying Squad is a group of activists who join picket lines to bolster support for other unions or social justice issues. Pickets are arranged by email or phone, and it is not expected that members will be available for every picket. More information will be posted in the workplace. Scott can be reached at tbflyingsquad@shaw.ca

The Communication Committee has is planning the first newsletter for the November general meeting. Please submit any ideas, articles, or suggestions to the newsletter committee c/o the general email address of the local; caw229@tbaytel.net
The Local web site should be operating by the end of the month.

Sister Amy Rubino was acclaimed as our new Sergeant at Arms for the local. Sister Rubino works as a councilor at the Smith Clinic and has been active in the local for many years, currently chairing the Education Committee. Congratulations Sister!

Both the **Election Committee and the Education Committee** are looking for a few good people! The Education Committee meets next on Monday, October 21, 02 at 6:30pm at the Local office. Email or call the office if you are interested.

Community Based Organizer (CBO) Training will be taking place in Thunder Bay October 25, 26 and 27th. So far 3 people have signed up. If you are interested in organizing and would like to take part please contact the Local office. Organizing does take a lot of time and commitment, but can be a very rewarding experience.

Eleven members will be taking Level 1 and 2 **WSIB training** the first week of November in Thunder Bay. Sister Sharon Harietha will be going to Port Elgin for Health and Safety Training, and will work actively with the H&S/WSIB Committee.

Some good news on the Flu Shot! The Ontario Government has finally announced that Paramedics employed in Ambulance Services will no longer be legislated to take the flu shot. You may remember last year that a number of paramedics across the province were suspended for refusal. Paramedics were the only health care providers in Ontario that were legislated to take flu shots, though it was expected that if this was successful with paramedics, it would likely be legislated for other health care workers too.

Sister Josie Vickruck will be attending the **CAW December Council**. It was felt that in her position as Financial Secretary, it was important that she meet people she deals with at a National Level.

News from City Council; Councillor Shchepanik has submitted a resolution to council that would ensure that the City deal with negotiations with their unions without delays. Councillor Shchepanik is also a member of the Thunder Bay Labour Council.

Thunder Bay Labour Council is looking for representatives to sit on the United Way Board and the New Directions Board. You do not have to be a labour council delegate to sit on these boards, though we still have one vacancy for a delegate.

In solidarity, Katha Fortier