

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If your Local or unit is to thrive, you must get involved as a volunteer or leader. Too often a small core of activists is called on time and time again to do all the work. Not surprisingly, they burn out.

YOU AREN'T ALONE!

When you get involved you have other stewards in your local, and a nearby regional office staffed with resource people. OPSEU has staff specialists at head office in Toronto to support bargaining, education, communications, benefits, grievances, research, equity, human rights, health & safety and campaigns.

THE UNION WANTS YOU!

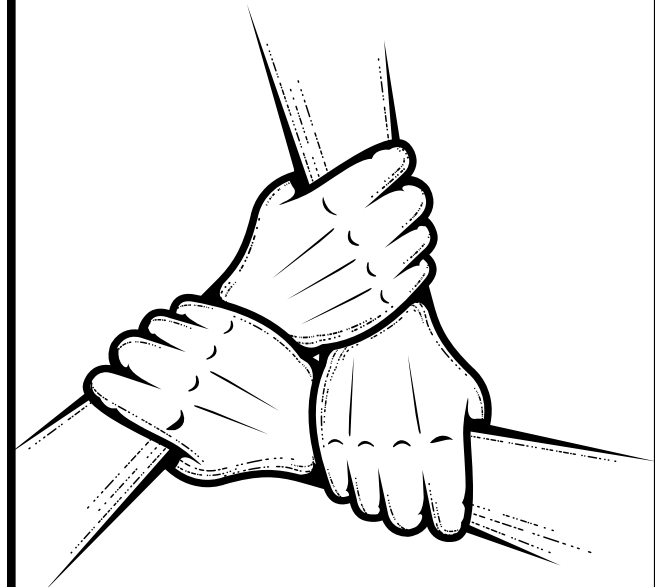
WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- Encourage your coworkers to join and support your local.
- Participate in campaign initiatives.
- Tell your Local representatives about problems at your Site.
- Volunteer as a Union Lead or a Health and Safety Steward.
- Learn about and exercise your rights in the workplace and encourage others to do the same!

REMEMBER, YOU ARE THE UNION!

Contact opseu540@gmail.com or reach out to your Union Lead to get involved.

Supporting
your
local



and why it's
important

OPSEU

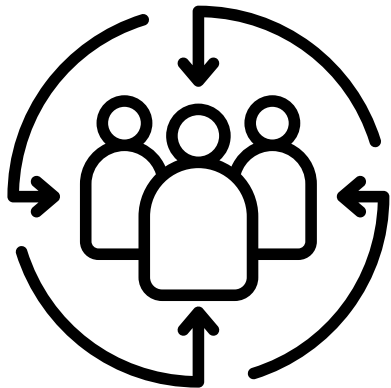
Local 540

Region 5

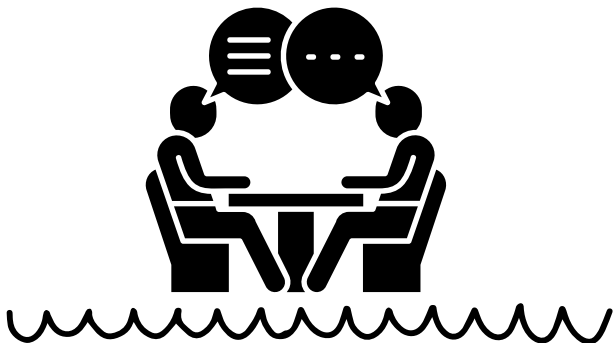
WHY GET INVOLVED?

A union's strength depends on the level of member participation.

This means the better organized your members are, the stronger their support for the union, and the more you can achieve.



You do this so the union is stronger for the next round of bargaining, and can make more contract gains.



YOUR COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

Is why people join unions and why we bargain contracts.

Spells out your relationship with your employer in your work- place.

Is the result of hard work.

Is the most important document you possess.



Workers join unions to be able to bargain for a Collective Agreement; they mobilize around issues to build support for bargaining solutions: they go on strike to support bargaining demands for a better one.

THE EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ACT, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

The Ontario Employment Standards Act (ESA) sets out the minimum standards for workers in Ontario. Every OPSEU Collective Agreement should be as good, or better than the ESA.

If a provision in an employment contract or another Act gives an employee a greater right or benefit than a minimum employment standard under the ESA then that provision applies to the employee instead of the employment standard.

Employers are prohibited from penalizing employees in any way because the employee exercised ESA rights.