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GOVERNMENT ATTACKS ON LABOUR RIGHTS

To: Presidents and All Members

From: Lori Foote, Associate General Secretary – Professional Services

For Information

The PC government is attacking the labour rights of Ontarians. Many of these rights were recently achieved, through a great deal of hard work by the labour movement across the province, with the passing of Bill 148 earlier in 2018.

On October 23, 2018, the Ford government introduced Bill 47 for First Reading. This regressive bill will erase almost all of the important gains that we collectively achieved. Improvements like 2 paid sick days, equal pay for part-timers and full-timers, fairer scheduling laws, and the January 1 increase to the \$15 minimum wage could all be lost. It is again time to take up this fight to protect Ontario workers from this Bill 47 and any future attacks.

On November 15, the Ontario government is holding their only day of committee hearings on Bill 47 and OSSTF has registered to present at this hearing. The Bill will appear before the Finance and Economic Affairs Committee on November 15 between 9-10 am and again between 2-6 pm.

The Clause-by-clause consideration is scheduled for Monday, November 19, with Third Reading to be completed by November 20. The bill may pass as soon as November 20.

It is important that this work to oppose Bill 47 happen in communities across the province and the Ontario Federation of Labour is moving forward with a series of canvasses and outreach efforts at ridings where PC MPPs won by a small margin across Ontario. Several of the targeted ridings include members of the committee that will be leading the Bill 47 hearings.

As soon as actions are scheduled, the OFL will add the events to the their oflevents.ca website. It is important that PC MPPs feel the pressure against these changes. The following links offer ways to keep the pressure on: call, email, show up at MPP's offices, or distribute flyers in a key riding near you.

In addition, the 15 and Fairness movement is also posting activity information at www.15andfairness.org/events.

Many of these activities are being planned daily and often with little lag time, making it impossible to communicate the details in a timely manner. Checking the OFL, and 15 and Fairness websites frequently is the best way for districts and members to stay informed about



the coordinated actions that are happening in their area.

If you have any questions about this DBU memo, please contact Wayne Milliner at Provincial office Wayne.milliner@osstf.ca.

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