



MDAC News



Souad Soubra, Ontario Council Representative for Members with Disabilities

Toronto MDAC

Chair: Sue Soubra
Vice Chair: Gaylene Higgs
Secretary: Ryan Ward
Treasurer: Ken Boone

Hamilton MDAC

Chair: Bob Black
Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: Vacant

Dates to Remember

- **TMDAC meetings:**
 - January 21, 2013
 - April 15, 2013
 - July 22, 2013
 - October 28, 2013
 - November 28, 2013 (Holiday Celebration)
- **HMDAC meetings:**
 - January 28, 2013
 - March 25, 2013
 - June 17, 2013
 - September 16, 2013
 - December 2, 2013 (Holiday Celebration)
- **Ontario Council**
 - February 22-23, 2013

My name is Souad Soubra, however, most people know me as Sue.

I was elected at the PSAC Ontario Triennial Convention in 2011 as the Members with Disabilities Representative on Ontario Council. This position allows me to advocate for members with disabilities at a political level within PSAC. I am the President for GSU, Local 00027.

I am trying to build an e-mail tree of members with disabilities. Please send your e-mail address to Sue.Soubra@Yahoo.com and I will keep you up-to-date with valuable information as I receive it.

Members with Disabilities Access Committees Mandate

Advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities to live and work in society with dignity, autonomy and equality.

MDAC committees hold four meetings during a year to discuss members' issues and rights. To find the meetings dates:

<http://www.pfac.com/ontario/meetings.shtml>



OFL Hosted Second Equity Retreat in Niagara Falls

From November 9-11, 2012 the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) hosted its second Equity Retreat at the Embassy Suites Niagara Falls. The event was an incredible success and drew over 100 participants from the OFL's various equity-seeking constituencies, including: Aboriginal Persons, LGBTQ, Persons with Disabilities, Women Workers, Workers of Colour, Workers Under 30 and a number of agencies that work with members of the Equity seeking groups.

2012 OFL Equity Conference



The Rose Centre For Young Adults With Disabilities is an organization that strives to meet the needs of young people, living with a disability in the City of Toronto. [The Rose Centre](#)

Canadian Human Rights Commission

Report on Equality Rights of People with Disabilities: Canadian Human Rights Commission

http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/pdf/reports/rerpd_rdepad-



Significant Human Rights Dates:

- [International Youth Day](#)
- August 12th
- [International Day of the Blind](#)
- November 13th
- [Transgender Day of Remembrance](#)
- November 20th
- [International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women](#)
- November 25th
- [International Day of Disabled Person](#)
- December 3rd
- [National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women](#)
- December 6th
- [Human Rights Day in recognition of the signing of the UN Declaration of Human Rights](#)
- December 10th

To learn who your Ontario Council leaders are; click below:

PSAC Ontario Council Members

<http://www.psic.com/ontario/council/members.shtml>

Variety: Inspiring Strength of Spirit.

For over 60 years Variety Village's goal has been to improve the quality of life of all people, regardless of their abilities.

<http://www.varietylvillage.ca/>

Variety Ontario

Variety-The Children's Charity Ontario has worked with young people with disabilities and those who face developmental barriers to achieve their life potential.

**International Day of Persons with Disabilities
December 3, 2012**

Theme: Removing barriers to create an inclusive and accessible society for all

Over one billion people, or approximately 15 per cent of the world's population, live with some form of disability.

Persons with disabilities, "the world's largest minority", often face barriers to participation in all aspects of society. Barriers can take a variety of forms, including those relating to the physical environment or to information and communications technology (ICT), or those resulting from legislation or policy, or from societal attitudes or discrimination. The result is that persons with disabilities do not have equal access to society or services, including education, employment, health care, transportation, political participation or justice.

Evidence and experience shows that when barriers to their inclusion are removed and persons with disabilities are empowered to participate fully in societal life, their entire community benefits. Barriers faced by persons with disabilities are, therefore, a detriment to society as a whole, and accessibility is necessary to achieve progress and development for all

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) recognizes that the existence of barriers constitutes a central component of disability. Under the Convention, disability is an evolving concept that "results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others." ... [United Nations](#)

Toronto RO: 90 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 608, Toronto ON M4P 2Y3 - Tel: 416-485-3558/1-800-354-9086

Sudbury RO: Suite 500A - 10 Elm Street, Sudbury, ON, P3C 5N3 - Tel: 705-674-6907/1-800-354-9134

Thunder Bay RO: Suite 109, 1205 Amber Drive, Thunder Bay ON P7B 6M4 - Tel: 807-345-8442/1-800-355-0794

London RO: 480 Sovereign Road, U-11, London ON N6M 1A4 - Tel: 519-659-1124/1-800-366-0539

Kingston RO: 1471 John Counter Blvd. Suite 412, Kingston ON K7M 8S8 - Tel: 613-542-7322/1-800-355-0783

[PSAC Toronto Mail@psac.com](mailto:PSAC_Toronto_Mail@psac.com)

International Human Rights Day – December 10th

The theme of Human Rights Day 2012:

"working together to promote unity in diversity and human dignity for all"

Human rights are interlinked and interdependent rights inherent to all human beings without any discrimination of any nationality, ethnic origin, sex, religion, language, or cast and creed or any other status, as stated by the United Nations.

Human Rights Day is observed by the international community every year on 10 December. It commemorates the day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the... [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#).

For more information:

<http://www.psic.com/ontario/>

[PSAC Ontario Council Members](#)

<http://www.psic.com/>

[PSAC Online Training](#)

<http://learn.vubiz.com/ChAccess/PSAC/Default.asp>

[APSAR](#)

<http://www.psic-afpc.org/about/apsar/home-e.shtml>

[Ontario Federation of Labour](#)

<http://www.ofl.ca/>

[Canadian Labour Congress](#)

<http://canadianlabour.ca/>

For more information Visit the links below:

[AODA Alliance](#)

www.aodaalliance.org/

[Canadian Human Rights Commission](#)

<http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/>

[The Rose Centre](#)

www.therosecentre.ca

[Abilities Magazine](#)

<http://www.abilities.ca>

[Variety Village](#)

<http://www.varietylvillage.ca/>

<http://www.varietyonario.ca/>

Wishing you a joyous Holiday Season and a New Year filled with peace and happiness!



Your feedback is greatly appreciated. If you have information or an article that we could share please forward it to sue.soubra@yahoo.com. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues and anyone else who might be interested.

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