



OFL/FTO

# PRESIDENT'S ACTION UPDATE

ONTARIO FEDERATION OF LABOUR

APRIL 27, 2011

CANADA'S LARGEST LABOUR  
FEDERATION ADVOCATING FOR  
ONE MILLION WORKERS

SID RYAN - PRESIDENT



## NDP WAVE SWEEPING CANADA!

### Union Activists Needed for Final Push

After the media pundits predicted a “ho-hum” federal election that would pose no threat to Stephen Harper’s Conservatives, NDP leader Jack Layton has galvanized an unprecedented voter confidence that is rolling across the country and could put him on track to be the 23<sup>rd</sup> Prime Minister of Canada. An Ekos poll conducted this week reports Conservative support has dropped to 33.7%, while the NDP have leapt up to 28% and the Liberals are left lagging 4 points behind. These results are echoed by numerous other polls and could position the NDP to continue to gain momentum and win 100 seats or more.

This “Orange Crush” that is sweeping the country is evidence of the progressive optimism that is shared by many Canadians who are sick of Conservative attacks on their rights and pensions and selfish Liberal betrayals. Desperately looking for leadership, some voters have recently fallen into the hands of polarizing figures like

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, but the surge of NDP support is evidence of a demand for a principled and progressive vision.

However, this historic breakthrough for the NDP is not yet a reality. Active trade union support is needed if we are going to push them over the edge. I am calling on every union and local to mobilize their membership to get actively involved in the campaign of their local NDP candidate. Together, we can decide this election.

In this crucial last week of the election, we need to be knocking on doors, making phone calls, rallying our neighbours and inspiring voters that a better Canada is possible under an NDP government.

In solidarity,

Sid Ryan, OFL President



## Join OFL President Sid Ryan and USW 1005 Workers on Parliament Hill

Fed up with a relentless attack on wages, benefits and pensions, the locked-out members of USW Local 1005 are calling upon workers across Ontario to join them on the eve of the federal election in taking the demand for pensions and workers' rights directly to Parliament Hill.

Join OFL President Sid Ryan and trade unionists who are busing and driving in to Ottawa to call on the Canadian government to restore the rights of all workers and to ensure that Canada's budgetary priorities serve the interests of the people, not corporations.

**RALLY AT 1:00 PM AT PARLIAMENT HILL  
SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2011**

Help to mobilize your community to send a strong and clear message to whichever party forms the next government: our pensions are not for sale!

## Get on the Buses to Ottawa for May 1 Rally for Pensions!

**HAMILTON:** Buses are leaving 350 Kenilworth Avenue North, at 5:00 am on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact **905-547-1417** or **1-888-396-1005**.

**TORONTO:** Buses are leaving 25 Cecil Street at 7:00 am on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact **416-727-8583**.

**ST. CATHARINES:** Buses are leaving CAW Hall, 124 Bunting Rd. at 6:00 am on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact **1-877-836-9291**.

Buses will drop off in front of Parliament and pick up on Fleet Street. Check [www.USWA1005.ca](http://www.USWA1005.ca) for more information. Rally starts at 1:00 pm with speeches, then we march to Victoria Island Park for a barbecue and entertainment.



## On April 28, Demand Justice for Workers Killed or Injured on the Job

In April 2009, city public works employee James Vecchio was crushed to death when a mobile crane fell into a hole where he was working in Sault Ste. Marie. Two years later, all criminal charges against Millenium Crane Rentals, owner David Brian Selvers and operator Anthony Vanderloo have been dropped. Shocked Ontario workers are left to wonder what it will take to see negligent employers behind bars.

On April 28, Ontario workers will be mourning last year's 490 workplace fatalities and over 240,000 injuries, but they will also be demanding justice for workers who are killed or injured. For events, visit:

**[WWW.WHSC.ON.CA/PDFS/DOM11\\_EVENTLISTING\\_WEBMAR30.PDF](http://WWW.WHSC.ON.CA/PDFS/DOM11_EVENTLISTING_WEBMAR30.PDF)**

For the OFL statement on the Day of Mourning, visit:

**[WWW.OFL.CA](http://WWW.OFL.CA)**

