



# PRESIDENT'S **ACTION UPDATE**

January 16, 2012

CANADA'S LARGEST LABOUR  
FEDERATION ADVOCATING FOR  
ONE MILLION WORKERS

OFL/FTO

ONTARIO FEDERATION OF LABOUR

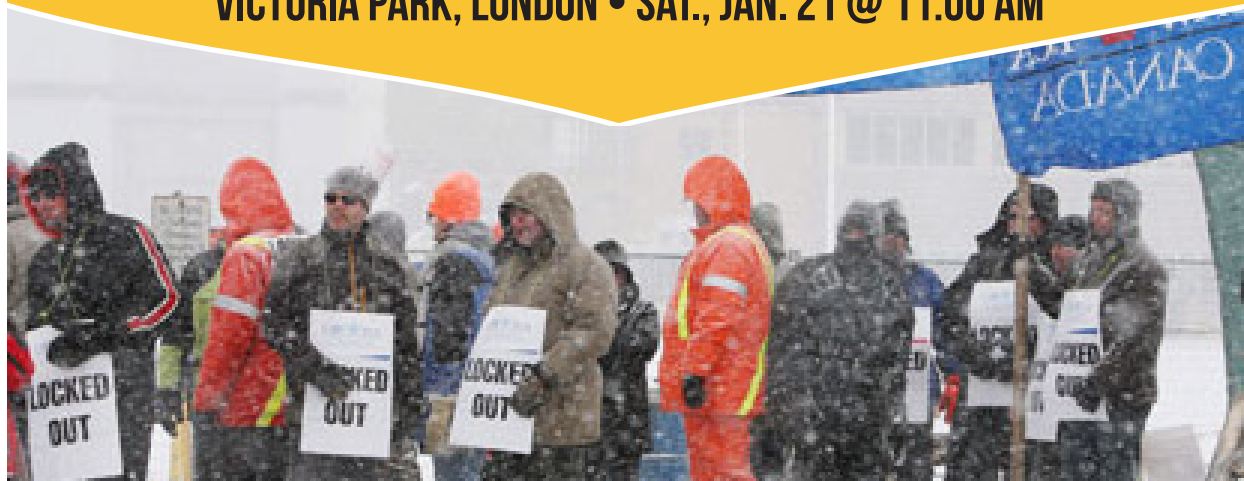
SID RYAN - PRESIDENT

## **STOP**

# **CATERPILLAR**

## **from bulldozing Canadian jobs**

VICTORIA PARK, LONDON • SAT., JAN. 21 @ 11:00 AM



## **Day of Action against corporate greed to launch militant fight for good jobs**

The OFL is helping to mobilize for a massive day of action, called by the CAW to support the members of CAW Local 27, who have been locked out by Electro-Motive Canada since New Year's Day. Heeding a mandate from the OFL membership, set at the 2011 Convention in Toronto, this year promises a more militant and united response to attacks on good jobs.

Electro-Motive, a subsidiary of U.S. industrial giant Caterpillar Inc., wants to strong-arm workers at its London plant into a pay cut of over 50 percent, dropping hourly wages from \$35 to \$16.50. It is also imposing devastating cuts to benefits and pensions on members of CAW Local 27 at a time when the company has enjoyed multi-billion-dollar profits and a 20 percent boost to production over last year.

Greedy foreign-owned companies like Electro-Motive/Caterpillar, and far too many others, are exploiting Canada's lax labour laws and shameful domestic

investment protections to break unions and usher in a new era of precarious work and record corporate profits.

Help the fightback by filling buses to London and promoting the event online and on-the-ground!

**11 a.m., Sat., Jan. 21, Victoria Park, the site of last year's Occupy London camp.**

**FACEBOOK: <http://on.fb.me/LondonJ21>**

**INFO: [www.OFL.ca](http://www.OFL.ca) & [www.caw.ca/en/10835.htm](http://www.caw.ca/en/10835.htm)**

It is time for workers to come together to challenge every greedy employer – whether in the private or public sector – that is attacking good jobs and retirement security for current and future employees.

I'll hope to see you on the streets of London!

*Sid Ryan*  
Sid Ryan, OFL President



KI Chief Donny Morris welcomed by OFL VP Representing Aboriginal People Joanne Webb at 2011 OFL Convention in November. Photo: Brian Willer

## OFL demands respect for First Nations' land and resources

Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI) Chief Donny Morris has invited the OFL to lead a spring delegation of labour leaders to its territory, 600 km north of Thunder Bay. At issue is Ontario's refusal to take action to ensure that mining companies do not violate KI's exploration protocols and practices. The newest challenge from God's Lake Resources (GLR) threatens the integrity of burials, sacred sites, cemeteries and other community interests. The province issued the permit to GLR and has continually been made aware of the violations and concerns of KI, but will not take action. Chief Morris was a key speaker at the OFL's Nov. convention, requesting full support. We are urging all unions and locals that have not yet signed on to the KI statement of support, to do so.

Go to [www.kilands.org](http://www.kilands.org) and click on "Take Action."

## OFL gears up fight for Precautionary Principle

It's been five long years since Justice Archie Campbell's groundbreaking report on what went wrong in Ontario's response to the SARS crisis, but there is still no action on its major recommendation: the Precautionary Principle. Campbell called it "the take home message" of the report. With new communicable diseases and drug-resistant superbugs in hospitals, as well as scores of new chemicals, processes and other hazards introduced to manufacturing plants, classrooms - all public and private sector workplaces - it's time for immediate action, newly elected Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Hutchison told the media last week. The OFL will redouble its efforts to ensure the principle is incorporated into the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and the many other standards, statutes and regulations specified in Campbell's report. See the OFL website for Sister Nancy's full comments.

## Drummond calls for privatized health care & public services

In Ontario, wages and real incomes have been stagnant and are now declining. Unemployment and household debt loads are dangerously high and the economy is fragile. Ontario already lags behind other provinces in support for programs and services. In the midst of this grim reality, former TD Banker Don Drummond has been shopping his report, due this month, calling for "radical" cuts to public services to curb Ontario's \$16 billion deficit. At a time when more robust public services are needed, Drummond will call for dramatic austerity measures. Meanwhile, the Financial Post reported that Canada's top five banks set aside \$9.3 billion in executive bonuses last year. An OFL Heads of Unions' meeting - devoted to the report - will take place Jan. 26. Visit [www.ofl.ca](http://www.ofl.ca) for a report on the Drummond Commission.

Save city services ! Pack the Council Chambers from morning until night, January 17 & 18

Defend good jobs !

# Rally for!

# TORONTO!

Tuesday January 17, 5:30pm

Toronto City Hall

[www.facebook.com/RespectToronto](http://www.facebook.com/RespectToronto)



OFL Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Hutchison hangs boots on the fence at the CAW L. 27 picket line. Photo Mike Roy

## Bring your boots to London

Support CAW Local 27 members by bringing old work boots, pictures and statements from laid-off friends and family members to take over to the picket line after the rally on January 21. The picket line is located at 2021 Oxford Street East in London, Ontario. For more ways to support locked out Electro-Motive workers, visit: [www.caw.ca/en/10835.htm](http://www.caw.ca/en/10835.htm)