

# March 2006 “F Y I”

## Update

! The spring ONG General Membership meeting was held in the Conference Centre of the Ottawa Citizen on March 22, 2006. With ONG President Lois Kirkup away in Montreal, working with the Montreal Guild executive, VP Janet Hunter chaired the meeting. Nancy Noel, who had been appointed by the executive in January to the position of Secretary, was elected by the membership to fill this position for the 2006-2008 term. There is still one vacant Member-at-Large position on the ONG executive, so, if you have any interest in serving on the executive board, please contact a member of the executive. Lois Kirkup and Tony Cote were elected as local delegates to the 2006 TNG Sector Conference and CWA Convention at Las Vegas in July.

! The March meeting of the ONG executive committee was held in the Guild office on March 22 and was attended by Janet Hunter, Gord Holder, Nancy Noel, Debbie Cole, Tony Cote, Terry Garner, Claude L'Ecuyer and Don Smith. Lois Kirkup, Joanne Schnurr, Marc Laurin and Jordan Juby did not attend.

! Information has been posted and sent to members about the ONG volunteer day at the Union Mission. On **Saturday April 8**, Guild volunteers will be painting at the Mission, and 15 to 20 workers are needed for the day. Please contact Tony Cote or Lois Kirkup, or call the ONG office if you can help out on April 8. The Guild will also be holding a collection drive to gather needed items for Mission clients: clothing, footwear, pyjamas, bathrobes, towels, personal toiletries, blankets, board games, etc. You can deposit such donations in the collection boxes in Guild departments between March 30 and April 7. The ONG will deliver the donated items to the Mission on April 8.

! *Grievance Update:*

- The DLR grievance was recently resolved with the signing of a letter of release/settlement in which the former member received a lump sum payment from the company.

! The spring National Representative Council meeting of TNG Canada/CWA takes place in Sudbury from March 31 to April 2. ONG delegates will be Lois Kirkup, Gord Holder, Debbie Cole and Tony Cote.



! CWA: Ready for the Future – This process was a very interesting exercise for the ONG. Our Local has never really taken the time to evaluate our strengths and weaknesses and list the challenges we might be facing over the next few years. We learned we are fairly good at communicating what is happening to the membership, but we sometimes don't promote our successes very well. A short summary report of our views about CWA and TNG Canada's future role was submitted to CWA.

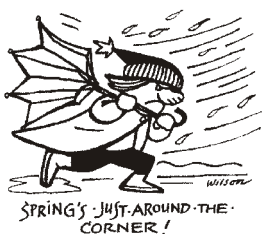
! In response to a strike appeal from the Ontario Federation of Labour, the Guild sent a strike donation to Local 1072, Carpenters' Union, (Woodbridge, ON), locked out by their employer since December 2005.

! Applications details and deadlines concerning scholarships available to Guild members are listed on the TNG Canada website at [www.tngcanada.org](http://www.tngcanada.org). There is also information posted on Guild bulletin boards about the 2006 OFL Labour Honour Roll Scholarships – deadline May 31, 2006, and the Workers Health & Safety Centre 2006 Scholarships – deadline June 23, 2006.

! ONG members should also check out the TNG Canada web page for information on the Union Plus program and savings available to union members. There is a link to the “*Union Savings Program*” on the home page under the “For Members” heading.

! “***Congratulations***” & “***Condolences***”

- Donation to Canadian Cancer Society in memory of Beryl Donaldson, mother of Debbie Gauthier (Citizen/Financial Services).
- Basket to Neil & Ruth Bakshi (Citizen/RS&S) - baby boy.
- Congratulations to Citizen reporter Shannon Proudfoot for her honourable mention in the 2005 Golden Lamp Awards. Shannon received the mention in the category of Best Media Depictions of Nursing for her story entitled *Angels and Heroes: A tale that needed to be told: Exhibit explores history of Canadian nurses*. These awards are given annually by the Center for Nursing Advocacy and the American Journal of Nursing.
- Congratulations to Citizen Editorial members recently nominated for a National Newspaper Award, one of the most prestigious awards in Canadian journalism. A team of Citizen staffers, including Ron Corbett, Wayne Cuddington, Andrew Duffy, Jennifer Green, Jordan Juby, Janice Kennedy, Rod MacIvor, Sue McDonough, Anita Murray, Julie Oliver, Pauline Tam, Bruce Ward, assistant city editor Mike Shahin, and city editor Rob Warner were nominated in the Special Projects category for the eight-part series “*A Revolution in Dying*” published in April 2005. The series dealt with issues pertaining to palliative care. The Canadian Newspaper Association awards will be handed out on May 26 in Halifax. This series was also honoured by the Canadian Nurses Association/Canadian Medical Association and the American Society on Aging, winning awards from both organizations.



March 28, 2006

