



# JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2006 “FYI” UPDATE

- The first meeting of the ONG executive committee for 2006 was held in the Guild office on January 11. This meeting was followed by a Guild strategic planning session for 2006 and was attended by Lois Kirkup, Janet Hunter, Nancy Noel, Gord Holder, Debbie Cole, Tony Cote, Terry Garner and Don Smith. Joanne Schnurr, Marc Laurin, Jordan Juby and Claude L’Ecuyer did not attend.
- Nancy Noel (Citizen/Financial Services) was appointed by the executive committee to fill the vacant ONG Secretary position, and Marc Laurin is the new Unit Leader at DLR International. Lists of the Guild executive committee for 2006 have been posted on the Guild bulletin boards. There is still one vacant Member-at-Large position on the 2006 executive. If you are interested in serving on the ONG executive committee, please contact a member of the executive.
- The February meeting of the executive committee was held on February 14 and was attended by Lois Kirkup, Nancy Noel, Gord Holder, Debbie Cole, Joanne Schnurr, Tony Cote, Terry Garner, Jordan Juby, Claude L’Ecuyer and Don Smith. Janet Hunter and Marc Laurin did not attend.
- Mark your planners for the next ONG General Membership meeting: **Wednesday, March 22**. The meeting starts at 12 noon in the Conference Centre of the Ottawa Citizen. Items of business on the agenda include: elections for the positions of Secretary and one Member-at-Large position, plus election of ONG delegates to the 2006 TNG Sector Conference and CWA Convention.
- TNG Canada/CWA web editor, Deb Richmond, has added Awards/Scholarships application deadlines to the 2006 calendar on the *Coming Events* page on the TNG Canada website. Members can see at a glance what the various deadlines are, and each one has a Details link, to take you to the particular entry on the Awards page. Both pages appear in the left-side menu under “For Members”. Be sure to check all Scholarship info, as well as up-to-date Guild news stories on the website at **[www.tngcanada.org](http://www.tngcanada.org)**.
- ONG/Ottawa Citizen Pay Equity review: Guild committee members met for two days in early February to review all of the information collected on the 9 positions under review. The next step in the process is another joint meeting with the Citizen Pay Equity committee.
- CWA Resolution #1, “*CWA: Ready for the Future*” – The ONG executive held an in-depth planning session following the January executive committee meeting to review the successes and failures of the local and the union in general, and plans for our future. A points summary was tabled to March meetings for further discussion by the executive and the membership. The prepared ONG points for consideration

will then be submitted to TNG/CWA through TNG Canada/CWA.

□ *Grievance update:*

- DLR International - the company has responded with a monetary offer in the DLR grievance and the lawyers are working on a letter of settlement as final resolution of the grievance.
  - Ottawa Citizen sick leave grievance - the company made a buyout settlement offer to the Editorial department member and the grievance was resolved with the signing of a settlement agreement.
- ÷ *ONG members should take note that these kinds of financial settlements are subject to taxation. ≠*

□ ONG delegates for 2006-2007 to the TNG Canada/CWA National Representative Council meetings were elected at the February 14 executive meeting. ONG Local delegates are: Lois Kirkup, Gord Holder, Debbie Cole, Tony Cote and Janet Hunter, with Nancy Noel to serve as the Alternate. The spring NRC meeting will be held in Sudbury, ON, March 31 - April 2, 2006.

□ **“Congratulations” & “Condolences”**

- Basket sent to Jeff Parks (Citizen/Building Services) - sick leave.
- Basket to Rob Cross (Citizen/Editorial) - sick leave.
- Basket to Neil (Citizen/RS&S) & Ruth Bakshi - marriage.
- Basket to Pauline Colwin (Citizen/Editorial) & Paul Scully, baby girl, Leah.
- Donation to Renfrew Victoria Hospital Foundation in memory of Edna Visneskie, mother of Don Visneskie (Citizen/RS&S).
- Donation to CHEO Foundation in memory of Stanley James Campbell, father of Bruce Campbell (Citizen/RS&S).
- Dinner gift certificate to Doug Menary (Citizen/Editorial) - sick leave.
- Basket to Graham Hughes (Citizen/Editorial) - surgery.
- ONG congratulations also go out to Citizen/Editorial department members Robert Sibley and Andrew Duffy. Robert Sibley was honoured in December for travel writing in the *North American Travel Journalists Association* annual awards. The 11-part series on his 1,400 km walking pilgrimage through Japan’s famous Buddhist pilgrimage route appeared in the *Citizen’s Weekly* section between April and September 2005. This project earned Robert first prize in the Series category, and the first article in the series, “A Pilgrim’s Lot”, earned the overall Grand Prize selected from among all categories. Andrew Duffy won the *Amnesty International Canada’s* national media award in the national print category for excellence in human rights coverage. He was honoured for his feature “Terror v Torture: The Battle for the Soul of Canada’s Justice System” and two related stories, published as part of an 8-part series that examined the impact of Canada’s anti-terrorism laws.

□ Recent donations by the ONG:

- CWA Eduardo Diaz Union-to-Union 2006 campaign. This international solidarity fund is used to help finance projects around the world for specific union needs for which there is no money, and priority is given to assist the living standards of working women.



Feb. 22, 2006

