August 26, 2020

TO: Ontario Heads of Unions, OFL Executive Board, OFL Executive Council, OFL Political Action Committee

Greetings,

RESTORE OUR RIGHTS PROVINCE-WIDE ACTIONS

Bill 195 authorizes the Government to maintain orders that interfere with the collective bargaining rights of unionized workers. With very limited exceptions, it also permits the government to increase the severity of restrictions on collective bargaining rights.

Join us in telling local MPP’s to restore our rights!

Front-line workers, who helped keep us safe and delivered critical services in a pandemic, deserve better than an attack on their legal rights. They deserve to have their rights restored today.

When COVID-19 first hit, front-line workers rose to action, putting themselves and their families at great personal risk, to keep the public safe and maintain our communities. Now, their workplace rights are in jeopardy. Bill 195 allows for employers to ignore sections of collective agreements indefinitely, and gives extraordinary, undemocratic, and unprecedented power to the very government who once called these front-line workers heroines and heroes.

Join the call to demand the Ford Conservatives to do the right thing and ensure that workers have their rights restored. We encourage you to mobilize your members to participate in a rally near them.

The Ontario Council of Hospital Unions (OCHU), CUPE Ontario and the Ontario Federation of Labour are mobilizing to #OpposeBill195 and restore workers’ rights. Join a rally at an MPP’s office near you to show your support for frontline workers and take a stand against the government’s abuse of power.

Go to https://www.powerofmany.ca/events to RSVP to a ‘Restore Our Rights’ rally to let us know you’re joining. Please see the attached flyer that lists each of the planned actions across Ontario.

Share the events with your members and broader networks on Facebook. Use the hashtags #RestoreOurRights and #PowerOfMany.

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We encourage Labour Council Presidents and/or Executives to speak at the rallies when possible. If you are available to attend and speak at a rally in your region, please send an email to OFL Interim Director of Political Action and Outreach Chandra-Li Paul at cpaul@ofl.ca to arrange for you to be on the list of speakers at the appropriate rally.

The Power of Many are fighting to Restore Our Rights and Build an Ontario for all!

In solidarity,

PATTY COATES  
President

AHMAD GAIED  
Secretary-Treasurer

JANICE FOLK-DAWSON  
Executive Vice-President

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