

C. L. A. S.

Composite committee
Monthly Newsletter

Sept.
2010



Local 195

www.labouradjustment.com

The Unemployed Help Centre Free Workshops

Computer Workshops (Evening Classes)

Below is a list of computer workshops that will be offered on the third Wednesday of each month from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm within the UHC [Resource Centre](#). The focus of these courses is to give you the word-processing skills needed to create and update your resume and cover letters. In addition, you can learn how to access the Internet to job search, email resumes, and gather information on potential employers, and re-search career & training opportunities.



Job Search by Internet - Think you know how to surf the net. This course will teach tips and tricks of discovering the "hidden job market".

Sending Resumes by E-mail - This course will teach how to send your resume to potential employers as attachments (MS Word) and also in Rich Text Format. Recommend/Prerequisite: An e-mail account with basic knowledge of sending and receiving e-mail.

Setting up an E-mail Account - After completing this course, you will have an E-mail account and a basic understanding of how to send and receive emails. Recommend/Prerequisite: Basic knowledge of Microsoft Word.

MS Word - Working with Resumes - A basic introduction to Microsoft Word, mouse, keyboard and navigation.

MS Word - Enhancing Resumes - A continuation of Word - Working with Resumes with a little more in-depth look into margins, tabs, bullets, and copy, cut, and paste commands. Recommend/Prerequisite: Basic knowledge of Microsoft Word.

Forklift Training

We will be having Forklift training Friday September 17th from 9am to 3pm at CAW Local 195.



If you are interested you must contact us on or before
Friday September 10th @ 519-256-4597

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What's on in September



35th Essex-Kent Cage Bird Society Show

Sep 25, 2010 to Sep 26, 2010 - Many colours, types and varieties of canaries, finches, budgerigars, parrots, lovebirds and cockatiels. Competition with International Judges. Vendors and sales.

Hours: Saturday 3:00 to 6:00. Sunday 9:30 to 2:00

Cost: 2.00

Venue: Fogolar Furlan Club Udine Building, Windsor
julianne@mnsi.net

www.essexkentcbs.com

Phone 519-948-6398 for more information

Terry Fox Run Windsor 2010

Sep 19, 2010 - Registration: 8:00-9:00 AM Official Start: approx. 9:15 AM

10K Walk/Run

Track measures 1.6 KM:

6 times for 10K

3 times for 5K

Free parking onsite, washroom facilities, playground nearby, family fun and refreshments.

Walk, run, bicycle, roller blade, wheelchair, baby strollers - all welcome. No registration fee required!

Register as an individual, or as a team (family, work, sport group ...). Online registration encouraged.

Hours: 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Cost: N/A

Venue: Ford Test Track Milloy Street Entrance, Windsor
marian.drouillard@cogeco.ca

www.terryfox.org

Phone 519-944-5136 Ext. 6114 for more information.



Project X 2010

Sep 17, 2010 to Sep 18, 2010 - Mark Your Calendar! 3rd annual Christian Music Festival with LEELAND, THE AFTERS, RILEY ARMSTRONG, BEN CLARK + Mike Guzzardo and Jason Hildebrand! More to be added

Hours:

Cost: \$10 Advance, \$15 Door

Venue: UMEI Christian High School, Leamington
pr@ripplemanagement.com

www.project-x-online.com

Phone 519-972-9125 for more information.

Fun On Wheels Fall Car Show

Sep 5, 2010 - Our car shows are always a big success, drawing around 500 vehicles and 60 or more vendors. A breakfast buffet will be served from 7:30am and BBQ lunch will be available from our Village kitchen.

PLUS: Door prizes and cash awards for category winners!
Hours: Call for more info.

Cost: 10.00 registration fee for show vehicles includes entrance fee for occupants; 5.00 general admission

Venue: Canadian Transportation Museum 6155 Arner Townline, Kingsville

media@ctmhv.com

www.ctmhv.com

Phone 519-776-6909 for more information.



EMPLOYMENT QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

“ASK SUE”

Frequently I hear the same questions over and over. Maybe my answers will be of interest. If you have a question that you wish to see answered in this space feel free to call your Labour Adjustment Committee representative and submit your question.

QUESTION: I plan on taking my pension and an early retirement from my company. I am doing this because I am very concerned that due to the extensive lay offs and discussions by my company about closing, I did not want to risk losing my pension entirely if they suddenly closed or declared bankruptcy. I am not in a financial position to actually retire and feel I have ten years or more of work before I can expect to fully retire. Will I qualify for retraining funds?

ANSWER: Yes! It is a bit complicated but I will do my best to try and explain. There are two types of funding available for retraining.

The first and most likely funding option is called Second Career Strategy. Individuals eligible are as follows:

- Employment Insurance eligible individuals
- Those who are in **Reachback status** (have been on EI benefits within the last 3 years or 5 years if on Maternity or Parental Benefits).
- Laid off workers who have exhausted their benefits and taken a low paying, unskilled job, going as far back as January 1st 2005, and still remain employed in these low paying jobs
- Laid off workers who exhausted their benefits and perhaps have taken other jobs and subsequently been laid off again but do not have enough hours to re-qualify for Employment Insurance.
- Workers who do not qualify for Employment Insurance

It is my understanding that you could qualify for the Second Careers Strategy funding to help pay for school tuition. The amount of pension received and the financial needs demonstrated by each individual will determine whether they will qualify for a weekly training allowance in addition to the help with tuition. There is a Second Careers Financial Assessment template that can be reviewed with you by the case manager at your Assessment Centre.

There are a few other criteria that you would have to establish just like everyone else, which includes the Second Career eligibility and suitability requirements such as did you job search without success, is your new career goal in demand etc.

The training program must be allowable under the Second Career Skills training criteria. (not all schools are approved for funding)

The individual seeking funding must have developed a mutually agreed upon "Return to Work Action Plan" (RTWAP) or Employment Service Plan (ESP) with staff at an Employment Ontario Assessment Centre. These are listed below:

Assessment Centre

1410 Ouellette Ave.,
Windsor, ON N8X 5B2
Phone: **(519) 971-9698**

Invest Career Counselling Centre

215 Talbot St. East,
Leamington, ON N8H 3X5
Phone: **(519) 326-9657**

Unemployed Help Centre

6955 Cantelon Drive,
Windsor, ON N8T 3J9
Phone: **(519) 944-4900**

Another possible funding option available is called Ontario Skills Development. In order to be eligible for these funds an individual must have qualified for Employment Insurance benefits within the last three years if on a regular claim (or within the last 5 years if was in receipt of maternity or parental benefits). This is referred to as having Reachback status. Normally, someone who requests early retirement and receipt of a retirement pension is not usually eligible for EI benefits and the support programs that go with these benefits. The decision you feel you were forced to make, and the circumstances with your company just might be considered "*reasonable grounds for leaving your last employer*". Approval for Employment Insurance is decided on an *individual case basis*, and no one can say for sure whether your case is an exception. You will need to apply for Employment Insurance, giving a full explanation of why you felt you had to leave your job. If they do determine that you had good grounds for leaving your employment then you will qualify for both the Ontario Skills Development funds as well as the Second Career Strategy funds. Still for this option, I have to sum it up as "**MAYBE**".

Contact Information

Easier To Apply For A Student Loan

McGuinty Government Cutting Red Tape, Helping More Students Succeed

Starting this year, college and university students will spend less time filling out loan and grant applications and standing in back-to-school line-ups. They will also receive their financial support faster.

The province is streamlining student aid by making the application process easier and cutting red tape. This will help students focus more on their studies. Changes to the process this year mean:

Students will fill out fewer forms for the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) and Student Access Guarantee (SAG) funds

When they complete their OSAP application, they will also be automatically evaluated for SAG funding

Recipients of the Ontario Access Grant and Distance Grant will have their aid directly deposited into their bank accounts starting in January 2011.

Additional changes taking effect this school year will benefit students by:

- Providing more assistance for tuition, living costs, books, supplies and equipment
- Allowing students to keep more of the money they earn from part-time jobs
- Providing a no-interest no-payment period on student loans for six months after graduation
- Providing additional support for married students and students with children
- Introducing a new grant for part-time students
- Offering students more flexibility on repayment.

The McGuinty government's Open Ontario plan is helping build a highly skilled and educated workforce, giving Ontario the competitive edge in securing a strong economy for the future.

Training Programs

If you are interested in the following training programs please contact us @ 519-256-4597

Forklift Truck
Certification



Safe Food Handling



Smart Serve

First Aid & CPR



WHMIS

UHC - Interview Techniques

Offered on the **2nd Wednesday of every month from 4:00 pm to 7:20 pm**

This is geared to those who have had their resume and cover letters completed, but are not successful in their job search. Whether you took their program or an alternative, if you are still unemployed, it will give you an opportunity to hone your interview skills. The session will include: interview skill development, and taped mock interviews.

To enroll for any of these free workshops, contact Brenda or Sean in the UHC Resource Centre (944-4900 ext. 128) .

C. L. A. S.

Composite Committee

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