

Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre

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Welcome

Thirty-five years ago...

In January 1983, President of UAW, Bob White made a call to nine community minded, labour affiliated individuals to establish a Help Centre.

The intention was to help people who did not have organized labour representation to access EI, Worker's Compensation, Welfare/Social Assistance and Canada Pension-Long Term Disability benefits.

The Help Centre opened during the early part of the 80's recession. Unemployment was 12.9%; the Help Centre's annual budget was approximately 60K.

In 1986, Maralyn Tassone joined the agency and is still the Executive Director of the DRUHC. Under Maralyn's direction and the guidance of the Board, the organization has grown tremendously - with 2 locations; 40+ employees; and a 3M+ budget.

[View a condensed timeline of DRUHC's 35-year history.](#)

[Hear Maralyn Tassone on the history of the Help Centre.](#)

Celebrating 35 Years!

This year we celebrate 35 years of offering employment services to Durham Region.

We have come a long way in 35 years. We are grateful for the funding and support of:

Ministry of Training, Colleges & Universities

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Ontario Trillium Foundation

UNIFOR Local 222

During DRUHC's Annual General Meeting, we were joined by political representatives and community stakeholders.

City of Oshawa Mayor, John Henry; Durham Region's Manager of Diversity and Immigration, Audrey Andrews; DRUHC Executive Director, Maralyn Tassone; Regional and City Councillor, Dan Carter

Guest Speaker, Trish Hennessy, Director, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives Ontario office, offered insight into the possible changes of legislation and impact, particularly for non-profit organizations, under the new provincial government.

[Click to learn more about Trish Hennessy.](#)

Minimum Wage Raise Helps

According to David Olive, Business Columnist for the Toronto Star, the benefits to raising Ontario's minimum wage are tangible.

A higher minimum wage means:

- Higher household incomes
- Increased consumer spending
- Lower workplace turnover and absenteeism

Seattle is an example of the effects of raising minimum wage. As a city driving towards a \$15/hour minimum wage, they have experienced strong job creation since 2011. [Read the article by clicking here.](#)

[Learn more about Bill 148.](#)

Changes to Bill 148

On October 3, 2018, Ontario Premier Doug Ford vowed to get rid of Bill 148.

Bill 148 is the Liberal Worker Reform Bill that was implemented to give workers greater protections including the recent minimum wage raise to \$14/hour.

Doug Ford had already stated that the minimum wage would remain at \$14/hour and would not be raised to \$15/hour in January 2019 as per Bill 148.

Other aspects of the bill are now in question including:

Will part-time and temporary workers continue to receive the same pay for the same work performed by full-time employees?

Will workers continue to be guaranteed a minimum of three paid hours if their shift is cancelled 48 hours prior to their shift?

Will workers continue to retain the ability to take 10 days of personal emergency leave with 2 days of these paid?

Jim Wilson, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade indicates that Bill 148 is not necessarily being eliminated but is up for review.

The opposition states that eliminating the bill will take us backwards.

[Read the Canadian Press article for more information.](#)

Adjusting to a New Country

Newcomers, take care of yourselves!

Visit the Pickering Welcome Centre for a conversation about feeling well and staying healthy when you are adjusting to a new country.

We will share tips and information for you and your family.

Pickering Welcome Centre, Unit 5

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

11:30am - 12:00pm

Light refreshments available.

[View the poster.](#)

Register with Ana at 905-420-3607 or call 1-877-761-1155.

Walk-ins also welcome.

Newcomer Volunteer Fair

An opportunity for newcomers to find the perfect volunteer opportunity!

Speakers and local community organizations will provide insights into Canadian workplace culture, the benefits of volunteering when job searching and settling in a new community,

Not a newcomer to Canada? You're welcome too!

Oshawa Public Libraries - McLaughlin Branch
65 Bagot Street, Oshawa
Wednesday, October 17, 2018
12:00pm - 6:00pm

To register call 905-579-6111 or go to the Oshawa Library event calendar to sign up for the event: oshlib.ca/signup. [View the poster.](#)

A partnership between the Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre, Welcome Centre Immigrant Services and Oshawa Public Libraries, funded by the Province of Ontario.

Laid Off? Need Training?

If you have been laid off and are thinking of going back to school in January, [Second Career](#) could be for you!

Attend an orientation session to learn if you qualify and...

Explore careers that are right for your experience and skill set

Gain assistance in career guidance

Obtain support in the exploration and application process

Learn new skills

Access information on funding support to offset training and living expenses
(based on eligibility)

[Learn more.](#)

[Attend one of our Second Career information sessions.](#)

Growing Middle Class

The world is on the verge of a historic milestone.

Based on the research of Brookings Institution scholar Homi Kharas, it is predicted that by 2020, the middle class will account for more than half of the world's population.

The middle class are defined as those who can afford the basic needs like food, shelter and clothing and still have enough for a few extras - e.g. higher education, home improvements, vacation, etc.

For thousands of years, most have lived in a state of poverty. Now more than half the population can do more than just survive. It is a critical juncture.

According to Kharas, "There was almost no middle class before the Industrial Revolution began in the 1830s. It was just royalty and peasants. Now we are about to have a majority middle class world."

[Read the Toronto Star article.](#)

Gender Equality at Work

Did you know that companies with women in at least 30% of leadership roles see economic gains?

In fact, companies are 1.4 times more likely to have sustained, profitable growth and 1.7 times more likely to have greater leadership strength. [Learn more.](#)

Recently, Ontario midwives welcomed a 'historic' victory in a pay equity case. The win happened during Gender Equality Week. [Read about it by clicking here.](#)

Big News for Non-Profit

Big news for employees of the non-profit and charitable sector in Ontario.

Under a new agreement, as many as one million Ontarians who work for non-profit organizations and registered charities will be eligible to join the provincial government pension plan.

[Read "Non-profit workers offered chance to join Ontario public sector pension plan".](#)

Canadian Nobel Winner

Canadian Professor, [Donna Strickland of the University of Waterloo](#) has been awarded the Nobel Prize for physics.

She is only the 3rd woman to ever have been awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize for physics; it has been 55 years since the last female physicist received the award. [Learn more.](#)

Age Friendly Fair

On October 24th, City of Pickering Residents, age 55+ are invited to the Age Friendly Information & Active Living Fair.

[Complimentary lunch for the first 200 people to register.](#)

It Pays to Hire Youth!

The New Employing Young Talent Incentive (EYTI) helps small to medium size businesses (SMEs) hire and retain youth!

SMEs may be eligible for the following:

\$1,000-\$2,000 hiring and retaining a young person (15 to 29 years old)

Financial incentives for hiring a high school student (15 to 18 years old) through the Youth Job Connection Summer program

Additional financial assistance to offset training costs for a young worker who has benefitted from participating in a series of job-preparation workshops

Job coaches who provide ongoing support to you and your employee

[Contact an Employment Specialist at either of our two locations to learn how employers and youth can benefit from the EYTI.](#)

[View the Province of Ontario webpage for more information.](#)

Job Opportunities

- [Warehouse Stock Staff](#)
- [General Labour](#)
- [Plant Operator](#)
- [Project & Maintenance Manager](#)
- [Renovation Specialist](#)
- [Mechanic - Small Engine](#)

Please view the [DRUHC Job Portal](#) or [come in to one of the Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre locations](#) to view many more job postings.

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Connect With Us

DURHAM REGION UNEMPLOYED HELP CENTRE

LOCATIONS:

OSHAWA

905-579-1821

272 King St, Oshawa, ON

info@unemployedhelp.on.ca

PICKERING

905-420-4010

1400 Bayly Street, Unit 12, Pickering, ON

careadmin@unemployedhelp.on.ca

PICKERING WELCOME CENTRE

Specializing in services to Newcomers to Canada

905-420-3607

1400 Bayly Street, Unit 5, Pickering, ON

jswinfo@unemployedhelp.on.ca

We want to hear from you. [Connect with us through social media or email.](#)

This Employment Ontario project is funded by the Government of Ontario.

Proudly serving the Durham Region since 1983.

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