

THE LAW UNION OF ONTARIO

Call to Action: May Day March on May 1st

The Law Union of Ontario is calling upon its members and allies to march in solidarity with workers for May Day 2013 on **Wednesday May 1st at 5:30 pm at Toronto City Hall.**

WHY MAY DAY MATTERS

Also known as International Workers Day, May Day is dedicated to protesting the injustices faced by workers of all different types, waged and unwaged. On this day we stand united as workers, fighting the forces that threaten worker safety, well-being, and livelihood.

On May Day we stress that worker struggles are deeply connected to the capitalist system, where the poor and working class bear the brunt of 'austerity', and where business and corporate interests trump workers' basic rights.

As workers we recognize that systems of oppression intersect, and a worker's gender, class, sexual and gender identity, abilities, Indigenous Nationhood, race, religion, and immigration status impact workers' lived experiences. We respect our differences and recognize that they make our worker collective stronger.

We are also challenge the unprecedented level of government and corporate attack on collective labour and unions, and confront anti-union sentiments that demonize workers who assert their rights.

WHY FEMINISM MATTERS

In keeping with the focus of the Law Union Conference (an amazing she-speak), this May Day the Law Union of Ontario has chosen to emphasize the plight of **women workers.**

Women disproportionately hold jobs that are precarious, unsecure, underpaid, and often not paid at all. Women in Ontario endure an average gender pay gap of 28%, a rate that increases when intersecting with other forms of discrimination. Immigrant women are heavily exploited under Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program, often working in abusive domestic roles. Women still face discrimination at work, fighting to overcome stereotypes of their skills, needs, and perceived reproductive capabilities.

For these reasons and so many more, we stand in solidarity with women fighting for gender equality in their work places.

JOIN THE WORKER MOVEMENT

Come join a coalition of social justice groups fighting for workers' rights on **May 1st, 2013 at 5:30 pm at City Hall**. We will rally and then march to Little Norway Park in support of striking workers at Porter Airlines (Queens Quay and Bathurst).

Try to come to early to locate the Law Union banner and march with fellow Law Union members and allies.

The Law Union's Movement Defence Committee will be providing legal support for this action and can be reached at 416-833-6137.

If you or your union local would like to donate to help fund buses, food, transit tokens, ASL, and materials for the protest, cheques to No One Is Illegal can be mailed to 260 Queen Street West, PO Box 60006, Toronto, ON M5V 1Z8. Please put May Day in the memo line and email nooneisillegal@riseup.net to let organizers know.