

S.W.E.A.C SHOUT OUT!

MAY 2017

The Sudbury Workers Education and Advocacy Centre is a community & worker based, non-profit organization committed to improving the lives and working conditions of people in low-wage and unstable employment.

International Workers Day – May 1st



“May Day,” a name used interchangeably with “International Workers Day,” originated as a result of events that took place in the United States near the end of the 19th century when workers were struggling to achieve the eight-hour day. On May 1st, 1886 the wheels of production in Chicago came to a standstill, as a procession of 50,000 workers marched peacefully through Chicago’s business district. The demonstration passed without incident, however two days later violence erupted and the blood flowed on the streets of Chicago’s South side which led to the prosecution of several labour leaders known today as the *Haymarket*

Martyrs. May Day continues to symbolize the fight for worker’s rights and the remembrance of those who fought, including the Haymarket Martyrs.

Check out the events happening throughout the Sudbury area on May 1st, 2017 to commemorate this day.

Right of the Month: Right to Organize

You have the "right" under Ontario's [*Labour Relations Act*](#) to organize and join a union.

It is illegal in Ontario for Employers to interfere with unions or employees' rights. That is, it is illegal for an employer to:

- "Refuse to employ or continue to employ" anyone or "discriminate against" anyone in employment based on membership in a trade union or the exercise of rights under the Act.
- Impose any condition in employment contract seeking to restrain someone from becoming a member of a trade union or from exercising rights under the Act.
- Seek by threat of dismissal, by any other kind of threat, or by the imposition of pecuniary or other penalties, or "by any other means" to compel an employee to refrain from becoming or continuing to be a member of a trade union or from exercising rights under the Act.
- Use intimidation or coercion.
- Ignore a certified trade union. Once a union has bargaining rights and has service notice to bargain, an employer must meet with that union and bargain in good faith toward a collective agreement.



The following was brought to you thanks to unions:

- Weekends
- Paid Vacations and Holiday Pay
- The 8-Hour Work Day
- Child labour Laws
- Work breaks, including paid lunch breaks
- Canada Pension Plan
- The Minimum Wage
- Pregnancy and Parental Leave
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Employment Insurance
- AND SO MUCH MORE!!

SWEAC NEEDS YOUR HELP!



SWEAC will be starting up a fundraising initiative in the month of May to help raise funds for the Centre's main services.

Currently, due lack of funding and increased demand from the community and we are at risk of drastically reducing our educational and one-on-one support services come June 2017.

We **NEED** the communities help to ensure our doors remain open and the unique and essential services we provide remain available.

If you would like to donate to the SWEAC please contact:

Jenny Fortin (SWEAC Executive Director)

Phone: 705-470-3323 Email: sudburyworkerscentre@gmail.com

**Join SWEAC at the next Fight for \$15 and Fairness
Planning Session.**

When: Wednesday May 10th, 2017 Time: 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Where: Sudbury Public Library Main Branch

74 MacKenzie St, Sudbury

Contact Bryan Cayouette (Campaign Organizer) for more information.

Email: sweacoutreach@gmail.com Phone: 705-470-2173

