

June 3, 2015



TO: OFL Executive Board and Council

Greetings:

**APPLICATION FOR
2015 OFL/AIL LABOUR POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS**

The OFL is proud to be joined in partnership by American Income Life (AIL) Canada in calling for applications for the OFL/AIL Labour Post-Secondary Scholarships for 2015.

Two OFL members, or the children of members, will be selected from a pool of applicants to each receive a scholarship in the amount of \$2,500 to support them as they enter the first year of full-time post-secondary study in **September 2015**. The scholarships will be awarded in honour of distinguished trade union activists who have made a significant contribution to the life and growth of the labour movement in Ontario.

Eligible candidates must:

- Be a current member, or the child of a member, of a local union affiliated to the OFL;
- Be enrolled for **September 2015** to enter their first year of full-time study (leading to a diploma or certificate) at a public Ontario community college or the first year of an undergraduate program (leading to a degree) at a publicly-funded Ontario university;
- Not have any prior post-secondary studies;
- Be currently enrolled or not more than 2 years out of secondary school; and
- Submit an essay on the topic below.

The criteria for selection of the scholarship winners are the following:

1. A brief résumé outlining non-academic interests and activities, such as community or political involvement as well as goals for the future.
2. Evidence of understanding of the role and significance of the Canadian labour movement.

In order to satisfy point (2) above, applicants will be required to submit an essay of not more than 1,000 words. This year's topic is:

How do labour unions provide a pathway out of poverty and improve the wages and working standards for every worker?

In particular, how can unions benefit people from diverse communities, such as women, new immigrants, racialized people, people with disabilities, Aboriginal people, and lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered people?

Feel free to draw from personal experience in your response.

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The deadline for receipt of applications is July 10, 2015. An Application Form is enclosed or can be found on-line at www.ofl.ca/index.php/scholarships.

The winners will be announced in August 2015.

The OFL is committed to social justice and equity and believes strongly that post-secondary education provides important opportunities that should not be limited by tuition fees and student debt. We offer these scholarships to assist students in overcoming financial barriers in accessing a public college or university education.

We proudly encourage women, people of colour, Aboriginal people, LGBTQ people, people with disabilities and those from other equity-seeking backgrounds to apply for this scholarship.

The OFL is very proud to contribute to the education and development of current trade unionists, as well as investing in the next generation of labour activists. While we fight together for post-secondary education that is accessible to all, we hope this financial assistance can provide support for our members and their children.

The OFL represents more than one million unionized workers in Ontario from 50 affiliated unions and is proud to have the support of AIL CANADA, a 100% union company that is a leader in providing supplemental insurance benefits. For more information on AIL Canada, visit: AILife.com.

Please circulate this call for applications to help ensure that these scholarships are made known as widely as possible.

In solidarity,



SID RYAN

President

Ontario Federation of Labour

**OFL/AIL LABOUR POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS
2015 APPLICATION FORM**

[Information on this application will be kept strictly confidential]

PART ONE: THE STUDENT

(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN BLOCK LETTERS)

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____ Email _____

City/Province _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Please indicate your first language _____

POST-SECONDARY COURSE AND INSTITUTION YOU ARE PLANNING TO ENTER:

VOLUNTARY SELF-IDENTIFICATION SURVEY:

(Please check all that apply.)

- 1) I am a female
- 2) I am an Aboriginal person: Métis, First Nations, Inuit or Innu person
- 3) I am a gay, lesbian, bisexual or trans-identified person
- 4) I am a person of colour
- 5) I am a person with a disability

STATEMENT OF INTERESTS AND GOALS:

Please attach a brief résumé outlining non-academic interests and activities, such as community or political involvement, as well as goals for the future.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS JULY 10, 2015

THE WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN AUGUST, 2015

PART TWO: THE UNION

NAME OF PARENT [OR APPLICANT] WHO IS A UNION MEMBER:

Employer _____

Occupation _____

Name of union _____

Local Union Number _____

I, the undersigned, attest that _____
[Name of applicant or parent]

is a member in good standing in this local union which is affiliated to the Ontario Federation of Labour:

Name of local union officer _____
[Please Print]

Signature of local union officer _____

Phone number of local union officer _____

PART THREE: THE ESSAY

Please attach a double-spaced essay of not more than 1,000 words on the topic:

How do labour unions provide a pathway out of poverty and improve the wages and working standards for every worker?

In particular, how can unions benefit people from diverse communities, such as women, new immigrants, racialized people, people with disabilities, Aboriginal people, and lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgendered people?

Feel free to draw from personal experience in your response.

Please return the Application Form and required documents by e-mail, fax or regular mail by July 10, 2015 to:

Ontario Federation of Labour
Attention: Kathy Neumann
200-15 Gervais Drive, Toronto, ON M3C 1Y8
E-mail: kneumann@ofl.ca
Tel: (416) 443-7674- Fax: (416) 441-1893