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Sisters and Brothers

March 27, 2013

I'm writing to all locals in Ontario on a matter of some urgency.

The Workers' Arts & Heritage Centre (WAHC), located in Hamilton Ontario, is the only venue of its kind in Canada with a mandate to preserve, honour, and promote the culture and history of all working people.

The Centre's work points in the social justice direction, the union direction and the community activism path, to inspire future generations to follow.

What could be more important to our movement, especially now when there are powerful forces amassing their divisive messages against unions, trying to make our own members, and their neighbours, forget the rich history of achievements that unions have gained for all working people in our country.

This incredibly important centre needs our help. Funding from government, in these times of austerity budgets, is disappearing. The centre is beginning to struggle financially, with impacts to those employed by WAHC – members of CUPE Local 1281.

CUPE Ontario is a member of WAHC, and we make a standard yearly donation of \$2,000.00 a year to support their important work. But that isn't enough.

I'm writing to ask you to do two concrete things to ensure our Workers' Arts & Heritage Centre survives and thrives:

1. Make a sizable first donation from your local union to the centre -- \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 range would be great, but whatever you can afford is important.
2. Become members of the Centre and ensure that contributions from our members continue to flow to keep WAHC strong for years to come. Become an individual member (I am!), get others to become members, and consider a supporting membership from the local union.

Take a read to the attached materials for more information on the Workers' Arts & Heritage Centre, and thanks in advance to the support that I know you will show to their important work.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fred Hahn".

Fred Hahn
President

cope343

sh/pres/corr/2013/WAHC Letter re financial support

Fred Hahn
President

ONE STRONG VOICE

Candace Rennick
Secretary-Treasurer

OUR VISION + MISSION

A Canadian society that recognizes, remembers and values the experiences and continued contribution of all workers, their unions, organizations, and communities to the quality of life we enjoy. To join our efforts and expertise with others in order to communicate and preserve through artistic and creative expression, the historical, cultural and contemporary experience of working people in their diverse identities.

WHO WE ARE

WAHC is much more than a museum. Conceived in the late 1980's, a dynamic group of labour historians, artists, unions and community activists gathered together to address the need for a place where workers' history could be celebrated. In 1996, after intense work by a volunteer Board of Directors, the Workers Arts and Heritage Centre opened the doors of its permanent home, the historic Custom House in Hamilton's north end.

Our home – the Custom House, built in 1860 to handle trade flowing through Hamilton harbour and fanning out into Upper Canada, found itself in a period of transition after the Customs Department left in 1887. Over the years many different companies used it. In 1995, WAHC was able to purchase the Custom House and over the last 15 years has worked toward the restoration of this beautiful and historic building.



WHAT WE DO

WAHC provides an array of exhibitions, educational programs and services, guided tours, rental space for meetings and community events, travelling exhibits, online exhibits and events in partnership with unions and community groups. Our first floor is host to a number of permanent exhibits, including *Workers in the Custom House*, *Punching the Clock*, *Working in Canadian Factories 1840s-1980s*, *Made in Hamilton Industrial Trail* and *9-5: A History of Office Work*. We also have a contemporary gallery showing work by local and national artists.

In addition, we also work with unions on a fee for service model to document, archive and record their histories.

For more information visit us at www.wahc-museum.ca, on Facebook, Twitter or call us at 905-522-3003.



Workers Arts and Heritage Centre

51 Stuart Street, Hamilton, ON. L8L 1B5
905-522-3003, www.wahc-museum.ca

UNION SPONSORSHIP FORM

Visionary
\$ 10,000+ ☐

Legacy Circle
\$ 7,500 ☐

Community Partner
\$ 5,000 ☐

Distinguished Friend
\$ 2,500 ☐

Organizational Ally
\$ 2,000 and under ☐

Other Amount: ☐
\$ _____

WAHC needs your help! Please become a sponsor.

WAHC is the only organization in Canada dedicated to celebrating the arts and heritage of working Canadians. WAHC relies on financial support from individuals, families, union, community organizations, and government grants.

60% of WAHC'S annual operating budget relies on the ongoing support of organizational sponsors and individual memberships. Every amount counts – no matter how big or small.

We can't thank you enough for your support!

Union: _____

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ City: _____ Country: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Please make cheque payable to Workers Arts and Heritage Centre.

Mail completed form with your contribution to:

Workers Arts and Heritage Centre

51 Stuart Street

Hamilton, ON L8L 1B5

Thank you for supporting WAHC!



Workers Arts and Heritage Centre

51 Stuart Street, Hamilton, ON. L8L 1B5
905-522-3003, www.wahc-museum.ca

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Five reasons to become a WAHC member

There are five categories of individual annual Membership. Please select the category that best fits you.

STUDENT/UNWAGED/RETIRED \$15 ☐

BASIC MEMBERSHIP, \$35 ☐

ACTIVIST MEMBERSHIP, \$100 or \$10 monthly ☐

ALLY MEMBERSHIP, \$250 or \$25 monthly ☐

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP, \$500 or \$45 monthly ☐

Please consider paying your membership at once or in monthly statements, you have the option to do it with cheque, post-dated cheques, by credit card, and online.

1. Satisfaction in supporting the only centre devoted to workers, arts and heritage in Canada
2. E-mail updates of exhibitions, openings and events
3. Right to vote at the WAHC's Annual General Meeting
4. Listing and recognition in WAHC Annual Report and Quarterly Newsletter
5. Charitable Tax Receipt for your donation.

Please provide your member information, so we can update our database.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ City: _____ Country: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Please make a cheque payable to Workers Arts and Heritage Centre, or if you prefer to pay by credit card:

☐ VISA, ☐ MASTERCARD, ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

_____ / _____ / _____ Expiry Date: Month _____ / Year _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Now, you may also donate online, visit our website at www.wahc-museum.ca

A receipt for income tax purposes will be issued by WAHC to reflect the amount of your charitable donation.
Registered charity # 13844 4633 RR0001

Please send this completed form with your contribution to:

Workers Arts and Heritage Centre

51 Stuart Street, Hamilton, ON L8L 1B5

Or by email to executivedirector@wahc-museum.ca, or fax it to 905-522-5424

Thank you for supporting WAHC!

