



**Mobilizing our Members and our Allies:**

**Campaign Report and**

**Sample Bargaining Handouts**

**Part 3**



Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**March 5, 2009**

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## Early Learning and Child Care: Ontario Can't Work Without It!

**Toronto:** The Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care has sent a bumper sticker to every Cabinet Minister reading, "Child Care – Ontario Can't Work Without It!"

"This is one of the most important budgets in many years for early learning and child care programs. As many as 22,000 child care subsidies are at risk without a serious commitment from this provincial government. In addition, we will see a longer and deeper recession without significant investments in affordable child care so that parents are able to work or retrain," said Jenny Robinson, Executive Director, Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care (OCBCC).

The Coalition is calling on the McGuinty Government to invest \$600 million over two years which would:

- Save 22,000 child care subsidies that are threatened by expired federal funds
- Create 7,500 new affordable child care spaces and create 1,500 new jobs for Early Childhood Educators and other staff
- Meet pay equity commitments for child care staff, raising average wages by 12%

Quality child care reduces poverty, creates jobs, enables parents to work or go to school and returns up to \$7 in future costs for every dollar invested today.

Ontario's projected \$18 billion dollar deficit is all the more reason to invest in child care to fix our ailing economy. Child care is part of the solution; quality child care services are a recession-proofing tool that will positively impact the economy now and in the future.

We call on the Cabinet to ensure child care is a central part of Ontario's 2009 budget.

**For more information, and for parent interview contacts, please call:**

Jenny Robinson, Executive Director, OCBCC 416-538-0628 ext. 3 or cell: 416-938-2625

**The Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care (OCBCC)** represents the voices of over 500 members including organizations, agencies, child care centres, and individuals across the province advocating for universally-accessible, high-quality, non-profit regulated child care in Ontario.

Having trouble finding  
child care?

Have a message  
for your  
provincial  
and federal  
politicians?

## Groundbreaking website for Parents [www.waitingforchildcare.ca](http://www.waitingforchildcare.ca)

It's easy to use. Just enter your postal code and an email is automatically sent to your provincial and federal politicians.

Politicians are responsible for child care funding, they need to hear from you!

Go to the website:



waitingfor  
childcare.ca

For more information contact the  
Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care,  
416-538-0628, [info@childcareontario.org](mailto:info@childcareontario.org),  
[www.childcareontario.org](http://www.childcareontario.org)



# HELP US BUILD CARING COMMUNITIES HELP US DEFEND OUR SERVICES

Dear Community Living  
Toronto Board Member,

There are more than 1000 members of CUPE Local 2191 who are the front line workers at Community Living Toronto. We provide support to over 5000 individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families and we are calling on you to help us defend our services and build caring communities.

There are many in our community who need the services and supports our agency provides. Waiting lists are huge. And after years of chronic provincial underfunding, our agency is struggling to meet these needs.

*We are concerned that the valuable supports we provide to people with intellectual disabilities are in danger of being decreased.*

Our work is the quality services our agency provides. But years of serious funding gaps are putting programs and services in jeopardy.

It's time for all of us – families, front line workers, and agency administration, to work together to secure increased provincial funding to meet the ever-increasing needs of people with intellectual disabilities.

## **Program cuts are not the answer**

We believe that front line workers and the agency administration have an obligation to the vulnerable people in our community to work hand-in-hand to defend services.

Workers in Community Agencies (Women's Shelters, Youth Hostels, Shelters for People who are Homeless, Housing, etc.) represented by CUPE in Ontario are beginning a campaign with agencies aimed at advocating for more stable and adequate funding for the supports they provide in communities all across the Province.

## **At Community Living Toronto, we should be doing the same.**

A message from the  
Community Living Toronto  
front line workers members of  
CUPE 2191

## **We are the services our agency provides.**

*For more information about the  
Defending Services Campaign  
logon to [www.cupe.ca](http://www.cupe.ca) or call  
CUPE Local 2191 (416) 979-9594*

# Quality Staff = Quality Care

**Without us, many vulnerable people in our community would have no support.**

We do the valuable work on the front lines of the agency, supporting people with disabilities and their families every day. The work is hard and the wages low.

Recent studies show that the staff turnover rate at community living agencies is disproportionately high and that wages are indeed low when compared with other social service workers. The reality of wage increases received over the last three years is that they barely meet the increases to cost of living that workers living in the GTA face.

We know our agency has been historically underfunded. But workers also know that we should not be shouldering the burdens caused by years of underfunding, through low wages and job losses due to program cuts.

To ensure vulnerable people in our community get the services they need, workers will defend the programs we provide by defending our jobs.



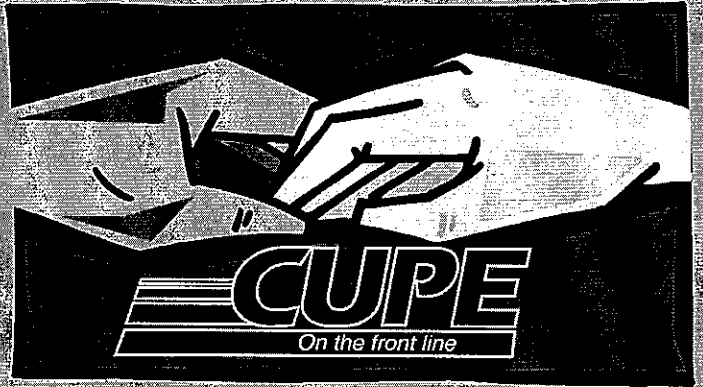
## **Contingent work... ...unfair to those who need support ...unfair to relief workers**

There are more than 500 relief and contingent workers in our agency. They work for periods of 30, 40, 50 or more hours a week. They are working full time hours but with no job security.

These workers build bonds with people and become part of support teams. Unfortunately too often they are told that they are no longer needed.

Not only is this very disruptive and unfair for those we support, it is also unfair to these workers, many of who would like the chance to use their skills and talents in full time work for the agency.

HELP US HELP



DEFENDING SERVICES  
TORONTO ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

L'intégration  
**communautaire**  
*nous la rendons possible*

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**communautaire**  
*nous la rendons possible*

## **AIDEZ-NOUS À DÉFENDRE NOS SERVICES IL EST TEMPS D'UNIR NOS FORCES**

L'avenir nous inquiète pour le précieux soutien que nous apportons aux personnes ayant des déficiences mentales. Nous craignons que ces services soient affaiblis et diminués.

La réponse ne se trouve toutefois pas dans les compressions de programmes ou dans la confrontation avec les travailleurs de première ligne.

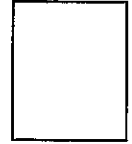
La réponse se trouve dans un effort concerté pour défendre nos services et demander un financement plus stable et adéquat.

Le SCFP compte près de 6 000 membres des organismes d'intégration communautaire de l'Ontario.

Nous sommes les services fournis par notre organisme.  
Nous rendons possible l'intégration communautaire des personnes ayant des déficiences développementales.  
Nous demandons au conseil d'administration de faire équipe avec nous pour défendre nos services.

Nom \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



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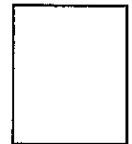
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