

Siemens CAW 504 Action Centre News

625 Greenhill Ave. Unit 12B, Hamilton, Ontario L8K 5W9 July/August 2012

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WEB PAGE LINK: <http://siemenscaw504actioncentre.wordpress.com/>

Enjoy some Summer Fun!
Please make water safety a priority
monitoring children and infants.
Wear your PFD's and life vests!

**The Action Centre is open Monday to Friday
from 9:00am to 4:00pm.**

We are at the corner of **Quigley & Greenhill Ave.**

Note: The Action Centre will be **closed** for the Civic Holiday on Monday August 6, 2012 and Labour Day Monday September 3, 2012.

Employment Insurance

A copy of questions and answers that were raised during the EI seminar at the Action Centre is posted on the website.

Statistics

The unemployment rate in the Hamilton area published for May 6.8% and June is at 7.3%. The provincial rate was 7.8% and 7.7% for Ontario.

Brantford rate is 8.3% and 8.4%, St. Catharines / Niagara area is at (May)7.7% and (June)8.1%. Toronto is at 8.6% for both months and Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo is 6.8% in May and 6.9% in June.

This is an increase from March 2012 figures.

Peer Helpers

Rob Kelly, Terry West, Len Balcomb, Doug Brown, Ramona Lortie, Allan Platt, Linda Paquette, Don Twedde, Gary Rankin, Mohammad Akhtar, Ron Tollestrup, Charles Harvey and Donna Fisher.

Note: For your convenience see the current monthly schedules as posted on the website and a hard copy is posted at the centre.

Chairperson – Brian Charlton
MTCU Advisor- Phanh Guilbeault
Co-ordinator – Janice Platt
Treasurer- Russ Parker

We have a new M.T.C.U. Advisor for our Adjustment Committee. Phanh Guilbeault is replacing Nadia Fleming who retired in June.

C of Q and Red Seal

Attention to anyone interested in obtaining their Certificate of Qualification or Red Seal designation. We are offering to pay for the prep course through Mohawk College (\$500.) and the exam (\$100.) after completing an application to M.T.C.U. and with a letter of proof of hours on the related job from the CAW504 union hall. This will enable you to challenge the exam without going through the actual apprenticeship program as long as you have the qualifying hours on the job at Siemens and/or other places of employ.

Call us and request the specific M.T.C.U. application and information package for the designation that you are interested in, which will spell out all the requirements to apply. We can assist you here to fill out the forms and request the information from the Union Hall for jobs worked and times for proof of hours on the job. Please **do not delay** as approval from the ministry could take up to 15 days. Our Adjustment Committee Advisor from the MTCU will be helping us to streamline the application process and will bring the required forms here to the Action Centre for you to fill out. There will be 2 options available for taking the C of Q prep courses:

- (1) Fitting in to a government sponsored course of 30 hours possibly 2 hours at a session, usually geared for level 3 apprentices. or
- (2) Take a 24 session (12 week), 2 nights a week 3 hours a session which is more in depth and totals 72 hours of training.

The actual preparation courses available will be posted in Mohawk College's schedules mid August for courses in September. There may not be all disciplines that we need so if you get your application in and there is enough interest the ministry can help get a course provided. For sure there will be General Machinist and Millwright (req.8000 hrs and Gr.12) prep courses. Other possible exams could be arranged for Steam Fitter (req.9000 hrs and Gr. 10), Welding (6000 hrs and

Gr. 12), Metal Fabrication/ Fitter (5400 hrs and Gr. 12). Industrial Mechanic Millwright, Plumber, Electrician, Hoisting Engineer, Machine Tool Builder, Facilities Mechanic and Technician and Tool and Die Maker are some of the possible categories for C of Q.

For a complete list from M. T. C. U. follow this URL: <http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/eng/employmentontario/training/certification.html>

We would also like to know if anyone would be interested in a question and answer session or presentation from Second Career service providers. If there is an interest we will hold a seminar similar to the EI seminar which has proven very helpful to several people. Please call us if you have already either gone through Second Career or are in the process of applying or taking schooling through them to help give us your perspective on the process.

Note: if you are receiving EI benefits the training course is under the 9 hours a week allowed, but you must let the EI know you are taking a training course.

If you are already registered in an apprenticeship program and are ready to take the C of Q prep and exam we will cover the cost and you do not need to reapply, just give us your name and discipline so that our advisor can confirm eligibility and registration.

Services & Eligibility

The CAW Action Centre offers a variety of free services to Siemens / CAW 504 hourly & salaried members and immediate family in the household who are unemployed.

The services include:

Free Training Courses and Services:

- Job Search – very informative and lots of good feedback on this 2 day course
- Resume Writing – we can assist you here or write it for you with your input.
- Interview Preparation – 1 day practice mock interviews and advice for future job interviews
- Training Workshops – see website for upcoming training dates and times.
- Computers for internet job search and emailing and FAX m/c available.
- Job postings on job boards.
- Photo copier available.
- Referrals for Counselling and services

- Siemens Re-employment Fund (maximum \$150 total) reimbursement. Note: SIEMENS employees only.

Upcoming Events

Put your name in for the July draw for \$50. Gift Visa card to be drawn July 31th at 1pm

We are still joining classes with HASAC, Hamilton Area Steelworkers Action Centre to put on our training courses as follows: Fall Arrest, WHMIS, Transportation of Dangerous Goods, First Aid/CPR, Forklift recertification, Interview techniques, Safe Food Handling, Smart Serve, Computer Basics, Job Search Workshop.

Drop by the action centre and have coffee, tea or a cold drink and a cookie while utilizing our facilities. Chat with one of your peer helpers, update your file and sign up for some courses.

News About Past Events:

Pizza Day July 11th was a little subdued as only 10 people came out to visit with us. There will be no pizza day in August, but will resume in September.

The **June Monthly Draw** held at the Action Centre for the \$50. Visa gift Card was won by Ed King.

IN MEMORIUM

Our condolences go out to:

Bogdan Babij in the loss of his mother

Zofia Babij on July 2, 2012

Cheryl Lines(Ed King) in the loss of her father

Howard John Lines on July 11, 2012.

Elie Saleh in the loss of his mother

Violette Jeanette Saleh on July 6, 2012

My apologies if anyone was missed as we rely on all of you to keep us informed and current.

Send us your email address if you wish this letter to be sent electronically. Please update your info in the event that you have moved or changed service providers.

This newsletter is put together by your Siemens CAW 504 Action Centre Coordinator, Janice Platt. Any errors or omissions are my fault entirely unless authorship is otherwise noted.

The CAW Adjustment Committee and Action Centre is made possible and funded by a grant from the Government of Ontario and negotiated agreement with SIEMENS.