

Fall Report to NCR Council from
Members with Disabilities Action Committee (MDAC)
Covering September 01 until December 30, 2015 Inclusive

Richard Lynn – Chair
Behiye Cinkilic – Vice Chair
Marc Masson – Secretary
Peter Hyduk – Treasurer

This year's Jam Day was a success and it provided a lot of exposure to MDAC and our mandate. \$67.00 worth of Dianne Brown buttons were sold and at the RVAC table, they raised \$58.50. Both amounts will be donated to her charity "Feeding the 5000 in Jamaica".

The Union Education fall schedule has been recently posted. Rick has requested that our members take a serious look at the list and put some thought into taking some classes.

The MDAC Windbreakers have come in and some members have received them. The feedback was very positive, and it is expected that it will be worn at all union events to further promote our group.

Further to our initiative to stimulate our meetings by inviting guests to discuss Disability topics, Christina Ranieri, spoke on behalf of Ability First Ottawa. It is a non-profit organization that provides comprehensive services and support to individuals (with or without developmental disabilities) and their families. Services include life-skills, locating housing and parenting support. She mentioned that there is a need for funding since the program costs are high and some couples are getting divorced because a single mother has a better chance to qualify for government support than a working, married one.

Marc Masson was given MDAC's support to represent the committee and apply for the PSAC-NCR Union School in December. Behiye Cinkilic will be representing her own local, but has agreed to give a helping hand in promoting MDAC.

The point was raised that our current MDAC "Swag" logo and Website are tired and should be updated. Members are asked to submit their ideas and creative energies for the updates.

Anne Cole, Graduate Student from McMaster University provided a follow up presentation from her talk back in May about her research on the difficulties in the government, of members returning to work after Long Term Disability or Maternity Leave. Unfortunately, the results of her paper was that reintegration for these two groups is very difficult and a long tough road to follow.

Our December Christmas meal/meeting was a great success discussing the future of MDAC going into 2016 and a guest speaker running for ODLC was present and spoke to us.

We will be looking into promoting MDAC and it's role out into the Unions eyes and ears, so everyone knows we exist, why and that we can help.

This report submitted by:

Richard H. Lynn MDAC Chair

This 22nd day of December of the year 2015.