

# ▲ CEP young workers ▶▶▶



It's time to open the doors to young workers. Take charge of your union and your future. Be involved and fight for issues that are important to all of us.

In addition to the every day concerns they share with all CEP members, young workers face special needs and concerns in the workplace and in society. Opportunities are not always readily available to those under 30, especially when just entering the work force.

Lack of experience slams doors in their face; debt load from student days hampers their progress; nonexistent or poorly funded apprenticeship and training frustrates them; low wages (in non-union workplaces) keeps them below the poverty line; and, they feel alienated from existing structures, including the union and the political process.

CEP believes in opening doors to young workers and has instituted policies and

## ▲ CEP young workers ▶▶▶

structures to allow young workers to take charge of their Union and of their future by getting involved and fighting for the issues that are important to all of us.

**Young Workers Committee:** this group coordinates CEP activities amongst young workers and others to ensure that our Union's policy is brought to life.

**Young Workers Policy:** the full policy document is posted in PDF format on our Union's web site – [www.cep.ca](http://www.cep.ca). The document originated with the Young Workers Committee and is already being implemented and integrated into every day actions of CEP.

Young workers find the lack of experience slams doors in their face; they face debt load from student days.

CEP believes in opening doors to young workers

▲ CEP  
[www.cep.ca](http://www.cep.ca)

# ▲ CEP young workers ▶▶▶

## Highlights of the CEP Young Workers Policy

### ▶ Within CEP, here's what we are doing:

Special union **education initiatives** for young workers including development of bargaining priorities and conferences;

Emphasis on getting young workers **more involved** in the Union at conferences and conventions as well as running for union office at the Local and National levels;

**Outreach** to other young workers and students by involving CEP young workers in organizing and special campaigns and education programs.

### ▶ In Parliament and provincial legislatures across the country we're fighting for:

• A **minimum wage** for all of \$10 per hour and legislation ensuring higher and fair overtime premiums;

• **Tuition free** post-secondary or vocational education in the first five years of study and legislation requiring minimum expenditure by employers on training;

• **Shorter hours** of work for everyone to create more employment opportunities for young workers and special focus on youth unemployment;

• Better **health and safety** training programs and stricter enforcement of existing laws;

• **Voting age to be lowered** to 17 at all levels of government.

### ▶ Community outreach forms a crucial part of our policy. It includes:

• A major effort to **unionize young workers** in order to improve conditions;

• **Better preparation of students** in high schools, community college and other education centres for what they will face in the workplace including mandatory inclusion of information and perspectives on labour and unions in the public education curricula;

• Greater support by the labour movement as a whole for the **anti-globalization and environmental movements** and other community organizations that are organizing young workers around our common goals of social justice and human rights.



Let's take charge of the future!