

communicate

educate

mobilize

WORK GO *youth* TALK *participation* **UNIONIZE** *confidence* HUMAN RIGHTS



HOW TO START A LOCAL UNION YOUTH COMMITTEE

Local union youth committees provide a place from which young workers (age 30 and under) can build the confidence and skills necessary to become active in their local unions and communities. Youth committees are also important building blocks in forming a stronger young workers movement in Canada.

For many young CAW members, youth committees can act as the starting point for getting active in standing committees (e.g. women's, newsletter, human rights, and political action), developing relationships with other activists, and working with other progressive groups to bring about peace, social justice, environmental sustainability and improving the lives of working people.

**Interested in establishing a youth committee in your local union?
Here are a few tips to get your started:**

- 1 Talk to your local union president!** Tell him/her that you are interested in starting a committee... you never know, there might already be one set up in your local that you didn't know about!
- 2 Talk to other young workers...** In your workplace or other workplaces in your local union. Find out if they are interested in getting active through a youth committee.
- 3 Set a date for your first meeting, and PUBLICIZE!** It would be good to set your first meeting alongside other local union standing committee meetings, or general membership meetings for maximum participation (ask your local president for help)! Use your local union newsletter, posters in your workplace and phone calls to get the word out!
- 4 Establish a set of commitments and goals** – what sort of work should your youth committee focus on? Is it educating other young workers? Is it engaging in community activism, public demonstrations? Is it supporting a local youth shelter, or food bank? Or all of the above! Remember, these can change over time... don't take on too much too quickly! It's also important to share the workload among committee members. This gets everyone involved and helps make big tasks seem a lot smaller.
- 5 Spread the word!** Keep looking out for other young activist workers in your workplace and encourage them to attend youth committee meetings.

Need Help? Call 1-800-268-5763 (ext. 754) or email angelo.dicaro@caw.ca