November 18, 2026
D/BU #053/2026−2027

Labour College of Canada – Cohort 19

To: Presidents and All Members

From: Lamia Sabbagh, Associate General Secretary – Professional Services

For Information

Labour College of Canada – Cohort 19 (2027)

The Labour College of Canada (LCC) is a union-made education program for active Canadian Labour Congress affiliated union members that supports critical thinking and collaborative learning in a flexible format. Once again OSSTF/FEESO is pleased to be a participant in the program and is seeking interested members to apply to be part of Cohort 19 of the LCC.

The LCC Certificate Program:

- Builds leadership skills and provides leadership tools
- Fosters empowerment, self-confidence, and new networks of labour leaders
- Strengthens critical thinking skills
- Examines working class struggles and human rights issues that affect all workers

Information about the specific program format, requirements, costs, and course schedule, including time and project requirements can be found on the LCC website - Canadian Labour College.

Most LCC students attend the three intensive sessions in chronological order over 14 months. However, the LCC has the ability to adapt to today's demands and accommodate pauses in the learning path as required. Additional time (up to 26 months) can be accessed to complete the program (at an additional cost).

Participants must successfully complete the three program sessions: online orientation, the online and in-class courses for all three sessions, and the independent work between sessions, associated with the LCC Project.

For each of the three sessions, LCC students must attend a one weeklong, in-person school (locations detailed on pg. 2 of this D/BU). Throughout the program – at their own pace – students are also required to participate in online courses (one per session), read and reflect on a variety of texts and articles, complete one or more

Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation
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assignments, and work on an independent learning project (totaling 40 hours or more).

Timelines, including tentative course schedule, for the 2027/2028 LCC and the Federation's review and decisions regarding applications and approvals are as follows:

- **Applications are currently being accepted.** The deadline for submission is **February 7, 2027**.

- All applicants are encouraged to speak with their union education representative to see if this program is right for them and to confirm that financial support is available before submitting their application form.

- **SESSION 1: Unions in the Political Economy**
  April 2027 – Admission and orientation of successful applicants
  May/June 2027 – Online course
  June/July 2027 – Online reading/preparation for in-person learning
  July 18 to 23, 2027 – In person (Kingston, ON) *

- **SESSION 2: Labour Leadership and Organizing Change**
  January/February 2028 – Online reading/preparation course for in-person learning
  February 27 to March 3, 2028 – In person (Harrison Hot Springs, BC) *

- **SESSION 3: Growing the Movement – Inside and Out**
  June/July 2028 – Online reading/preparation course for in-person learning
  July 16 to 21, 2028 – In person (Kingston, ON) *

- **INDEPENDENT LEARNING PROJECT**
  A self-directed research project, facilitated online, that takes place between Sessions: September to December 2027 and March to June 2028.

- (*) *Dates and location may be subject to change.*

  Detailed timelines can be found on the Canadian Labour Congress Labour College information page.

How to Apply:

Applications are to be completed online at Canadian Labour College. Total tuition cost for the program is $3750, depending on length of program completion plus $2250.00 to $2750.00 for each weeklong course for food and accommodations (dependent on school location and individual or shared accommodation). Travel costs are not included in the tuition.

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OSSTF/FEESO has committed funding up to a total of $15,000.00 for support for up to two members who are approved by their Bargaining Unit or District Executive and by the Provincial Executive to attend the Canadian Labour Congress Labour College of Canada under budget line Account 2054 – Labour College Funding for member access. Members requesting funding from OSSTF/FEESO will be required to submit evidence of local District or Bargaining Unit support for the application, as per Account 2054 guidelines.

NOTE: any costs beyond those provided through this funding line are the responsibility of the District, Bargaining Unit, and/or Member.

Please follow the following steps, in order to apply for Cohort 19 of the LCC:

1. Apply DIRECTLY to the Labour College of Canada using their online application, found on the LCC website.
2. Apply to your District/Bargaining Unit for local support of your LCC application, including recognition of availability of release time and of the cost-overage responsibility as noted above.
3. Submit proof District/Bargaining Unit approval of your application to Provincial Office using the Account 2054 – Labour College Funding fillable PDF found in the OSSTF/FEESO Financial Handbook.

Participants are expected to regularly consult OSSTF/FEESO on the progress of their Independent Learning Project and to share their final project results with the Federation.

For more information about this D/BU Memo, please contact Peter Bates (peter.bates@osstf.ca) at the Provincial Office.

For more information about the Canadian Labour Congress program please visit https://canadianlabour.ca/who-we-are/labour-education/labour-college-of-canada/.

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