

“PUBLIC SERVICES SOLIDARITY NETWORK”  
Thursday, May 6, 2010

On April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 over four hundred front line leaders from public sector unions in Toronto came together to develop a common response to the growing attacks on public sector workers and the services they deliver.

These leaders endorsed the creation of a new Public Services Solidarity Network that would undertake a pro-active role in asserting the value of public services in greater Toronto. The Labour Council PSSN is immediately launching a hard-hitting campaign calling for the cancelling of the corporate tax cuts that will cost the federal and provincial treasuries billions of dollars.

Over the summer, in alliance with the Good Jobs for All Coalition, we will take a powerful message on the value of public services into communities across Toronto and York Region. These initiatives are designed to engage thousands of union members and community activists at the local level.

The resolution reads:

*Whereas: Since the global financial crisis hit economies around the world, there has been a sustained attack by governments and corporations to make workers pay for the crisis they did not create, and*

*Whereas: In Canada, politicians or candidates at all levels of government are adopting policies which will undermine workers rights and standards within the public sector, as well as threaten public services and public assets, and*

*Whereas: Every public sector union is engaged in campaigns to counter these attacks and either defend or improve the services they deliver.*

*Therefore be it resolved: That this Public Sector Leadership Summit call upon the Toronto & York Region Labour Council and all public sector unions in the Toronto region to create a Public Services Solidarity Network that would undertake:*

- *Co-ordinate with the Good Jobs for All Coalition the development of a public services campaign that asserts the crucial role of public services for the quality of life of working people and our communities*

- *Launch a huge campaign to cancel the provincial and federal corporate tax cuts and invest in public services*
- *Co-ordinate active support for any union in the GTA involved in key contract issues (i.e. out-sourcing, defined benefit pensions, etc.)*
- *Support the fights to expand the role of public services, such as Toronto Hydro, Transit City, and Canada Pension Plan (CPP)*

The Executive Board recommends that Labour Council:

1. endorse the establishment of the Public Services Solidarity Network as a long term project that will involve all public sector unions in Toronto and York Region
2. immediately undertake a mass campaign against corporate tax cuts including posters, workplace discussions, electronic and social media outreach and rally actions
3. provide full support for the joint effort with the Good Jobs for All coalition around public services and our communities