

Injured Workers Action for Justice – IWA4J Community Organizing

Injured Workers Action for Justice (IWA4J) is a diverse group of injured workers who have been fighting for fair compensation and respect from the WSIB (Workplace & Safety Insurance Board) for all workers in Ontario since 2010. We work closely with the IAVGO Community Legal Clinic and other like-minded community organizations and members, who understand the systemic issues and support our work.

The placement:

IWA4J is organizing with injured workers in the community as a grassroots organization, especially with racialized workers in the precarious workplace. The group has been campaigning for "Real Healthcare for Injured Workers" since 2013. Currently, we are working with an injured migrant farmworkers' group, a Spanish-speaking injured workers group, a Chinese-speaking injured workers group, and a general membership group for injured workers. Our members are in Ontario, and some of the members are in the Caribbean and Mexico, joining our online and in-person meetings and events. Our work focuses on grassroots community organizing around the systemic issues of the WSIB, workplace health and safety, and healthcare for injured workers. We have monthly meetings and events with the different language groups for Spanish-speaking and Chinese (Mandarin) groups. We also provide interpreters for our members who need them.

Our Websites & Social Media:

iavgo.org | Get involved www.fairnessforinjuredworkers.org/ www.facebook.com/justiceforinjuredworkers www.twitter.com/IWA4Justice www.instagram.com/iwa4j/

Objective: Assist in the group organizing with the members to build capacity, momentum, and leadership in our organizing.

Conditions:

- Well organized, reliable, displays integrity, good communicator, a team player
- A self-motivated problem solver who will find creative solutions to problems
- Committed to upholding IWA4J's values and standards
- Knowledge of the WSIB and/or experience with injured workers is an asset

Key Responsibilities:

Work with the Community Organizer at IAVGO Community Legal Clinic and the IWA4J group members to develop and promote membership-driven initiatives that advance the rights of injured workers.

Systemic advocacy

- Working with IWA4J to draft letters to the government that express their positions, narratives, and demands
- Writing newsletters/communications /call-outs to be sent to the email list of supporters as needed

Education

 Creating popular legal education material in a variety of formats that the group can use in their outreach, campaign, and educational initiatives

• Traditional and social media

- Helping to develop and implement a communications strategy for "Real Healthcare for Injured Workers" campaign goals alongside members and community partners
- Attending injured worker events and using the group's social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok) to promote the injured worker community and their rights
- Creating first drafts of press release op-eds, and letters to the editor as requested on behalf of the group and/or the clinic, distributing final versions to media outlets, and doing follow-up media outreach to promote the piece
- Preparing workers for media interviews
- Helping with social media infographics and in-person events flyers for public engagement/outreach

Website

 Assisting IAVGO staff and the website creator to update IAVGO's website in a manner that promotes access to justice, accessibility, and inclusion

Other

Provide administrative and logistical support for group meetings and events

Assets:

The following fields of study are assets: Social Justice, Community
Organizing/Development/Engagement, Labour Movement, Communication, Social Work

How to apply?

For more information about the course and application process go to: https://www.newcollege.utoronto.ca/cel-courses/cel-how-to-apply/

CEL Coordinator, Kevin Edmonds: nc.engagedlearning@utoronto.ca

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