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NEWS

Church Leaders Face Ontario’s Compliance Act in 2012

October 12, 2011, Oshawa, Ontario…OCN

From January 1, 2012, all conference employees, as well as all key volunteers in churches, will be faced with Ontario’s Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

The act requires the mandatory compliance of all organisations with at least one employee to Ontario’s standards that ensure that people with disabilities are able to conduct business and access services wherever they choose.

The legislation was first introduced in 2005 but hospitals, schools, municipalities and other public sector organisations were not required to comply until January 2010. Non-profit organisations such as churches are required to comply by January 1, 2012.

The Ontario Conference has taken the step to obtain training and for its Human Resource officer, Julianna Kapusi, as a certified AODA Compliance Educator. She will be providing the mandatory two-hour training in compliance for all conference employees and key church volunteers.
A training schedule, beginning on October 23, 2011 and concluding on January 16, 2012, has been sent out to all employees and churches. All ministerial districts will be able to access the training at Barrie, Ottawa, St. Thomas, Bowmanville, Hamilton Mountain, and Willowdale churches.

Ontario Conference executive secretary, Dr. Daniel Linrud, noted that attending the training may poses an inconvenience but asked for understanding and attendance. Pre-registration for the sessions is now available. Participants may contact Julianna Kapusi at jkapusi@adventistontario.org or 905-571-1022 Ext. 311. Pre-registration is necessary in order to receive the AODA Information Package and Certificate of completion.

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**Annual Council Rejects North American and Trans-European Division Constitution Variance Request**

**October 12, 2011, Silver Spring, Maryland, United States…OCN**

The Annual Council today rejected the North American and the Trans-European division’s request for variance for their constitutions.

In a vote of 167 to 117 the council said that it will not allow commissioned ministers in those divisions to operate contrary to other divisions by allowing commissioned ministers to serve as conference and union presidents. Presently, only ordained ministers are able to serve as conference presidents.

As expected, the debate was lively and delegates from both sides of proposal argued their case for more than six hours. In what has been described as a "rare step", General Conference president, Ted Wilson, even relinquished the chair in order to speak against the proposal. His opposition to the proposal was strongly echoed by the large African and South American delegations.

Possibly thinking that the delegation saw the proposal as a means of ordaining women, Dan Jackson, NAD president, explained that the proposal was not about the ordination of women. "We are talking about governance and leadership", he said.

The European delegates argued that it would benefit evangelism, especially in countries where people outside the church are accustomed to operating in an egalitarian society.

After the vote, Jackson reminded the council that he still considered himself as a brother to all the delegates, regardless of how they voted.

The Annual Council action nullifies the statement made in the autumn edition of *Ontario Highlights*, 2011, page 17, that commissioned ministers may now serve as conference and union presidents in the North American Division.


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**Guam-Micronesia Mission Now Part of North American Division**

**October 11, 2011, Silver Spring, Maryland, United States, Ansel Oliver/ANN**

The Seventh-day Adventist Church's Guam-Micronesia Mission, an administrative region comprising islands in the western Pacific Ocean, will now report to the denomination's North American Division. The shift, approved by the denomination's Executive Committee this morning, moves oversight of the region from the church's Southern Asia-Pacific Division, which is based in the Philippines.

The mission region includes the United States territories of Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia,
Marshall Islands, Northern Mariana Islands and Palau.

"Over the years there has been discussion whether it would fit better elsewhere," said world church Undersecretary Myron Iseminger. "Regulations are U.S.-oriented and many employees come from North America."

The region is home to roughly 4,500 Adventist Church members. The Adventist Church there also operates numerous elementary and secondary schools, which are staffed largely by student missionaries.

North American Division President Dan Jackson welcomed the move. "We are always happy to cooperate with the world church, and we will embrace the peoples and the ministry of the Guam-Micronesia Mission," he said.

Southern Asia-Pacific Division President Alberto Gulfan confirmed that his executive committee had made several requests to shift oversight of Guam-Micronesia.

"We loved serving Guam-Micronesia over the past years, but we have some challenges and we are very happy and grateful to the leadership of the North American Division ... for their willingness," Gulfan said. "I believe this is God's timing."

Southern Asia-Pacific acquired administrative oversight of the denomination's operations in Pakistan in a territorial realignment on Sunday.

Source: Adventist News Network

EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 30 – October 22
“To Know More about Jesus” at Bethel Church

Revelation Seminar: “To know More about Jesus” at Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church started Sept. 30 until October 22. Series are conducted by Pastor Preston Patterson on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. Come and bring a friend to enjoy the blessing from studying the book of Revelation.

October 1-29
‘Jesus Loves Jeans’ 2011 Pathfinder Evangelism Series

He died the most horrible death to offer you the last pair of jeans you'll ever need. Share Jesus with your friends to experience the thrill of a new life. Join the Maharlika Pathfinders as they present this exciting 2011 evangelism series on October 1-29, 2011 on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at Mount Zion Filipino Church 140 St. Regis Cres., Downsview, ON (416) 631-6558. We look forward to seeing you!

October 15
Brantford Church Open House

The Brantford Seventh-day Adventist Church is holding an “Open House” on Sabbath, October 15, to celebrate our move into a new church. Location is 714 Colborne Street in Brantford, and all are welcome to join us for Sabbath School at 9:30, divine service at 11:00 followed by a friendship potluck. Pastor Dan Linrud, Ontario Conference executive secretary, will be the special speaker.

October 15
Songs and Testimony from the Heart Concert at Toronto Perth Avenue Church

Come, bring friends and family and enjoy the songs and testimony from the heart by Michael Harris in concert on October 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. Church is located at 220 Bethridge Rd., Etobicoke.
Philadelphia Church’s Community Guest Day

Philadelphia Church invites you to our Community Guest Day on October 15, 2011 – Join us and be favoured with a powerful message from Pastor Frankie Lazarus as we embrace our theme of ‘Christian Love in Action’. This unique mid-day service culminates with a recognition ceremony of our community partners. Invite your family, friends and your neighbour to this memorable occasion and celebrate Christian love in action! Philadelphia Church is located at 25 Channel Nine Court, one light north of McCowan Rd and HWY 401. For further information, please call 905-428-7425.

October 22
“Real Life Facts on Breaking Habits” at Mississauga Church

Mississauga Church presents a weekend of Real Life Facts on Breaking Habits. Friday, October 21 at 7:30 p.m; Saturday, October 22 at 10:50 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. 2250 Credit Valley Rd. Mississauga, ON L5M 4L9. Tel. 905-608-0013; www.mississaugasda.com. Stay all day. Lunch provided. Life changing presentations; you may never think the same way again. Health Ministry Department 2011 Theme: “Healthy Brain, Healthy You”.

October 21-November 13
“Homes of Hope” at Bracebridge Church

Bracebridge will be holding the Homes of Hope series from Oct. 21 to Nov. 13, during the weekends at 7:00 p.m. The messages will be presented largely by the laity.

October 29
Apple Creek’s Health Ministry Day

When: Sabbath, October 29, 2011
Where: 700 Apple Creek Blvd., Markham, ON
Speaker: Dr. George Sanz (former director of the Health Department of the West African Division of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church)
Topic: “It’s a Matter of Choice”
Dr. Sanz will also speak in the afternoon on the topic "Lifestyle Counts".

October 30
School Board Treasurers’ Training Webinar

Attention all Adventist Education School Board Treasurers: A webinar for school board treasurers will be hosted by the Ontario Conference Office of Education on Sunday, October 30, from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Contact Janice Maitland at jmaitland@adventistontario.org or Donna Brkic at dbrkic@adventistontario.org to register. At the conclusion of the presentation, there will be a Q&A session for about 10 minutes. Please be sure to have external earphones to guarantee you can hear the presentation. Church treasurers, school board chairpersons and pastors are also invited to attend this webinar.

October 30
Celebrate Jim Ryan’s Retirement from Kingsway College

Come join in celebrating Jim Ryan's 29 years of service at Kingsway College on Sunday, October 30, 1-4 p.m. at the KC cafeteria. Drop-in and have a chance to chat with Mr. Ryan himself, sign a keepsake book, and enjoy light refreshments.

Let us take this time to look back and cherish the many ways Dean Ryan has served as a father to so many. We hope many of you will be there to make his send off into retirement truly memorable.

November 4-6
Exciting Weekend for Teens & Young Adults at Camp Frenda

Kanisa Fellowship’s Youth Department with the sponsorship of the Ontario Conference Youth Ministry Department is planning an exciting weekend for teens and young adults (13 – 35) at Camp Frenda,
Nov. 4-6, 2011. The cost of registration is $100.00. Registrants can bring their child if 3 years or younger (limited space for children, additional fees apply). Transportation Costs: $10 EARLY BIRD SPECIAL (if registered and paid by Oct 16, 2011), $20 REGULAR PRICE (after Oct 17, 2011).

Each person will need to bring: bedding (sleeping bag), warm clothing, toiletries (i.e. soap, towel, toothbrush), flashlight, and a BIBLE. All meals will be provided by the Camp Frenda staff and all meals are fully VEGETARIAN.

For registration and retreat information, please contact:

Khalilah Bruzual k_bruzual@hotmail.com (416) 841-8634
Jackie Dell jdell@mycybernet.net (416) 271-8749
Tabitha Lewis tabithadesigns@hotmail.com (647) 893-8353

November 5
Second Annual Spelling Bee at Crawford Adventist Academy

On Saturday, November 5, the Ontario Conference Office of Education is sponsoring its second annual Spelling Bee at Crawford Adventist Academy at 7:00 p.m. Grades 1 to 6 students from five schools will be competing for awards. Come and support the students of College Park Elementary School, Crawford Adventist Academy, Crawford Adventist Academy East, Grandview Adventist Academy and Peel Adventist School. Crawford Adventist Academy is located at 531 Finch Avenue West in Toronto.

Your help with the promotion of these events would be greatly appreciated to ensure their success.

November 12
Scarborough Filipino Celebrates Its Emerald Anniversary

Scarborough Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Church will celebrate its Emerald Anniversary, simultaneously a church dedication service on November 12, 2011. All three officers of the Ontario Conference will take part in the event. Dr. Mansfield Edwards, the conference president, will be the speaker at the worship service. The afternoon program will be a musical concert and re-commitment of the members in a candle lighting ceremony. It would be a homecoming event. Invitations were sent to all living charter members and former members to come and join the Scarborough Filipino Church celebrate its 20th year of ministry.

November 20
Kingsway College 2011 Fun(d) Dinner

You are cordially invited to the Kingsway College 2011 Fun(d) Dinner, a fundraising dinner and silent auction to benefit the Kingsway College Worthy Student Fund. Theme: “Kingsway's Got Talent” with special welcome by Colin Carrie, Oshawa's Member of Parliament. November 20, 2011, 5:00 p.m. King Fitness Complex, 1200 Leland Road, Oshawa, ON, L1K 2H4. To reserve your free tickets, call 905-433-1144 ext. 211 or e-mail funddinner@kingswaycollege.on.ca. Seating is limited. View the silent auction items online at kingswaycollege.on.ca starting November 1.

OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS & JOB OPPORTUNITY

Leamington Church is requesting any information re. the following individuals. If you know their whereabouts or have information on how they can be contacted, please contact Dirk Zinner, pastor, at 519-322-1644 or email: dzinner@adventistontario.org.
Sheila Adams - Sheryl and Marley Holland - Brian and Scott Johnson - Heather Mason

Position for Assistant Director of Care

Full-time position at Rest Haven Lodge in Sidney, BC on Vancouver Island. Commences January 3, 2012. Of interest to RN (BSN preferred) with interest in geriatric nursing. Contact Heather Switak, director of care at 250-656-0717; ext. 424 for information or email rhldoc@shawcable.com to apply.

Prayer Help at Kendalwood
Prayer help is at your fingertips, and now its toll free. Introducing Kendalwood prayer line's toll free number, 1-888-554-3005. You can also call us at our local number at 905-434-8470. Call and someone from the prayer team will be there to pray with you. You can also send in your requests by email at prayer@kendalwood.com. All requests will be answered.

Please send articles in plain text (no graphics or photos) to OCN@AdventistOntario.org
(No later than Tuesday evening)

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