All registrants will be screened to ensure eligibility or prerequisite requirements have been met. Those applicants who have not completed prerequisite courses or who have taken their first choice course previously will be assigned their second choice.

2015 SUMMER SCHOOL COURSES

ADVANCED GRIEVANCE HANDLING

This advanced grievance handling course will cover how to strategize for the final grievance meeting and look at how to resolve, withdraw, or move forward. Participants will learn how to use research to determine if they have a case to move forward, and how to prepare their case. If you have a laptop, please bring it to the course.

PREREQUISITE: Participants must have completed the Stewards for Action course (Level 2).
NOTE: If you have access to a laptop please bring it with you.

BUILDING LOCAL UNION POWER IN BARGAINING

This course will focus on preparing for bargaining, researching the employer, setting up strategies and how to communicate with members during bargaining and outside of bargaining. This course will include the basics of bargaining but also a more in-depth analysis of what needs to be done to lay the foundation.

Sessions will include: Determining issues; Communicating with the membership; Negotiating skills; Contract language; How to cost a package.

NOTE: Bring a copy of your collective agreement. If you have access to a laptop, please bring it with you.
**** Must be a local union activist to participate in this course.***

FACING MANAGEMENT

This course offers an opportunity to learn new skills and strategies for Steelworker activists to use in joint labour-management committees and as a shop steward. This course is designed for new and experienced activists that would like to learn about union-management relations, traditional and modern management theories and systems, and the history of work organization. Communication skills, group dynamics training, and conflict resolution skills will be emphasized. The course offers hands-on practice sessions in skill-building techniques so that you will be as comfortable in the boardroom as you are at a union meeting.

LEADERSHIP FOR ACTION

Steelworkers are leaders inside and outside of our workplaces: protecting workers' rights, speaking out for change, and motivating and encouraging the participation of members at work, in our communities and through political action. Leadership for Action will help you develop leadership skills, building on your strengths to communicate effectively with members to build solidarity. Sessions focus on leadership styles, presentation skills, strategic planning, campaign management, mentoring, problem-solving and conflict resolution.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

This workshop was piloted at the 2010 Summer School. This new course is designed to acquaint participants with provincial health and safety law along with Part II of the Canada Labour Code, its regulations, related laws, occupational health, principle of controls, workplace inspections, accident and incident investigations and other knowledge relevant to the duties of workplace committee members or health and safety representatives.

WOMEN OF STEEL

In 1990, the USW offered its first Women of Steel course which was designed to provide women with an understanding of the structure, history and programs of the union. Women gain confidence and leadership skills as they share stories and develop strategies to support their activities in the union, and in their communities. It has been 25 years since that first course, and we have seen the benefit of the across our union. This year, the district is excited about running a Women of Steel course, which will look at where we have come from and where we are going. In addition to developing leadership skill, women in this course will also develop strategic plans to build local WOS committees.

GLOBAL INFLUENCES ON LOCAL UNIONS

Steelworkers are dealing day-in and day-out with the consequences of globalization. From forestry to manufacturing to telecommunications, our members are negotiating with large multinationals for which Canadian workplaces are but a small part of their global operations, reeling from job losses brought on by free trade agreements, facing environmental degradation as the legacy of reckless resource extraction, and seeing long standing regulations that protect workers and their communities eliminated.

This course will look at the ideas sustaining this model of globalization, the tools utilized by employers and governments to gain support from workers and communities, the response form unions at the bargaining table and in politics, and the alternatives at hand for a model of development rooted in global justice.

DUE TO THE NUMBER OF COURSES BEING OFFERED CLASS SIZES AND REGISTRATION WILL BE LIMITED

FIRST COME – FIRST SERVE BASIS – ENROLL EARLY

PLEASE MAKE COPY OF DOCUMENT AND GIVE TO EACH STUDENT FROM YOUR LOCAL