



Ontario Society of Senior Citizens Organizations  
*La Société des Organisations des Citoyens Aînés de l'Ontario*

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FOR IMMEDIATE MEDIA RELEASE

**Ontario Society of Senior Citizens Organizations Announces  
Herb John 2015 Dan Benedict Award for Social Justice Recipient**

Our Society is pleased to recognize **Herb John** as recipient of this year's Dan Benedict Award. The award was named after the late Dan Benedict, a well-known international trade unionist who worked tirelessly for the rights of Canadians. The award is presented to an individual who embodies Benedict's spirit in leadership, innovation, community mobilization or partnership and collaboration.



Herb John, long prominent in the field of social justice certainly embodies that spirit. At a time when the Civil Rights, Peace and Environmental movements were making huge changes in the development of our social values, Herb at age 14 became a member of the Windsor N.D.P. Youth Group Windsor and started on his journey as a game changer.

Herb worked at Ford Motor Company from 1973 until 2003. For 20 years he held various leadership positions including #3 and #2 Shift Committee Person, Plant Chairperson, Trustee on the Local Executive Board and member of the Local and Master bargaining Committees. Herb was involved with Environmental organizations such as Local 200 Environment Committee, C.A.W. Council Environment Committee, the Citizens Environment Alliance, the C.A.W. Windsor Regional Environment Council, Windsor/Essex County Earth Day Committee and Earth Day Canada. He also served as Vice Chair of the Windsor West NPP riding association.

A leader for change, Herb is not your traditional retiree. He was elected Vice-Chairperson of the Essex Kent/Windsor C.A.W. Area Retired Workers Council. After being elected to the CAW National Retired Workers Advisory Executive Board in 2010, Herb resigned his other CAW leadership roles to fulfill his new position. Herb is also President, National Pensioners' Federation, an organization with 60,000 members which raises issues that are important to aging Canadians. Recently, Herb was a key stakeholder in bringing the Seniors' Vote, a national coalition, to life working with more than 50 organizations across Canada to build a democratic, compassionate future for aging Canadians. Herb also serves on the Board of Directors of the Chatham Kent Health Alliance.

Herb has 3 daughters, 1 son and 4 grandchildren. He, along with his partner Yolanda, live on Walpole Island First Nation.

On behalf of the Society, we congratulate Herb John as the **2015 Dan Benedict Award recipient**. Herb is inspirational as a leader and recognized for his partnerships and collaborations. He has made it a priority to focus and use his energy to ensure that those around him receive the equality and rights that are so well deserved.

For more information, please contact Communication and Programs Specialist [communications-programs@ocscsco.ca](mailto:communications-programs@ocscsco.ca)

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