

The CAPA Brief-Case

Disability issues roll out at CAW – June Henderson

CAPA member June Henderson has been chipping away at the disability issue within the Canadian Auto Workers union (CAW) for the past two years. Now that she has their attention and a draft Statement of Principles on Workers With Disabilities (from the union), she will begin advocating and educating the CAW membership. “Strong leadership is needed to confront discrimination on the basis of disability,” June says. “We need to work together”. June will connect with health and safety advocates, human rights activists and workers with disabilities to develop policies, practices and procedures to ensure accommodation of the needs of the disabled in the workplace are negotiated into all CAW collective agreements.

Look Ma, I’m web-savvy! – Anne Dooley

The Communications subcommittee has begun the process of updating, renovating and increasing the advocacy resource information available on the website. CAPA volunteers who are web-savvy and/or experienced in information retrieval are needed to assist this process and help manage the resource pages. *If you are interested in helping but have no experience, that's okay, too. Contact Anne Dooley: annemd@shaw.ca*

Bone and Joint Decade – Hazel Wood

On January 13, 2000, the Bone and Joint Decade (BJD) was formally launched at the headquarters of the World Health Organization in Geneva Switzerland. In October 2002, the Honourable Anne McLelland, Federal Minister of Health, proclaimed Canada’s official support of the Bone and Joint Decade. To learn more, visit: www.boneandjointdecade.org/canada.

Believe it, research is fun – Anne Dooley

The CAPA Research subcommittee continues to meet and enlarge upon objectives set for 2003. Consumer participation in clinical research planning has increased through participation in the Alliance for Canadian Arthritis Program, involvement with planning for the Frontiers in Joint Disease in 2004, membership in the Health Canada Advisory Committee on Governance of Research Involving Humans, and the CAPA initiative to have experienced and knowledgeable consumers sit as members of ethics research boards.

The Research subcommittee also encourages cooperation with other consumer groups through active participation in the Consumer Advisory Council of the Canadian Arthritis Network, the Canadian centre of excellence for arthritis research, and with involvement in and promotion of best evidence materials produced by the Cochrane Musculoskeletal Review Group, a part of the Cochrane Collaboration. *If interested in becoming a reviewer, please contact: annemd@shaw.ca*