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Release of the 30th Anniversary 2016-2017 Annual Report

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the *Pay Equity Act* and the establishment of the Pay Equity Commission. The Annual Report highlights milestones, achievements and the ongoing work to advance women's economic equality and enforce Ontario's innovative and proactive regulatory compliance approach to equal pay for work of equal value. Read the Annual Report here:

http://www.payequity.gov.on.ca/en/DocsEN/PEO_AR17_DIGITAL_ENG_1-PEO_Final.pdf

Launch of the U.N. Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC)

The Pay Equity Commissioner attended the launch of the Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC) at the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly. It is a collaboration between the International Labor Organization, UN Women and the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development working in conjunction with governments, organizations and other stakeholders to promote pay equity.

EPIC is a global response to the persistent issue of the global wage gap and the benefits of inclusive growth, which was highlighted in the UN's Sustainable Development Goal – Target 8.5 which seeks to achieve equal pay for work of equal value by 2030. Read the press release here: http://ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_575320/lang--en/index.htm

Letter to the Future – Global Compact Network Canada

The Pay Equity Office wrote a 'Letter to the Future' as part of the Canada 150 Celebration of the UN Global Compact Network Canada. Read the letter here:

<http://www.globalcompact.ca/letter-future-emanuela-heyinck/>



PEO Presentation at Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) Staff Training Event

PEO was invited to deliver pay equity training to OPSEU Staff Representatives on October 17. The discussion included: Ontario's proactive enforcement model, the undervaluation of women's work and the important role that unions play in working with employers to achieve equal pay for work of equal value.

Vendor of Record Monitoring Program

PEO is monitoring businesses within Ontario's Vendor of Record procurement programs, to assist in changing business culture and practices.

The 2016 Report of the UN Secretary General's High Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment called for government procurement programs that will promote women's equality, led with public sector initiatives to increase women's economic empowerment and inclusive growth. The House of Commons' Special Committee on Pay Equity Recommendation 5 was that all federally regulated companies with 15 employees or more and companies participating in the Federal Contractors Program provide evidence of compliance with pay equity.

Commissioner's Presentation at the Ontario Society of Professional Engineering Fall Forum

On October 28, the Pay Equity Commissioner made a presentation to the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers at its annual Fall Forum. This included a discussion of the gender wage gap and Ontario's *Pay Equity Act* and specifically examined the need for (and benefits of) equity and diversity within the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

Young Learner Educational Materials

PEO has educational materials for teachers, librarians, camp counsellors and other children and youth group leaders to encourage discussions with children and youth on gender, equal pay, pay equity and other related concepts. A variety of age-appropriate levels are available at

http://www.payequity.gov.on.ca/en/GWG/Pages/educational_materials.aspx)

