

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

LOCAL 258 IBEW

HOTLINE

Your Union News Magazine

PUBLISHED & DELIVERED
AUGUST 2025



Veterans Committee: A Year in Review

⚡ Indigenous Voices, Union Strength

⚡ Arbitration Update: BC Hydro's Electrician Assessment



The Gatzke Gazette

August 2025



Cody Gatzke

*Local 258 IBEW Business Manager
& Financial Secretary*



Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to add Cody's contact info directly to your contacts!

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Brothers and Sisters, it has been about six months since our last Hotline, and I hope each of you had a great start to the year and are enjoying the summer so far. As always, your union team has been working hard behind the scenes. This year has been a busy one for bargaining. We've renewed the Master Line Agreement, our Manufacturing Agreements, and our Tree Agreements. Negotiations with BC Hydro are still underway, and we're preparing for bargaining in Traffic Control later this year as those agreements approach expiry.

The Union has filed a Common Employer and Successorship application with the Labour Relations Board in response to the recent restructuring following the insolvency of Rokstad Power. While Graham acquired Rokstad's assets and contracts, our members have been reassigned to work for a company controlled by Graham called 42 West Constructors. This arrangement effectively allows Graham to retain the work and clients that generate employment for our members without being bound by the terms of the Master Line Agreement. Currently, Graham is contracting their work to 42 West and thus keeping our members employed, but I have long-term concerns about this arrangement. I believe this structure has the potential to undermine our hard fought for collective bargaining rights. That's why I've taken action to challenge it. This is a significant case for our Local, and I will provide updates as developments unfold.

We're also saying farewell to Sister Dayna Gill, who has accepted a new role with the IBEW International Office. Dayna joined us first as an Organizer before stepping into the role of Assistant Business Manager. As of August 1, she'll be serving as the Lead International Organizer for Western Canada, helping locals from BC to Manitoba with their organizing efforts. Dayna comes from our Traffic Control sector, where she was a Shop Steward and Unit 6 Chair on our Executive Board. We wish her all the best in this exciting next chapter. Taking over Dayna's responsibilities in Traffic Control will be Assistant Business Manager Marina Loporini, who will also continue to support our Manufacturing members.

On a much more somber note, it's with a heavy heart that I share news of a recent workplace fatality involving one of our own in the Utility Arborist industry. The incident is still under investigation, but what we know is that the member was working in a bucket truck trimming near power lines when the truck tipped, sending him through the lines and to the ground. Early indications suggest the cause was the truck's outrigger sinking into unstable ground, with injuries from the fall being the likely cause of death. We'll share any new information and safety recommendations as they become available. Our hearts go out to the family, coworkers, and all who are grieving this tragic loss. Please keep them in your thoughts.

With Dayna's departure and the recent tragedy, it is timely for me to announce that Brother Tatton Zandarado will be joining our staff as an Assistant Business Manager in mid-August. Tatton is a certified Utility Arborist who completed his apprenticeship at Asplundh and has experience with Tamarack Tree as well. More recently, he worked at our Local's former trades training school, Electrical Industry Training Institute (EITI), where he develops and delivers CUA apprenticeship and safety training. He was also the operations manager for vegetation at Inlailawatash LP, an Indigenous-owned vegetation and environmental company based out of the lower mainland. Tatton brings solid relationships with both workers and management and a strong training background, which will support a smooth transition. He'll be taking over the Tree Trimming portfolio from Brother Rob Munro among various other duties.

A bit of history worth sharing; Local 258 was originally chartered in 1967 to represent BC Hydro workers. But after the 1982 layoffs cut our membership from 3,900 to 1,700, Business Manager Bob Peel knew we shouldn't rely on a single employer. In 1984, our Local organized our first non-Hydro company, a tree firm later acquired by Asplundh, followed by another that became Davey Tree. The tree sector was the first outside of BC Hydro to be brought into our fold, and it played a vital role in our survival. Our Business Manager, Gerry Bramhill, was instrumental in launching the first apprenticeship for the tree industry back in the late '80s and early '90s. Despite this legacy, we've never had someone from the tree sector work directly for the Local, until now. Tatton is the first, and we're hopeful his leadership will help our Local build stron-

ger connections in the sector and support our organizing efforts at a time when the industry continues to slide into a race to the bottom.

On the organizing front, we've been busy. We've successfully organized Castle Power (formerly Midlite) and I was able to make it up to Whitehorse to conduct a site visit for these new members. Additionally, we have organized Kootenay Complete Tree Service, K-Line Construction & Maintenance along with several independent contractors, including some owned by our own members. Local 258 has always supported entrepreneurship. In fact, one of the reasons we were granted provincial jurisdiction for outside line work in 1988 was our willingness to include owner-operators. If you own a business that falls under our jurisdiction, please reach out. Paying your personal non-working dues alone doesn't make your company a union shop, you need to be signed on.

There's a lot of work coming to BC, and with growing interprovincial trade, we've got to be strategic. We can't protect our market share by simply pushing others out, we need to bring them in. Even if some of these contractors haven't operated to our standards, it's our job to raise them up and help make them better employers for their workers and, in turn, to provide our membership with more employment opportunities. You are the eyes and ears in the field, and we rely on you to keep us informed. If you are aware of any open-shop employers or have any connections, please reach out to your Assistant Business Manager.

As we move through the second half of the year, I want to thank each of you for your continued support, solidarity, and the pride you bring to your work every day. Whether it's at the bargaining table, in the field, or through organizing efforts, everything we accomplish as a Local is because of the strength and unity of our membership. We face challenges ahead, no doubt, but we also have opportunities to grow, improve, and build a better future for all our sectors. Stay safe out there, look out for one another, and never hesitate to reach out to your Union. We're in this together.

In solidarity,



Cody Gatzke

HOTLINE

Your Union News Magazine



HOTLINE is the official union news magazine published for the members of Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in the province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory, Canada.

THE UNION OF HEARTS AND MINDS.

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Cover Photo

Brothers Levi Cardinal, Jamie Lowe, and Gavin Benner of the Local 258 Veterans Committee participating in the 2025 BC Hydro Curling Funspiel.

Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is affiliated with the British Columbia Federation of Labour and the Canadian Labour Congress.

Local 258 IBEW Officers:

Cody Gatzke - *Business Manager/Financial Secretary*

Kevin Duchak - *President*

Jim Greenwell - *Vice-President*

Larry Byhre - *Treasurer*

Karen Porter - *Recording Secretary*

Local 258 IBEW Executive Board Members:

Unit #1 Chair - Corey Higgins Unit #4 Chair - Lloyd Clark

Unit #2 Chair - Lianne Bunting Unit #5 Chair - Mike McMinn

Unit #3 Chair - Dean Kotaras Unit #6 Chair - Jordan Flanagan

Local 258 IBEW Staff:

Senior Assistant Business Manager - Jim Greenwell

Assistant Business Managers - Rob Munro, Dayna Gill, Marina Luporini, Ken Mitchell, Jag Aujla, Ben Berkelaar, Colin Petersen

Membership Development and Organizing - Dayna Gill, Ken Mitchell, Rob Munro

Dispatch - Noel Johnston

Business Representative - Emily Organ

Administrative & Office Staff (members of MoveUp) - Tracey Tilsley, Paula Bawa, Helen Martell, Shila Stewart, Jamie Gee

Veterans Committee: A Year in Review

By Jamie Lowe & Jordan Geddert, *Local 258 Veterans Committee Co-Chairs*

As we look back over the past 18 months, we, the Local 258 IBEW Veterans Committee, have much to be proud of. In January 2024, we became the first Canadian chartered veterans committee in the IBEW. Little did we know what was still yet to come.

The origins of our committee stem from one member who responded to an email in the summer of 2023 seeking to locate Veterans in the First District. This one email put us in contact with Pete Cool, the First District Veterans Committee chair. Getting in contact with Pete gave Local 258 an opportunity to actively participate in the First District Committee.

We started out as two veterans with an initial mission to track down other veterans within 258's ranks. Veterans Affairs Canada defines a Veteran as, "any former member of the Canadian Armed Forces who successfully underwent basic training and is honourably discharged." We made use of existing media such as email messages and the Hotline magazine for our first attempts. Although these efforts did harbour some success, we found that good old-fashioned phone calls and handshakes were the most successful in cultivating interest in our committee.

We have since grown in size and mandate as we have been actively assisting both currently serving members and veterans alike in finding and maintaining a successful career in the electrical industry. We have also met with BC Hydro and organizations like Helmets to Hardhats to learn about how we can better assist veterans. At the time of this publication, we are proud to announce that we have successfully grown to 30 members who represent various trades from multiple different companies.

Some milestones and notable accomplishments we've reached:

1. Officially presented Canada's first Veteran's Charter in St. John's, Newfoundland in August 2024.
2. Attended the Tradeshow and Health and Wellness Expo at CFB Esquimalt.
3. Entered a team in the BC Hydro Funspiel in February 2025.
4. Held a raffle at the BC Hydro Hockey Tournament, raising \$5000 for the Veterans Foodbank of BC in April 2025.
5. Added language to support Veterans to the newly ratified Master Line Agreement.
6. Assisting the First District Veterans Committee in planning the inaugural Veterans Caucus to be held in Calgary in August 2025.

The Local 258 Veterans Committee meets virtually bi-monthly on the last Monday of the month. If you are a Veteran, we would love to hear from you! There is no commitment, and you are not required to participate.

The past 18 months have been a reminder that all great things start somewhere, and it only takes one or two people to make a difference.

Thank you for your support,

Jordan Geddert & Jamie Lowe

Local 258 IBEW Veterans Committee Co-Chairs



In order, Veterans Committee Co-chairs Jordan Geddert & Jamie Lowe, Business Manager Cody Gatzke, First District Veterans Committee Representative Pete Cool, and First District Vice President Russ Shewchuk.

Letters to Local 258

Dear Local 258 IBEW,

On behalf of the U7 C4 Chilliwack Ducks Hockey Team, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for your generous donation and sponsorship. Your support means the world to our little hockey players and their families, and it is a testament to the incredible community spirit that Local 258 IBEW fosters.

We are truly thankful for your kindness and for being such an important part of our team's journey. Your support is making a difference, and will make this season, for many of our players their very first, a memorable one!

Warmest regards,

Stephanie Drouillard

Manager

U7 Chilliwack Ducks Hockey Team



A big thank you from the U11 Black Knights boys' hockey team here in Prince George. Your donation was able to fund the majority of our Valemount tournament fee for this past weekend's tournament. It made travelling for the weekend affordable for the families. Each tournament the team attends they

grow as a team and improve. It really does make a big difference. The majority of our team this year has never attended an away tournament before.

Our head coach, Cyrus Yarjau is a lineman at Allteck, pictured far left.



To IBEW Local 258,

On behalf of the Langford Lightning U13B team. I want to express our sincere gratitude for your generous donation. Your support helps provide essential equipment, uniforms, and opportunities for growth both on and off the field. Thanks to your kindness, our team can continue to develop skills, build confidence, and create lasting memories!

Chris Elliott

Senior Field Storekeeper

Victoria



On Behalf of Arctic Arrow Powerline Group, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your support and donations towards our online Silent Auction that took place in January.

This Silent Auction was for a cause that is very important to our entire Arctic Arrow family, "The Stella and Ivy Trust Fund."

Your contribution played a vital role in our Auction being the success it was in raising over \$40,000.00!

Thank you once again for being a valued part of our event. Your generosity truly made a difference!

Jennifer Rahn

Special Projects Coordinator

Arctic Arrow

On behalf of the Vernon Curling Funspiel, I would like to extend our gratitude for your generous support of the 2025 Curling Funspiel. Your contribution played a vital role in making this event a great success, and we truly appreciate your generosity.

Your donation not only helped enhance the experience for all participants but also reinforced the spirit of community and sportsmanship that makes local events like this so special. Thanks to your support, we were able to fund prizes and help with covering the costs of the event running.

We are incredibly grateful for your commitment to our cause and for helping us bring people together to enjoy a day amongst their peers. We hope to have the opportunity to work with you again in the future and look forward to your possible attendance at next years event!

Once again, thank you for your generosity and support. Your kindness truly made a difference.

Thanks,
Rod and Rhonda

Easton Carter and Brantley Fish are thrilled to say thanks a million for your donation to their U13 hockey tournament, where over 200 players had a great time, and your contribution helped provide amazing swag bags for all the superstar players and refreshments for the volunteer coaches, making it a weekend to remember.

Thank you and best regards,

Brother Michael & Raegan Carter
& Brother Michael & Breanna Fish



Dear Local 258 Women's Committee,

I am writing today to express my gratitude for the generous donation of \$3000 to Food Banks BC.

Your gift enables us to continue to provide critical support to food banks in need. Our food banks work hard to help their communities by providing essential support to individuals and families facing food insecurity. Your contribution is instrumental in our ongoing efforts to alleviate hunger and make

a tangible difference in the lives of those who need it most.

On behalf of the food banks across our province and the communities they serve, please know how grateful we are. Your donation will go a long way in ensuring that together, we can work towards a hunger-free British Columbia.

Sincerely,
Dan Huang-Taylor
Executive Director
Food Banks BC

Hello to the Executive Board, staff, and members of Local 258,

I am writing to thank you very much for sending me best wishes for a speedy recovery and a gift basket. The basket was top shelf! All my favourites plus some new ones! My wife was blown away! I am very privileged and proud of my union, thank you very much, it was a real "shot in the arm."

Ryan Grant

The Kamloops Warriors hockey team would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous \$500 donation to our organization. Your support means a great deal to us and will go a long way in helping us provide a positive and rewarding experience for our players.

Your contribution will assist in covering essential team expenses that enable us to compete at a high level. We truly appreciate your commitment to supporting local youth sports and helping us create an environment where young athletes can grow, develop and thrive both on and off the ice.

On behalf of the Chilliwack Learning Society, I am writing to express our gratitude for your generous sponsorship of our recent fundraiser, "A Novel Night to Remember."

Thank you again for your invaluable contribution.

Sincerely,
Annette Williams
Literacy Outreach Coordinator
Chilliwack Learning Society

IBEW 258,

Thank you so much for your generous donation and for being part of our endeavour since the beginning in 2014. This year we raised a record-breaking \$12,671, bringing our overall total so far to \$78,264. All funds go to the VGH Epilepsy Program and Seizure Intervention Unit, the only unit for adult epilepsy patients in BC.

Your support makes a huge difference for thousands across the province, and we couldn't be more grateful.

Natasha Wasmuth
epilepsyQuesnel Founder

I just wanted to quickly write a personal thank you to the IBEW 258 for the very generous donation of a new skate sharpener for the Hudson's Hope Minor Hockey Association.

The HHMHA are very happy and grateful for this generosity which will help all the young hockey players as well as the figure skating club in Hudson's Hope.

Kind Regards and many thanks,
Justin Gammie

Local 258 News

DCL Traffic Becomes 17th Signatory to Master Traffic Control Agreement

Local 258 is proud to announce that DCL Traffic has officially become the 17th employer to sign on to the Master Traffic Control Agreement. This milestone reflects DCL Traffic's commitment to fair labour standards and a unified approach to supporting traffic control professionals across British Columbia.

By joining the Master Agreement, DCL Traffic aligns with a growing group of employers who recognize the value of stability, consistency, and mutual respect in the traffic control industry. This step will ensure greater protections and benefits for their employees, including standardized wages, comprehensive training provisions, and enhanced workplace safety measures.

Local 258 welcomes DCL Traffic into this expanding partnership and looks forward to working together to strengthen the industry and advance the rights of traffic control workers throughout the province. ⚡

First Indigenous-Owned Line Contractor Joins Master Line Agreement

We are proud to welcome Alternative Contracting Ltd. as the first Indigenous-owned line contractor to sign onto the Master Line Agreement—a meaningful milestone for both our Local and the industry as a whole.

Based in Campbell River, Alternative Contracting brings a new voice and important representation to the powerline sector. Its decision to partner with the union demonstrates a shared commitment to safety, fair wages, skilled training, and strong working conditions.

“This is more than just a new signatory—it marks the beginning of a partnership in an emerging and under-represented sector,” said Cody Gatzke, Business Manager and Financial Secretary. “We’re proud to support

Indigenous-owned businesses that share our values and who are helping to shape the future of this trade.”

This partnership also strengthens our ability to compete for work across the province—especially in areas where Indigenous participation and local benefit are key to project success. By aligning with Alternative Contracting, we’re better positioned to secure meaningful, long-term opportunities for our members while supporting reconciliation in practice.

We are proud to stand with Alternative Contracting Ltd. as they grow their business and lead with integrity, vision, and union values. Welcome to the team. ⚡

Local 258 Defends Jurisdiction Over FortisBC Contract

Last issue, we announced that Osmose Utilities Services Canada Inc. had acquired Effigis Geo-Solutions, a signatory contractor to the Master Line Agreement. Gilnockie Inspections Ltd., a company previously acquired by Effigis’ predecessor, Honeyman Morris Inc., has resurfaced under the Osmose umbrella.

Osmose was awarded a test and treat contract with FortisBC, a major utility provider in BC. In line with FortisBC’s policy of hiring union contractors, this development prompted Local 213 IBEW to reach out to us for clarification. Local 213 informed us that they had been notified by FortisBC of the contract, mentioning they were facilitating discussions between IUOE 115 and Osmose, aiming to unionize their workforce.

Local 258's Business Manager took immediate action, contacting representatives from IUOE 115 and Osmose to clarify the situation. Local 258 was able to confirm that Osmose is indeed signatory to Local 258 IBEW and that test and treat work falls squarely within our jurisdiction. Following these discussions, IUOE 115 backed off, and Osmose's previously non-union workers were successfully brought into Local 258.

“I knew that I had to act fast in order to intervene and stop another union from certifying these test and treat workers,” said Cody Gatzke, Business Manager and Financial Secretary. “This situation shows the importance of having our finger on the pulse, staying connected with our sister locals, and acting immediately to protect our jurisdiction. Because we communicated,

coordinated, and moved fast, we ensured this work remained where it belongs—with Local 258.”

This development marks another win for union representation and the continued strengthening of our position in the industry. We look forward to supporting the new members of Osmose Utilities Services Canada Inc. as they perform test and treat work and to continuing to grow the unionized workforce in BC. ⚡

Local 258 Welcomes Kootenay Complete Tree Service Ltd.

Local 258 would like to welcome Kootenay Complete Tree Service (2025) Ltd. as our newest signatory Utility Arborist company! Saul Hyatt owns and operates Kootenay Complete based in Nelson, BC, and services the Kootenay region. Saul and his team regularly perform line clearance and vegetation management on the Fortis BC system. We look forward to a long and prosperous partnership with Kootenay Complete. ⚡

From Past to Present: K-Line Reconnects With Local 258

Local 258 IBEW is pleased to welcome K-Line Maintenance & Construction Ltd. as the newest signatory contractor under the Master Line Agreement, a notable return for a well-established name in the industry.

K-Line, originally founded in Ontario by the Kellett family, has deep roots in Canadian utility construction. Those familiar with BC's line work history may recall that K-Line once operated in the province in the 1990s, following their acquisition of Allteck. For a few years, they were a signatory employer with Local 258 before exiting the BC market and selling Allteck back to its original owner.

Now, with their base of operations out of Calgary, Alberta, K-Line seeks to re-enter BC's utility sector, once again under the banner of Local 258 IBEW.

“We’re glad to see K-Line back in the fold,” said Cody Gatzke, Business Manager. “Their return signals growth in our sector and a shared belief in the benefits of union labour. Welcome back.” ⚡

Members Launch Union Company: District Powerline Contractors Ltd.

Two longtime members of the Local, Paul Gaudreault and Sean Cronk, have launched a new company, District Powerline Contractors Ltd., and have proudly signed on to the Master Line Agreement.

Both founders are experienced linemen who came up through the ranks, gaining hands-on knowledge in the field and a strong appreciation for the benefits of union representation. Now, as business owners, they’re committed to offering the same fair wages, safety standards, and job security they valued as workers.

Their success is a reminder that the union doesn’t just build tradespeople—it builds leaders. We look forward to seeing District Powerline grow and thrive. ⚡

Powering the North: Midlite Acquires Castle Power, Joining Local 258

Local 258 is pleased to welcome Midlite Construction LP and Castle Power Line Contractors as the newest signatory employer, marking a significant step forward for unionized line work in BC and the Yukon.

Midlite, an established Alberta-based utility contractor, recently expanded its operations with the acquisition of Castle Power Line Contractors, based in Whitehorse, Yukon. “This is a big win for our members and a positive signal for the future of the trade in the territories,” said Business Manager Cody Gatzke. “We’ve worked hard to grow union representation in the Yukon, and this move opens the door to more work in the region.”

Castle Power may be a new signatory, but they’ve been on the union’s radar for some time. Local 258 first attempted to organize the company back in 2018, and while the timing wasn’t right then, the landscape has changed.

We welcome the crews of Midlite and Castle Power to Local 258 and look forward to building a strong, productive relationship in the years ahead. ⚡

Bargaining News

Master Line Agreement Ratified

After months of intensive bargaining, including one rejected tentative agreement, a strong strike mandate, and multiple days of mediation at the Labour Relations Board, Local 258 IBEW members have ratified a new Master Line Agreement with 57.5% voting in favour and a record 86% voter turnout.

“This has been a long process, and I'd like to thank our membership for their patience,” said Cody Gatzke, Business Manager and Financial Secretary of Local 258. “While the outcome was far from unanimous, it shows that a majority of members are ready to move forward under the new terms.”

The newly ratified three-year agreement delivers one of the most significant economic packages in the Local's recent history. Key highlights include:

1. A 12% wage increase over the term—the second largest in Local 258's history.
2. A shorter probation period for Trades Trainees.
3. New protections against transporting employer tools and materials in personal vehicles.
4. Strengthened language on layoffs and discipline.
5. A requirement for employers to report union dues on members' T4 slips.
6. Leave of absence provisions for any member elected as Business Manager.
7. The addition of two new job classifications: Hydrovac Operator and Try-a-Trade.

Negotiations of this magnitude are never easy, especially when dealing with complex issues that affect workers across the province who are employed by various employers. But through it all, members remained engaged, attending meetings, asking questions, and casting their votes.

The bargaining committee extends sincere thanks to every member who participated. Your involvement, whether you voted yes or no, demonstrates solidarity through participation. This agreement sets the course for the next three years. ⚡

Davey Tree Employees Ratify Collective Agreement

Local 258 renegotiated a one-year contract with Davey Tree that was ratified on March 28th, 2025 with a 68.2% vote in favour of the contract. Assistant Business Manager Rob Munro would like to thank the bargaining committee (Brothers Steve Ferreira, Dylan Bruderer, and Richard Frantzen) for their diligent efforts in reaching this agreement. The union is pleased with the improvements that were made in this contract, which included a 3.5% wage increase, improvements to boot allowances, Living Out, and meal allowances, as well as significant language improvements.

However, the voter turnout on this ratification vote was disappointing. Voting was carried out through Simply Voting, the same electronic voting system that was used in other recent ratification votes, as well as in the last Davey Tree contract vote. In general, there has been an increase in voter participation with Simply Voting over traditional mail-out ballots.

There are a few things that all Union members should do, and perhaps the most important one is to vote on your collective agreement when asked to do so. Our strength at the bargaining table is directly linked to the solidarity of the bargaining unit. So please, vote when your contract is up for renewal. To those members who did vote and engaged in the virtual meeting to present the memorandum of agreement, thank you! ⚡

Gains for Workers at Eaton Industries: New Three-Year Agreement Ratified

Union members at Eaton Industries have overwhelmingly voted to ratify a new three-year collective agreement, marking a victory for the dedicated workforce behind the assembly and customization of electrical distribution and control equipment, including switchboards, switchgear, and panelboards.

The newly ratified contract delivers solid improvements across the board, including wage increases and enhanced benefits. These gains were made possible through the steadfast unity and determination of our

members, who stood together throughout the bargaining process to ensure their voices were heard and respected.

“This agreement reflects the value and strength of our members on the shop floor,” said Marina Luporini, Assistant Business Manager. “It is a clear demonstration of what can be achieved when workers stand in solidarity and negotiate for the respect and fairness they deserve.”

The strong support shown during the ratification vote speaks volumes about the confidence members have in the progress made at the table. The union remains committed to continuing the fight for better working conditions, fair pay, and the dignity every worker deserves.

We extend our congratulations to the bargaining committee and the entire membership at Eaton Industries for securing a deal that moves everyone forward. ⚡

Preparations Begin for Upcoming Bargaining at Harbourview Electric Ltd.

Local 258, representing workers at Harbourview Electric Ltd., is preparing for the next round of collective bargaining as the current collective agreement approaches its expiry on October 31, 2025.

Our dedicated members at Harbourview Electric Ltd. specialize in the manufacturing of custom electrical control panels, from simple terminal boxes to complex PLC-based systems.

This summer, members will be invited to provide input on priorities and proposals for the upcoming negotiations. Member voices will be central in shaping the union’s bargaining agenda to ensure the next agreement reflects the needs, values, and contributions of our workforce.

We look forward to engaging in a strong, united bargaining process and achieving a fair deal that continues to recognize the expertise and commitment of our members. For more information on the upcoming collective bargaining, contact Assistant Business Manager Marina Luporini. ⚡

BC Hydro Bargaining and the Public Sector

Across BC, over 400,000 public sector workers are at the bargaining table this year. The provincial government has signalled a tight fiscal approach, which has already resulted in an impasse between the Provincial government's Public Service Agency (PSA) and the BC General Employees' Union. Your Bargaining Committee has met several times with BC Hydro to begin bargaining a new agreement. This year, your Bargaining Committee consists of Brother **Cody Gatzke**, Business Manager and Financial Secretary, Power Line Technician, Brother **Kevin Duchak**, President, Safety Advocate, Power Line Technician, Cable Splicer, Brother **Rob Munro**, Assistant Business Manager, Commercial Transport Vehicle Mechanic, Brother **Jag Aujla**, Assistant Business Manager, Electrician, Trades Training Instructor, Sister **Jenny Short**, Unit 6 Vice Chair, Shop Steward, Electrician, Load Operator, Brother **Leon Beard**, Shop Steward, Power Line Technician, Brother **Sean Walker**, Unit 4 Vice Chair, Shop Steward, Field Storekeeper, Brother **JM Lessard**, Electrician, Area Planner Scheduler, Brother **Nick Brigden**, Shop Steward, CPC Technologist, and Brother **Rod Russell**, Power Line Technician.

So far, discussions have focused on housekeeping and non-monetary items. Despite these early conversations, full proposal packages have not yet been exchanged. Monetary talks are scheduled to begin sometime this fall. Currently, negotiations are underway between the government and a couple other public sector unions, during which the government has proposed a two-year term and the following compensation package:

Year 1	
Option A	Option B
Apr 1, 2025: Increase of 0.5% + \$0.15	Apr 1, 2025: Increase of 0.75%
Oct 1, 2025: Increase of 0.5% + \$0.15	Oct 1, 2025: Increase of 0.75%
Year 2	
Apr 1, 2026: Increase of 1.0%	
Oct 1, 2026: Increase of 1.0%	

The Bargaining Committee appreciates your continued patience and support. Your solidarity and engagement are key as we navigate this round of bargaining. We’ll keep you informed as negotiations progress, both at our table and across the broader public sector. ⚡

2025 BC Hydro Safety Rodeo

Nanaimo, British Columbia

On Saturday, June 7, 2025, the BC Hydro Safety Rodeo returned to Nanaimo at the BC Hydro District Office. The event brought together six Powerline Technician teams and fifteen apprentices, along with volunteers, retirees, friends, and family in a celebration of safety and skill.

Festivities were underway the night before, when Local 258 IBEW hosted a social networking reception at the Coast Bastion Hotel. The event itself began with a meaningful opening ceremony that reminded everyone why safety is at the heart of what we do. Representatives from all parts of BC Hydro—management, MoveUP, and IBEW—came together to read out the names of workers who lost their lives on the job. Business Manager Cody Gatzke shared a few words before a moment of silence, reflecting on those who never made it home.

Brother Bob Kilian stepped forward to ring the bell, officially kicking off the 2025 rodeo. “We talk about safety a lot, but when you hear from someone who’s lived through a workplace accident, it really hits home.” Gatzke said.

The rodeo wasn’t all solemnity, however. Local 258 IBEW also hosted a booth on-site, welcoming Union members, their families, and the public. The booth offered information on the Union’s advocacy and benefits and featured a crowd-favourite prize draw that gave away several big-ticket Yeti coolers.

Meanwhile, the Power Pioneers, a volunteer group of BC Hydro retirees and employees, ran children’s games, hospitality tents, and a 50/50 draw. The rodeo committee also collected and donated two pallets of food to the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank.

Once the final stopwatch had stopped and the events wrapped up, everyone reconvened that evening for the banquet dinner and awards ceremony. It was a chance to recognize the top-performing teams and apprentices. Trophies and plaques were handed out, followed by a BBQ dinner and a beer garden social. City road crews helped manage traffic in and around East Wellington and Madsen Road to keep things safe for participants and visitors. The 2025 Safety Rodeo wasn’t just a competition. It was a reminder of who we are, what we’ve been through, and where we’re headed. ⚡



Left to right: Assistant Business Manager Jim Greenwell, Unit 3 Chair Dean Kotaras, and Veterans Committee Co-Chair Jordan Geddert at the Local 258 rodeo booth.



BC Hydro's experimental robot dog, "Spot" was brought out for crowd demonstrations at the Rodeo.

Apprentice Written Test	
1st Place	David Roth
2nd Place	Chris Combs
3rd Place	Brody Harmes
Apprentice Egg Climb	
1st Place	Justin Millard
2nd Place	Tom Dyck
3rd Place	Brody Harmes
Apprentice Poletop Rescue	
1st Place	Trevor Ehlbeck
2nd Place	Chris Combs
3rd Place	Dylan Zienowicz
Apprentice Climbing Challenge	
1st Place	Justin Millard
2nd Place	Chris Combs
3rd Place	Jordy Tedford
Apprentice Insulator Change on Alley Arm	
1st Place	Chris Combs
2nd Place	Harmin Malhi
3rd Place	Tom Dyck
Top Overall Apprentice	
1st Place	Chris Combs
2nd Place	Brody Harmes
3rd Place	Chelsey Charlesworth
PLT Team Egg Climb	
1st Place	Billy Strachan, Aaron Bruder, Colin Sillje
2nd Place	Colby Braaten, Brad Goss, Jackson Smith
3rd Place	Steve Fyfe, Reese Van Vliet, TJ Fisher
PLT Team Poletop Rescue	
1st Place	Steve Lang, Ritchie Lang, Jordan Flanagan
2nd Place	Jon Balback, Mark Blaxland, Jordan Drozdowich
3rd Place	Steve Fyfe, Reese Van Vliet, TJ Fisher
PLT Team Insulator Change on the Baker Board	
1st Place	Steve Lang, Ritchie Lang, Jordan Flanagan
2nd Place	Steve Fyfe, Reese Van Vliet, TJ Fisher
3rd Place	Billy Strachan, Aaron Bruder, Colin Sillje
PLT Team Phase Balancing on TP	
1st Place	Steve Fyfe, Reese Van Vliet, TJ Fisher
2nd Place	Jon Balback, Mark Blaxland, Jordan Drozdowich
3rd Place	Dylan Dawson, Dusty Henry, Brayden Oliver
PLT Team Top Overall Competitor	
1st Place	Steve Fyfe, Reese Van Vliet, TJ Fisher
2nd Place	Jon Balback, Mark Blaxland, Jordan Drozdowich
3rd Place	Colby Braaten, Brad Goss, Jackson Smith



HOLD THE PULL | Electrical Industry Safety Bulletin

Certified Utility Arborist Fatality in Rock Creek, BC

Incident Overview



On June 26, 2025, at approximately 9:00am, in Rock Creek, British Columbia, a bucket truck rolled over, killing a Certified Utility Arborist (CUA) who had been performing routine line clearance work on pine trees above a live circuit from the bucket. The CUA was employed by a Local 258 signatory employer, Asplundh Canada ULC, who had been contracted by FortisBC.

The outrigger pad and stabilizer on the bucket truck sank in unstable soil, leading to the rollover of the truck onto its side. The incident is still under investigation, with both Asplundh and FortisBC cooperating and supporting where required.

Best Practices

While the investigation into the root causes and accompanying factors that led to this incident is still under way, and it is imperative that assumptions are not made before all the facts are known, Local 258 would still like to take this opportunity to provide some general safety reminders to consider while working with equipment or vehicles that are equipped with stabilizers or outriggers.

1. Always follow the manufacturer's setup directions.
2. Communicate the setup plan to all crew members and ensure it is understood.
3. Inspect outriggers, stabilizers, and supporting materials before use to ensure they are not bent, damaged, rotted, rusted, or otherwise broken.
4. Perform a visual check of the ground for signs of excavations, water, or poor soil.
5. Ensure that the ground is firm, drained, and level.
6. Confirm that all equipment is stable before operation.
7. Perform a dry run with the equipment before use and have a spotter look for potential safety concerns.

While the use of this type of equipment is routine in our members' lines of work, we cannot understate the impact that over-looking or ignoring safety precautions can have. If you ever have concerns about the safety of the work you're doing, don't hesitate to reach out to your Joint Health and Safety Committee or Assistant Business Manager. ⚡

Additional Considerations

- Outrigger pads must not be used to bridge gaps, span voids or cover holes.
- If you don't know the ground-bearing capacity, it is recommended that an outrigger pad at least **three times** the square surface of the outrigger foot or float is used. As soil conditions worsen, the pad should increase in size.



2024 United Way Campaign

By Rob Munro, *Assistant Business Manager*

As the holiday season approached, the annual United Way of British Columbia workplace campaign drew to a close. The donations gathered will form the foundation of community-based support services in the coming year.

Our Union's Commitment

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 258 has been a longstanding supporter of United Way. From my personal experience since 2016, I've witnessed the organization's unique and responsive approach to community support. United Way serves critical needs across British Columbia—from providing emergency food and shelter after natural disasters to supporting isolated seniors—often working behind the scenes.

The campaign reinvests donations into diverse community-based programs and charitable organizations, creating safety nets for vulnerable populations with remarkable efficiency. Their fundraising costs remain impressively low, at approximately 15% of total contributions.

The Campaign Associates Program

A distinctive aspect of United Way's work is the Campaign Associates (CA) program. Each year, approximately 25 professionals are sponsored by local organizations to support fundraising efforts. Between September and December, over 350 workplace campaigns rely on these dedicated individuals to coordinate and drive community engagement.

This year, Local 258 sponsored Alicia Peever as a Campaign Associate. Having been a CA myself in 2016, I understand the challenging and transformative nature of this role. Participants are quickly integrated into small teams—in Alicia's case, working with a five-person group focusing on finance and legal workplace campaigns.

Professional Development and Community Impact

The Campaign Associate experience offers profound opportunities for personal and professional growth. Alicia has earned post-secondary credits and devel-

oped new career pathways, inspired by her United Way experience. Her emerging professional trajectory now focuses on working with vulnerable Indigenous youth, directly reflecting the community-centred ethos she encountered during her United Way engagement.

Conclusion

Local 258's continued support of United Way reflects our commitment to community resilience. By sponsoring Campaign Associates like Alicia and contributing to workplace campaigns, we play an active role in supporting those most vulnerable in our society. ⚡



Alicia Peever (2nd from the left) with her fellow Campaign Associates.



Alicia (right) and other Campaign Associates preparing baskets for United Way's Food Hub.

End of an Era or a New Beginning?

The Rokstad Power Story.

By Cody Gatzke, Former Employee of Rokstad Power and Plowe Power

The story of Rokstad begins in the 1980s with Allteck Line Contractors. Bernie Rokstad built Allteck from the ground up into one of BC's most respected power-line contractors. Their success attracted attention. In the 1990s, he sold Allteck to K-Line, an Ontario-based company that operated the business for several years before withdrawing from the BC market and selling the assets back.

Back in the driver's seat, Bernie guided Allteck through a second successful run before ultimately selling the company again, this time to Quanta Services, a major U.S.-based energy infrastructure conglomerate. But the Rokstad name wasn't ready to fade quietly into history.

Meanwhile, another Rokstad was carving his own path. Partnering with Saskatchewan's Joe Galbraith, they launched a BC-based division of Galbraith Powerline Contracting. After Allteck and Bernie parted ways, he briefly stepped into a high-profile role as Project Director for the Flatiron-Graham Joint Venture.

Not long after, the two Rokstads joined forces in what would become Rokstad Power Corporation. The company quickly gained traction, securing major contracts for transmission system upgrades and long-term distribution work. They also acquired and integrated Plowe

Power Systems into their growing operation.

Then came 2014, a turning point. Rokstad Power was acquired by Carillion Canada, a division of the UK-based infrastructure giant. The company was restructured into RPC Limited Partnership and remained active across North America until 2018, when Carillion collapsed globally. In the fallout, the Rokstad family reacquired the Canadian assets and launched Rokstad Power (2018) Ltd.

What followed was an ambitious but challenging expansion into the United States. Rokstad Power invested heavily to establish a presence south of the border, but when Pacific Gas and Electric scaled back much of its work, the company was left financially overextended. They sold off their Arizona division and began exploring options to find a new equity partner.

An investment firm was initially interested. But negotiations turned aggressive when that same firm purchased Rokstad's debt from its lender, pushing the company into receivership. Through a court-ordered sale, the firm acquired Rokstad's American operations and offloaded its Canadian division to Graham Maintenance LP.

In a calculated move, Graham retained Rokstad's customer base and transferred Rokstad's workforce to a different company called 42 West Constructors Ltd. Rather than absorb the workforce directly, Graham is essentially subcontracting to 42 West.

As for the Rokstad family, the story isn't over. Rumour has it that the Rokstads have already partnered with another contractor, signalling that they may not be done shaping the utility industry just yet. Whether the next chapter is written under a familiar name or a brand-new banner, time will tell.

What's clear is that the Rokstad family's legacy has left an indelible mark on the industry. Now, as the dust settles, we ask: Is this the end of an era or the beginning of another? ⚡



A Rokstad crew poses for a photo at the site of the Northwest Transmission Line extension between Bob Quinn Lake and Tatogga.

Indigenous Voices, Union Strength

By Cody Gatzke, Business Manager & Financial Secretary

"This isn't about policy or politics. It's about people, making sure that everyone is afforded the same opportunities and benefits that come with being a part of the IBEW."

The way energy projects are built in British Columbia is changing, and so is the way unions do business. These days, if contractors want to win major infrastructure jobs, especially in the energy sector, they need to offer more than just a low price; they also need to have real, meaningful partnerships with Indigenous communities.

Over the past year, your Local Union has taken tangible steps toward building relationships with First Nations communities across the province. Whether it's sponsoring Indigenous-hosted conferences, attending and participating in events and workshops, or sitting down for serious conversations about future ownership of infrastructure, we are taking steps to ensure that Local 258 continues to be the right choice for all work on British Columbia and the Yukon's power systems.

Local 258 IBEW has been a proud sponsor of Clean Energy BC's First Nations Energy Summit and their annual flagship Generate conference. The Union hosted a booth at both events and even introduced a key panel on the North Coast Transmission Line Update, a major project that could bring additional capacity and opportunity to northern communities. The Local also invited the host of the Powerline Podcast, which is owned by Quanta Services and is a major player in the electrical industry across North America.

That being said, it isn't just about showing up. It's about listening, supporting, and helping create space for Indigenous voices in the industry. That's why Local 258 sponsored the BC Indigenous Resources Opportunities Conference and invited representatives from an Indigenous-owned signatory line contractor to join us



Brother Ken Mitchell, Assistant Business Manager (second from the left) and Brother Brandon Dyck, Government Affairs Coordinator (third from the left) attending the Rez Dog Walkers After Dark reception at the 2025 BC Indigenous Resource Opportunities Conference. Photo taken by www.happhotography.com.

at the trade show. As a Union, we are committed to educating people about the benefits of unionization and ensuring that membership is open to all, regardless of who you are or where you're from.

Behind the scenes, the Local has also been meeting with the First Nations Major Projects Coalition and the lead negotiator working on behalf of the Indigenous bands involved in talks with BC Hydro over joint ownership of the North Coast Transmission Line. That's a big deal and is a sign of what the future looks like: Indigenous communities being not just consulted but invited to actively participate at the table as co-owners and key decision makers.

For Local 258, this isn't about policy or politics. It's about people, making sure that everyone is afforded the same opportunities and benefits that come with being a part of the IBEW. ⚡

"It isn't just about showing up. It's about listening, supporting, and helping create space for Indigenous voices in the industry."

Arbitration Update: BC Hydro's Electrician Assessment

By Jag Aujla,
Assistant Business Manager

Following a grievance filed by the Union, an arbitrator has issued a decision on BC Hydro's introduction of an assessment that Full-Time Temporary (FTT) Electricians are required to pass before being considered for Full-Time Regular (FTR) Electrician positions in Stations Field Operations.

Background

In 2023, BC Hydro implemented a written and practical assessment that FTT Electricians were required to take and pass before being considered under the Merit, Efficiency, and Seniority (MES) selection process for bulletined FTR Electrician positions. The Union challenged this change, arguing that it circumvented established selection language in the collective agreement.

What's Next?

The Union has secured arbitration dates to deal with the next phase of this grievance, which will examine:

1. Whether the content and structure of the assessment are reasonable;
2. Whether BC Hydro is entitled to require certain classifications of employees to complete it at all. In other words, is the practice arbitrary or discriminatory, and
3. Whether any additional remedy is appropriate for members who may have been impacted by the employer's previous application of the assessment and the now-overturned 12-month restriction.

Union Position

The Union maintains that access to bulletined FTR positions should remain open and fair, and that any assessment used to screen applicants must be reasonable, transparent, and consistent with the language in the collective agreement. While the arbitrator has confirmed that assessments may be used in principle, the upcoming hearings will determine whether the current assessment and its application meet the required standard.

Additional Considerations

Participation in the assessment process, even on a repeated basis, may provide valuable exposure to tasks associated with the FTR role in Stations Field Operations. It may also serve as a training opportunity and help build familiarity with the assessment format and expectations.

Further updates will be shared as the arbitration progresses. ⚡

Arbitrator's Decision

1. **Was BC Hydro entitled to introduce an assessment as a prerequisite to entering the MES selection process?**

Yes. The arbitrator found that BC Hydro can establish "must-have" qualifications for a position and may use an assessment to evaluate whether applicants meet those standards prior to entering the MES competition. However, this ruling does not mean that the specific assessment BC Hydro is using is reasonable or compliant with the collective agreement – that question remains to be decided.

2. **Can BC Hydro require employees to wait 12 months after failing the assessment before applying for another bulletined FTR Electrician position?**

No. The arbitrator found that this blanket policy is arbitrary, unreasonable, and inconsistent with the collective agreement. BC Hydro cannot prevent employees from applying to posted vacancies on the basis that they failed a previous assessment, nor can it assume that failure means an employee remains unqualified for 12 months.

Farewell from Assistant Business Manager Dayna Gill

As Sister Dayna Gill, who has accepted a new role as Lead International Organizer with the IBEW International Office leaves her position with Local 258, she would like to share a message with all members and employers who have worked alongside her over the years.

Traffic Control Members,

It has truly been an honour and a privilege to represent you over the past five years. Throughout that time, I've had the opportunity to witness your resilience, strength, and solidarity on countless occasions. Whether we were facing challenges at the bargaining table, advocating for safer working conditions, or celebrating important wins, I have always been proud to stand with you. Thank you for your trust, your support, and your commitment to each other and to our Union. I carry with me the lessons and experiences we've shared, and I will always be grateful for the opportunity to have served such a dedicated group of workers. Please continue to support one another and stay engaged—your voices are powerful, and they make a difference.

Employers,

Over the past five years, it's been a privilege to work alongside you on various projects and initiatives. I want to sincerely thank you for the positive working relationship we've built during this time. In my role with the Union, particularly through member representation and collective bargaining efforts, I've appreciated your willingness to engage in respectful dialogue and collaborative problem-solving. Your professionalism and openness helped make negotiations productive and focused on mutual goals, which ultimately benefited both the workers and the organization. I've valued the opportunity to advocate for our members while maintaining a constructive and solution-oriented partnership with you. As I move on to the next chapter of my career, I'll carry forward the lessons and relationships built during our time working together. Thank you again for your support, and I wish you continued success in the years ahead.

Local 258 wishes Dayna all the best in her new role with the IBEW International Office! ⚡

Local 258 Hires New Assistant Business Manager

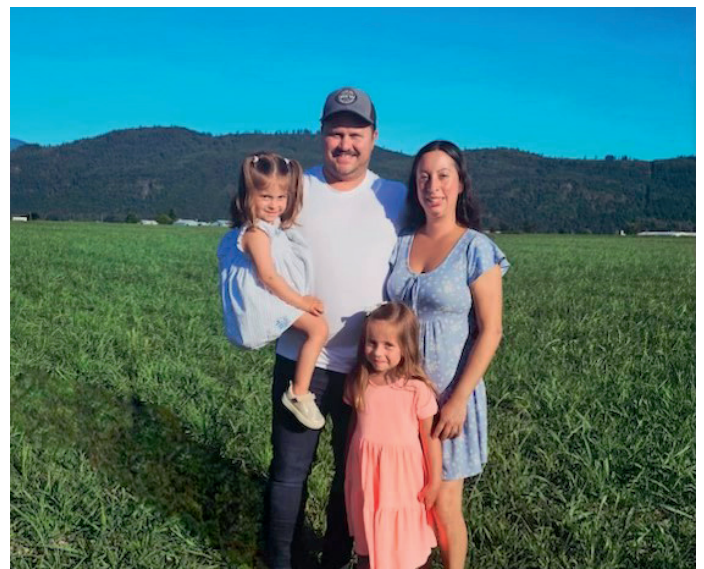
Local 258 would like to extend a warm welcome to the newest Assistant Business Manager joining our team, Brother Tatton Zanardo.

Tatton is a Certified Utility Arborist who was first initiated into IBEW Local 258 in 2006 while working for a BC Hydro contractor. He completed his apprenticeship in 2009 and has built a career working across British Columbia and Alberta in both transmission and distribution for various utility vegetation contractors.

Tatton has held positions in health and safety and management, with a strong focus on supporting crews and fostering safe, efficient work environments. His experience extends internationally, including time working in Australia and delivering training to electrical workers for the national electric utility in Trinidad and Tobago.

He also served as a Trades Training Instructor for British Columbia's Utility Arborist Apprenticeship program. Tatton is a committed advocate for workplace health and safety, training, women in trades, and Indigenous reconciliation efforts within the industry.

Based in the Fraser Valley, Tatton lives with his wife and two daughters. Outside of work, you can find him spending time outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. He looks forward to continuing to support and grow the membership of Local 258 in a new and exciting role. ⚡



Evolution Since Inception: Ruminations on the Pedigree of Our Business Managers

By Cody Gatzke, *Business Manager and Financial Secretary*

As your current Business Manager, I want to take a moment to reflect on the history of our Local and those who have held this office before me. What follows is not an endorsement, critique, or political take on any past leader; it is simply a neutral account of our Local's leadership history, each of whom played a role in shaping who we are today. These individuals navigated changing times, shifting economies, and changing labour landscapes. While some eras were turbulent and others were marked by growth, each one contributed to the evolution of Local 258.

Jock Waterston (1967-1970)

Very little is known today about Jock Waterston, but what is certain is his significance in our foundation. Jock was a founding member of IBEW Local 258 and served as our first Business Manager following the Local's chartering in 1967. His name appears proudly on our original charter. Waterston served a single three-year term. While much of the Local's activities during his leadership remain undocumented, his role in establishing our Local cannot be understated. Without Jock and the other founders, our Local Union simply wouldn't exist.

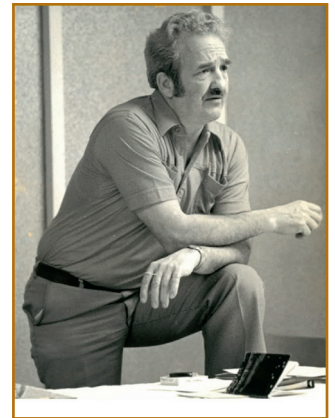


John "Jock" Waterston

Doug Cronk (1970-1979)

Doug Cronk, an electrician with BC Hydro, helped bring structure and stability to the newly formed Local. During his nine-year tenure, Cronk led the Local through a strike against BC Hydro in the early 1970s

and successfully negotiated SWP Days into the collective agreement in the mid-1970s. Cronk also created the Local's first dispatch system to support BC Hydro's expansion of its 500 kV transmission system across the province, making 258 one of very few Local Unions in North America that dispatched to a utility. This laid the foundation for our expansion into the private sector years later.



Doug Cronk, 1974

Cronk's tenure coincided with important developments in provincial labour and energy policy. In 1973, Dave Barrett's NDP created the Labour Code of British Columbia Act that replaced a fragmented system of outdated labour laws with a unified framework that established the Labour Relations Board. In 1973, the BC Energy Commission began regulating private utilities and energy pricing, laying the groundwork for the BC Utilities Commission, which took its current form under the 1980 Utilities Commission Act. Though Cronk had left office by then, the changes in how energy was regulated in BC were already influencing union-employer dynamics.

After his defeat in 1979, Cronk continued his union service as a Business Representative for Local 230 on Vancouver Island until his retirement.

Art O'Keeffe (1979-1982)

Art O'Keeffe was a lineman and is perhaps best remembered for his defiance of both the IBEW International Office and a court injunction during the 1966

Lenkurt dispute, an illegal wildcat strike that took place just months before System Council 27 was dissolved and Local 258 was officially chartered in early 1967. His actions resulted in a four-month jail sentence, removal from his position as Business Manager of Local 213, and a lengthy suspension from IBEW membership.



Art O'Keeffe, 1964

Upon reinstatement, O'Keeffe became a Local 258 member and went on to defeat incumbent Doug Cronk in the 1979 election. The next year marked the beginning of a structural shift at BC Hydro, with the utility's trolley bus division being transferred to what would formally become BC Transit in 1982, marking one of the first major breakups of the Crown corporation.

During his term at Local 258, O'Keeffe secured a significant arbitration victory regarding helicopter premiums. The union successfully demonstrated that a BC Hydro manager had unilaterally altered language in the collective agreement without the union's knowledge or consent back in 1975. In a rare move, the arbitrator ordered corrective language to be inserted directly into the collective agreement.

O'Keeffe's tenure also coincided with the emergence of the BC Utilities Commission in its current form. The 1980 introduction of the Utilities Commission Act granted the BCUC expanded authority to regulate both Crown corporations and private utilities, adding new complexity to the landscape.

Bob Peel (1982-1986)

Bob Peel, a former power dispatcher with BC Hydro, had previously served as Assistant Business Manager and Recording Secretary before being elected Business Manager in 1982 and was the first Business Manager to serve a four-year term. His tenure coincided with one of the most turbulent periods in our history. That year, BC Hydro initiated a massive downsizing, shrinking our Local from 3,900 members to just 1,700. The arbitration cases that followed helped shape the bumping and layoff procedures still used today. Peel was also at the helm during the 1983-1984 strike, the most recent labour dispute with BC Hydro.

Recognizing the risk of relying solely on a single employer, Peel initiated our Local's first external organizing drive. His team organized a tree-trimming company that would later become Asplundh, marking the beginning of our diversification. Peel successfully championed a bylaw reform, demonstrating to our membership the need to increase union dues from 1% to 1.5% in 1984. He did not seek re-election in 1986, ending a single but consequential term.

Gerry Bramhill (1986-1997)

Elected amid a split slate of candidates, each with ties to the former Cronk and O'Keefe administrations, former Dispatcher and ABM Gerry Bramhill emerged as the victor. A lineman by trade, Bramhill's tenure is characterized by major modernization efforts and aggressive organizing. He transitioned the union hall from typewriters to computers and snail mail to fax machines and then to email, along with implementing a computerized membership database.

In 1988, Bramhill successfully lobbied the International Office to grant Local 258 full provincial jurisdiction over outside line work. Prior to that, representation was split regionally among various Locals, leading to jurisdictional and portability issues. That same year, Bramhill also navigated a major government-led restructuring of BC Hydro, which included the divestiture of its Gas Division (represented by Local 213) and remaining railway assets. A few years later, the electric shop was spun off into a new entity called Power Serv Pacific, only to be reintegrated into BC Hydro several years later in the mid-1990s.

Bramhill's organizing record was formidable. He established the Electrical Industry Training Institute



Bob Peel, 1986



Gerry Bramhill, 1994

(EITI) in 1991 along with forming the Master Line Agreement that same year. In 1993, the Joint Line Apprenticeship & Trades Training Committee was incorporated. Both EITI and JLATTC gave the private sector access to a PLT apprenticeship pipeline that didn't previously exist. He further expanded our presence in the tree trimming industry by organizing and helping establish the first arborist apprenticeship in BC.

His tenure also saw the amalgamation of Local 264, which represented manufacturing workers, into Local 258, stabilizing a group impacted heavily by the Mulroney-Reagan free trade era. He began organizing traffic control workers as well, further diversifying our membership. During his tenure, Bramhill oversaw the relocation of the union hall from New Westminster to Burnaby. He later stepped down in 1997 to become the Director of EITI.

John McGraw (1997-2002)

Appointed to fill Bramhill's unexpired term in 1997, our longest-serving President and the first to work full time in the union office was later elected to a full term in 1998. McGraw's background was as a power dispatcher with BC Hydro dating back to 1971. McGraw, alongside Bramhill played a vital role in establishing EITI. He was



John McGraw, 1974

serving as Business Manager when the tragedy of September 11, 2001, unfolded, an event that claimed the lives of dozens of IBEW members in New York. At the time, John was in San Francisco attending the IBEW's 36th International Convention. He also laid the early groundwork for the concept of "Hot Skills," a concept that would be realized under his successor.

Doug McKay (2002-2022)

Doug McKay, who had been serving as President since 1998, won the 2002 election after a three-way race that led to a runoff. Incumbent John McGraw did not make it to the second round, and McKay narrowly defeated Gord Zeron by just 14 votes. He would go on to become Local 258's longest-serving Business Manager, serving five consecutive terms. McKay's twenty-year tenure coincided mostly with the Gordon Campbell

and Christy Clark era Liberal government, a time when labour-friendly policies like card check and compulsory certification were dismantled.

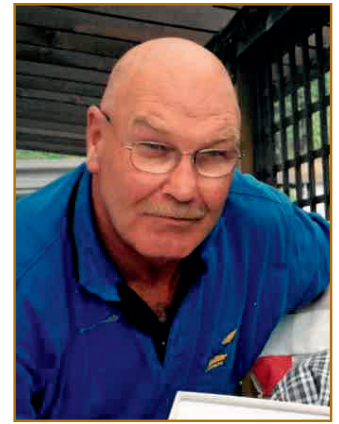
The Campbell government also threatened the break-up and privatization of BC Hydro. In 2003, the BC Transmission Corporation (BCTC) was formed, carving transmission operations and assets out of BC Hydro. This separation lasted until 2010, when BCTC was reintegrated into BC Hydro. McKay led the Local through that entire period. While outright privatization was avoided, a form of privatization-by-proxy emerged through the rise of Independent Power Producers (IPPs), which entered into long-term electricity purchase agreements with BC Hydro. Later in McKay's tenure, the Local successfully organized its first IPP bargaining unit.

Under his leadership, the Local secured several mid-term adjustments, most notably in the mid-2000s for BC Hydro linemen through the Hot Skills argument, which helped align their compensation more closely with market rates. Another notable achievement was the inclusion of BC Hydro's Construction Services into the BC Hydro Pension Plan in the late 2000s. His tenure spanned the transmission boom of the 2010s, a period of major transmission infrastructure projects.

He made a significant structural change to the Local by selling off EITI in 2012. McKay also established our Health & Welfare Trust in 2014, ending our partnership with other BC IBEW Local Unions. He also relocated the union hall from Burnaby to Langley in 2019. McKay's fifth and final term concluded in 2022.

Present Day

That brings us to the present. As your current Business Manager, I will not comment on my own tenure out of respect for the neutrality and intent of this article. The purpose here is to educate, not to evaluate. These leaders each inherited different circumstances, faced unique challenges, and made decisions that continue to impact our Local today. Understanding our history helps us appreciate the work done before us, learn from it, and build a stronger future together. ⚡



Doug McKay

Member Spotlight: Powerline Podcast

Highlighting our members' achievements.

"I've spent my whole life around tradesmen. As a kid, I listened to their stories. As a lineman, I got a few stories of my own. Tradesmen are a special breed. Our bonds are formed through long hours, intense and complex work, and high-risk environments. Our crew becomes our family."

In this edition of Member Spotlight, Local 258 is proud to feature Ryan Lucas, the passionate voice behind the Powerline Podcast. Ryan is a member of Local 258 IBEW, who for over 6 years now has been uploading weekly episodes in which he interviews linemen and women from across North America, giving them a platform to share their experiences in the line trade.

Ryan Lucas himself is a lineman by trade. He recalls spending hours as a child listening to stories from his father, who owned a powerline company, so it was only natural that he found himself wanting to be a lineman as well. Fast forward to his graduation from high school, after which he decided to give it a shot. From there, the rest was history. Ryan worked as a lineman for 15 years until family circumstances required him to transition to an office role. This change left him unfulfilled, and longing to get back out into the field. His compromise? To start a business that allowed him to spend his time once again



listening to and sharing those stories that laid the foundation for his love of the trade. Thus, the Powerline Podcast was born.

The Powerline Podcast focuses mainly on interviewing other line-workers about anything from their life stories, to advice for other line-workers, to industry-specific issues, and more. Every episode is a treasure trove of knowledge from one lineman or woman to another. It's more than just another podcast; it's a passion project born from a deep respect for the trade and a desire to preserve the stories, lessons, and legacy of those who live life on the line. ⚡

Support the Powerline Podcast!

"This is a podcast built on grit, hard work, and good times."

New episodes of the Powerline Podcast are released on Thursdays, and are available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Youtube. Scan the QR code below with your cell phone's camera to visit the Powerline Podcast website, and don't forget to follow Ryan on social media!



@powerlinepodcast



Powerline Podcast



@powerlinepodcast



Powerline Podcast





Brother Owen Benson being sworn in by Sister Lianne Bunting, Unit 2 Chair at a unit meeting in Hudson's Hope.



Brother Bryan Zwyneste being sworn in by Sister Lianne Bunting, Unit 2 Chair at a unit meeting in Hudson's Hope.



Brother Dustin Johnson being sworn in by Sister Lianne Bunting, Unit 2 Chair at a unit meeting in Hudson's Hope.



Sister Lianne Bunting, Unit 2 Chair, swearing Brother Kaden Jack in at a Unit 2 meeting in Prince George.



Brother Rick Mack being sworn in at a Unit 2 meeting in 100 Mile House by Sister Lianne Bunting, Unit 2 Chair.



Local 258 members attending a Unit 3 meeting in Revelstoke with Brother Dean Kotaras, Unit 3 Chair (left, front row) and Brother Colin Petersen, Assistant Business Manager for Unit 3 (left, back row).



Team photo of the "Batch 70 Bandits" who took home the championship trophy at the 2025 BC Hydro Hockey Tournament. Photo taken by Leo Pamintuan.



Brother Dean Kotaras (left) presenting Brother James Vanjoff (right) with his retirement watch.



Brother Dan Payne, former Local 258 Assistant Business Manager receiving his retirement watch from Brother Lloyd Clark, Unit 4 Chair.



Brother Dave Herrington (left) receiving his retirement watch from Brother John Herrington (right).



Brother Mike Berg presents winners with IBEW swag at the BC Hydro Surrey Garage Golf Tournament at the Surrey Golf Course.



Brother Frank Baldassi at the BC Hydro Surrey Garage Golf Tournament at Surrey Golf Course.



Local 258 members working for Maple Leaf Power Corporation at a job site in Christina Lake, BC.



Sister Marina Luporini with Don Davies, the interim federal NDP leader at the USW rally in Abbotsford, BC.



Left to right: Brother Ken Mitchell, ABM, Adam Van Steinberg, IBEW International Representative, Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions and Brandon Dyck, IBEW Government Affairs Coordinator.



Sisters Dayna Gill (left) and Marina Luporini (right) supporting striking Rogers employees at the United Steelworkers (USW) rally.



Sisters Dayna Gill and Marina Luporini (right side) with United Steelworker (USW) representatives and Rogers employees at the USW rally for striking Rogers employees.



Brothers Tatton Zanardo, Local 258's newest Assistant Business Manager, and Brother Jordan Geddert, Veterans Committee Co-Chair at the BC Hydro Safety Rodeo in Nanaimo.



A photo taken by Brother Shawn Kokko. In the bucket is Brother Matt Wilcox, both of whom were working to restore a power outage in Invermere due to a windstorm.



A group of Electrician apprentices from BC Hydro.



A group of Power Line Technician Pre-Apprentices from BC Hydro.



A group of CPC Trainees from BC Hydro.

In Memoriam

In memory of brothers and sisters of Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Hans Blecker

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in November 2024*

Dino Visintin

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in January 2025*

Troy Eklund

*Davey Tree Member
Passed away in April 2025*

Dennis Noel

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in November 2024*

Mel Fawcett

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in February 2025*

Joey Elzinga

*Prime Traffic Solutions Member
Passed away in April 2025*

Harry Paddinge

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in November 2024*

George Rafter

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in February 2025*

Donald Ewart

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in April 2025*

David Fremont

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in December 2024*

Robert Branning

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in March 2025*

Herman Haffner

*Retired IO Pensioner
Passed away in April 2025*

Wayne McNeil

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in December 2024*

Richard Butters

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in March 2025*

Douglas Herrington

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in April 2025*

Ken Morrison

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in December 2024*

Jeff Donaldson

*Prime Traffic Solutions Member
Passed away in March 2025*

Robert Ward

*Retired IO Pensioner
Passed away in April 2025*

Harold Uphill

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in December 2024*

Murray MacDonald

*Retired Local 258 Officer
Passed away in March 2025*

Laird Zilkie

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in April 2025*

Raymond Whieldon

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in December 2024*

John MacRae

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in March 2025*

Jerrold Moss

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in May 2025*

George Wilkie

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in December 2024*

Robert Reid

*Retired BC Hydro Pensioner
Passed away in March 2025*

Theodore Hildebrand

*Current Asplundh Member
Passed away in June 2025*

Labour News

Leadership Changes at JLATA Board of Directors

The Joint Line Apprenticeship Training Association (JLATA) is undergoing a shift in leadership with several changes to its Board of Directors.

Dr. Lindsay Langill, who has served as Chair, is no longer with the Board. Stepping into the role is Ted Pennell of Trueline Power, bringing industry experience and a strong working knowledge of line training and field operations. We thank Dr. Langill for his service and leadership in advancing the goals of JLATA during his tenure. Patricia Briner from Arctic Arrow Powerline Group has been appointed to fill the seat vacated by Mr. Pennell.

In addition, Jim Greenwell, a long-standing member and Treasurer of the Board, has also stepped down. His years of commitment and expertise have been instrumental in the growth and success of JLATA, and we extend our appreciation for his invaluable contributions.

Also departing is Cody Gatzke, Business Manager of Local 258. In his place, Cody has appointed two new representatives from the union side: Ben Berkelaar, Local 258's Apprenticeship Coordinator, and Ken Mitchell, Assistant Business Manager. Both bring practical insight and a strong dedication to improving training standards and

outcomes for apprentices across the province.

We thank all outgoing members for their service and welcome our new directors as JLATA continues its mission of developing safe, skilled, and well-supported powerline apprentices. ⚡

Rogers Lockout Ends & Workers at Fortis BC Prepare for Strike

It's been a busy few months for IBEW Local 213, with one significant labour dispute recently behind them and another potential dispute looming.

In March of this year, 26 former Shaw technicians in the Kootenays, now employed by Rogers, were locked out after attempting to negotiate their first union contract. These former Shaw employees had voted to unionize in early 2024, and when negotiations stalled, Rogers abruptly shut them out. The offer Rogers' made would have slashed wages and gutted benefits. Local 213 filed an unfair labour practice complaint, and after nine days on the picket line, the workers were let back in, pending renewed bargaining. Negotiations are ongoing, but the lockout sent a message loud and clear about the company's approach to newly unionized employees.

Meanwhile, FortisBC workers represented by Local 213 have been working without a contract for more than two years. Local 213 members have watched their Brothers and Sisters at BC Hydro (represented by IBEW Local 258) secure

substantial improvements during the last round of public sector bargaining. That frustration led to the Local asking for a strike mandate, which at the time of this publication, is still out for vote.

Local 213 says it's simply fighting for fairness: equal pay for equal work, and respect at the bargaining table. ⚡

Changing of the Guard at BC Hydro

BC Hydro is entering a new chapter as several senior executives prepare to retire, including longtime President and CEO Chris O'Riley.

Board Chair Glen Clark announced that President and CEO Chris O'Riley will retire effective August 1, 2025, concluding a 35-year career at the Crown utility. A licensed professional engineer since 1990, O'Riley rose through the ranks to lead the company in 2017. Under his watch, BC Hydro completed massive infrastructure expansions, including the Site C Project. He steered BC Hydro through major storms and launched a \$36 billion capital plan.

In May, the BC Hydro board announced that Charlotte Mitha will take over the role. Mitha, currently Executive Vice President of Operations, brings more than 30 years of experience in the energy sector. She was recently recognized by Electricity Canada as one of the country's top women in energy.

All eyes are now on Mitha as she takes the helm of one of British Columbia's most critical public institutions. ⚡

Generate with Local 258!



Scan the QR code
to fill out a contact
form!

Local 258 IBEW invites proponents of BC Hydro's Call for Power to partner with us. We represent over 4,000 skilled workers across BC's utility and energy sectors and we're ready to help you build a competitive, stable, and community-aligned proposal. We've represented BC Hydro's field workforce for decades and have maintained over **40 years of uninterrupted labour peace**. A partnership with Local 258 brings credibility, continuity, and trust to your bid.

Apprenticeship Training

We co-manage several **industry-leading Joint Apprenticeship Committees (JACs)** alongside BC Hydro and our line contractors. Our JACs support workforce development while reducing the burden on employers.

Our programs:

- Track Apprentice progress
- Schedule training
- Set standards and ensure compliance

Skilled Workforce

Through our hiring hall, we dispatch trained professionals for both construction and ongoing operations.

Our members are skilled power professionals who work for:

- BC Hydro
- Independent Power Producers
- Over 40 Powerline contractors
- Vegetation & Utility Arborists

Indigenous Economic Reconciliation

We are committed to advancing Indigenous participation in the energy sector. Through partnerships with union-affiliated training centres and trade schools, Local 258 can help deliver:

- **Careers**, not jobs
- Red Seal Certification pathways
- Support for Indigenous-owned contractors and employment equity targets

Let's talk. Let's build. Let's generate with 258. Position your bid for success. A partnership with Local 258 signals to BC Hydro and the province that you're serious about labour peace, Indigenous reconciliation, workforce development, safety and quality, and long-term value. **Contact us today, let's help power BC's future—together.** ⚡

Welcome to our New Members!

Abdulweli Abdullahi
William Ahrens
Shawn Aigner
Micah Aikio
Esther Ajufo
Robert Alexander
Kyran Allen
Melacchy Amey
Colin Angus
Tristan Armstrong
Lisa Ashton
Ashvir Atwal
Chase Ayers
Shawn Baker
Dana Ball
Jackson Barefoot
Nicke Barens
Joseph Barrett
Kelsey Barrett
Raymond Barrett
Kallen Barthelson
Natasha Beaulieu
Craig Beerling
Grace Beetlestone
Dawn Benner
Candice Bennett
Hunter Bennett
Jakub Beno
Owen Benson
Anita Berg
Devin Berg
Roxanne Bernard
Jordan Best
Cory Berckel
William Bileske
Ryan Blanchard
Gord Boef
Caroline Booth
Jordan Borges
Kyla Boudreau
Ravinderpal Brar
Jose Briebe
Arnold Briones
Damon Brodeur
Arlo Brown
Daniel Brown
Jessica Brown
Curt Brumwell

Karlee Burga
Bradley Burnet
Matthew Campbell
Madison Carlson
Jeffrey Carnell
Colette Caspersen
Daniel Charbonneau
Nikhil Chicher
Yongsoo Choi
Jairus Espanola
Bazabagabo Claude
Reece Coad
Guy Cockell
Deborah Coggles
Wesley Cole
Larry Comia
Alexander Condon
Brandon Contois
Hunter Cook
Daniel Cooper
Jayke Coueffin
Alida Crawford-Pollitt
Alexandru Croiala
Sasha Cunningham
Jeff Datoff
Dana Davidson
Megan Davidson
Sydney Davis
Brenda Dean
Gregory Derksen
Amal Dev Shaji
Gurshan Dhillon
Kennedy Donald
Keegan Donovan
Bruce Douglas
Joseph Dualan
Madison Dueck
Ellah Dyck
Adriana Dykstra
Aminullah Ebrahimi
Devin Eby
Jacob Edkins
Nick Edwards
Darrin Emmerton
Hayley Ermantrout
Robert Espenberg
Robin Falletta
Jenna Fenton

Scott Ferris
Nelson Fieber
Bronwen Fisher
Chris Flinn
Joshua Florent
Courtney Fraser
Pierre Fraser-Armstrong
Drew Frank
Daniel Friesen
Tanya Friesen
Alexandra George
Dalton Gibson
Kevin Giesbrecht
Theresa Gilroyed
Alvin Gong
Brady Gonneau
Chance Goodman
Kent Goodnough
Andrea Graham
Kevin Grant
Devon Gravelle
Jason Grella
Jatinder Grewal
Alexandro Guariento
Jason Gurniak
Mateen Hadi
Tagel Haile
Corey Hales
Calvin Hall
Jordan Hamming
Theresa Hance
Christopher Haney
Philip Hann
David Hansen
Dustin Hanzelka
Shelley Harsant
Liam Harrison
Robert Harvey
Andrew Harwood
David Hawn
Andrew Hebden
Joel Henry
Kyle Herman
Brittany High
David Hillier
Aaron Hillis
Alex Ho Wu
Marvin Hoffmann

Patrick Hogan
Jeffrey Holbrook
Cinda Holden
Adam Hollett
Colin Horning
Tanner Horvath
Robyn Houle
Thep Hueangvilavong
Connor Hurst
Daniel Hurst
Ryan Hutt
Sara Ibbetson
Kaden Jack
Alaura Jaggernath
Lawson Jean
Shauna Jessop
Xi Jiang
Mathew Johnson
Mitchell Johnson
Clint Johre
Autumn Jones
Callum Jones
Jarrett Jones
Kyle Jones
Tory Jones
Josh Kaese
Naveen Kalsi
Scott Kelly
Emily Kennedy
Khagendra Khadka
Toni Kiefer
Jesse King
Alexander Kosiancic
Dakota Kowalski
Cole Krider
Karan Kumar
Austin LaBonte
Ann Laforest
Bradley Laity
Alexa Lamouroux
Austin Larkin
Jeff Laschuk
Steven Latzel
Jason Laurin
Magnus Laycock
Taylor Levine
Shawn Liddle
Jacob Link

December 2024 - May 2025



Miles Liu
Jonathon Lloyd
Brooklyn Logan
Xinyang Long
Shelby Lowe
Colby Lozinski
Kasha Lyons
Curtis MacDonald
Keith MacGregor
Joshua MacInnis
Jonathan Maingot
Lucas Mandin
Kenneth Manning
Adam Manysiak
Kegan Marshall
Peter Martin
Michael Marquardt
Rolando Matamoro
Douglas Mayes
Nicolas Mazzucco
Liam McFarlane
Joseph McIndoe
Brooke McKay
Danica McKee
Stephen McKenna
Callum McKenzie
Ryan McLauchlan
Jordan McLaughlin
Mike McLeay
Brandi McNeil
Keyra McNeil
Emma McParlon
Hayden Meeley
Mark Mikolajewski
Jason Milford
Clint Minosky
Allen Mitton
Dustin Montie
Dominic Moore
Eric Moore
Luis Morado
Shiloh Moulton
Peter Mudry
Kier Munn
Ryan Murray
Talon Neef
Darren Neighbour
Norm Newsom

Nez Nezami
Roxanne Nickason
Shawn Nixon
Bailey Novicki
Conor O'Keeffe
Corey Oko
Christian Olandesca
Cody Oliver
Farah Oliver
Samara Oltsher
Natasha O'Neill
Anthony Pacheco
Joshua Paille
James Paquette
Remie Paradis
Derek Paterson
Arman Paymani
Annalise Pearce
Adrian Pepper-Smith
Rezso Peter
Rose Petersen
Isaac Petreny
Vivian Pham
Lesley Phoenix
Rhys Piasentin
Andrew Pickerill
Neal Pieters
Kirk Pike
Jage Pinder
Mark Pitz
Jordan Polonoski
Brendan Post
Mitchell Price
Kendra Purnell
Madarthan Kandi Radhik
Kiarash Rafiee
Harmandeep Rai
Elizabeth Reid
Thomas Render
Jake Rennie
Jean-Philippe Rheault
Quinn Rice
Jeremiah Roberts
Cassandra Rocan
Cassandra Rogers
Andrew Rolston
Danielle Rosalejos
Michael Rossouw

Bryan Rudman
Marcus Rutherford
Amir Sakindar
Cody Sample
Liseth San Jose
Douglas Sanborn
Gurpal Sandhu
Hardip Sangha
Jaskarandeep Sanghera
Matt Saris
Ronna Sarrazin
Brandon Sawatsky
Hannah Sawchuk
Natalie Schofield
Brayden Schwaerzle
Bryden Schwarz
Shonnie Scott
Levi Sears
Jaicen Serait
Navjot Sharma
Vishal Sharma
Andrea-Faye Short
Manav Sidhu
Amitoj Singh
Gurbir Singh
Gurkirat Singh
Harpinder Singh
Harpreet Singh
Jagtar Singh
Jobanpreet Singh
Karamvir Singh
Mahasimrran Singh
Manjinder Singh
Mehakpreet Singh
Prabhdeep Singh
Rima Sltan
Kacey Smart
Tim Smart
Lucas Smythe
Bethany Sorren
Nathan Sparrow
Zackary Spavor
Caley Spears
Conrad Squarek
Connor Stainer
Madison Stocker
Jordan Storkan
Louis St-Onge

Scott Summer
Mitchell Sviatko
Matthew Sydenham
Renan Tarras
Brendan Tate
Drew Teichmann
Mbananayo Theophile
Cassandra Thibault
Craig Trarup
Samantha Trinkaus
Daniel Trucido
Blair Townsend
Tiffanie Trudell
Albert Tymchysyn
Vikram Uchida-Khanna
Kevin Underhill
Darian Valoma
Kierin Vandervoort
Daniel Vasci
Cameron Verrier
Leah Vincent
Cam Vollrath
Dustin Wallace
Jessler Waminal
Callie Watson-Leger
Blair Wells
Ashley Went
Kathleen Wenting
Karl Wessel
Bennett Westlake
Tyson White
John Willey
Brennan William
Cole Williamson
Trenton Winters
Tyler Witzaney
Constance Wold
Jessie Wong
Robyn Woodward
Teag Worrall
Thorn Worrall
Kyle Wourms
Zaidyn Wupori
Carl Yastremski
Zachary Young
Meshal Youssef
Rodney Zanet
Jeremy Zylstra

2025 Shop Steward Training

By Ben Berkelaar, *Assistant Business Manager*

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 258 hosted a Shop Steward training session in Prince George, BC, in February. There were 21 participants from workplaces across Northern British Columbia.

The training program covered essential areas of union representation, including practical contract scenarios, negotiation strategies, the grievance process, and arbitration procedures, as well as a session on the history of Local 258. These core topics helped to equip attendees with the knowledge and tools necessary to effectively represent their fellow workers in a variety of workplace situations.

What made this training particularly valuable was the diverse representation of participants. Shop Stewards were able to travel to Prince George from various locations throughout Northern BC, representing multiple workplaces throughout Unit 1 and Unit 2. The group included participants from BC Hydro Field Operations, Stations, Generation Facilities, and Stores, as well as from our signatory private line contractors, providing a broad cross-section of the region's shop stewards.

Networking opportunities proved to be one of the training's most significant benefits. Bringing together shop stewards from different sectors and locations fostered collaboration and sharing of past experiences and knowledge. Participants were able to exchange experiences, discuss common challenges, and build valuable lasting relationships. The high level of engagement and participation from attendees contributed significantly to the training session's success. The collaborative atmosphere and diverse perspectives enriched the learning experience for all involved, ensuring that shop stewards returned to their workplaces better prepared to serve their members and strengthen workplace representation.

This successful training demonstrates Local 258's commitment to developing strong union leadership throughout Northern British Columbia's electrical industry, ensuring that workers across the region have knowledgeable and capable representation in their workplaces. ⚡

BC Hydro Power Pioneers

Supporting Worthy Initiatives

Join the Power Pioneers and stay connected! We are a community of BC Hydro retirees, spouses, employees, and affiliated companies dedicated to supporting one another and giving back. As a member, you'll gain access to provincial and local branch newsletters, social activities, events, retirements, memoriams and get pension and benefits updates sent directly to your email.

You can also take part in exciting projects and fundraising efforts for BC Children's Hospital, the Annual Giving Campaign in partnership with BC Hydro employees, and our Branch Volunteer Hours program that supports local communities.

You're invited to join us on a luxury European river cruise on the Danube with AmaWaterways. The journey will begin on June 6, 2026, for seven nights aboard the AmaMora, travelling from Budapest to Vilshofen. Prices start from \$4056 (plus port charges). To book your spot or for more information, contact Mark Frohlich or Kim Ironmonger from Expedia Cruises at **604-533-9339**.

Visit powerpioneers.com and look for the "Join Up" button on the homepage to get your membership. Membership is open to retirees, employees, and spouses of BC Hydro, its predecessors, and its associated companies.

For more information, contact Lorilee Koltai at **604-623-3768 / lorilee.koltai@bchydro.com**, or Maureen Lachnit at **604-307-7045 / mlachnit22@gmail.com**. ⚡



The BC Hydro Power Pioneers!

UNION NOTICE BOARD



Congratulations to these members on their years of service!

50 Years

Terry Ford
Henning Friis-Jensen
Bruce P. Fuoco
James D. Greenwell
Micheal V. Henault
Alex D. MacLennan
Bruce Masse
Wayne K. Matthews
Peter K. Trarup

Michael W. Trethewey
William A. Wincott

55 Years

Peter Clarke
James P. Mitchell
Garnet W. Pederson
Russell W. Wotten

60 Years

Leonard G. Cebuliak
Allan W. Corsie

Paul J. Cote

Terrance Hilton

Nicolas P. Jost

Brian MacKay

Raymond P. McDermott

65 Years

Elden S. Linden

*This list includes only members who reached a service milestone between January and July 2025. If you were initiated between August and December, you will be featured in the Fall 2025 edition of the Hotline!

Check out our website and social media!

Stay up to date on the most current events! Local 258 IBEW is on Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn, to make it as easy as possible to keep up with all your local Union's activities.

Scan the QR code below to check out our website, social media pages, and other important links. See you online!



@258ibew



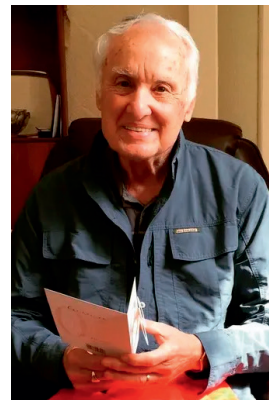
Local 258 IBEW



Local 258 IBEW



In Memory of Murray "Ted" MacDonald



Mr. MacDonald held various roles during his tenure at Local 258, including as Unit 6 Chair, Press Secretary and Editor of the Hotline Magazine, and Vice-President. Staff and officers at Local 258 offer their condolences and wish his family the best.

Murray Edwin MacDonald
June 16, 1937 - March 18, 2025

Between the Lines

Message from Kevin Duchak, *Local 258 IBEW President*

Dear Members,

As we move into the second half of 2025, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the progress we've made together. Elected officials, including myself, have now completed the third year of our four-year term. Looking back, I'm proud of what we've accomplished so far—and even more excited about what lies ahead.

One of our major goals has been to improve communication with our members. We've built a presence on Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn to help keep you

informed of union news and events. We've also made important updates to our website, which now offers easy access to key resources without requiring a login. A great example is our updated unit meeting calendar. QR codes have been sent to shop stewards across the province so members can check current schedules easily from their phones.

In addition, we've increased the number of email updates we send to keep members informed and engaged. These steps reflect our commitment to being more transparent, responsive, and accessible to you.

We've also focused on building a stronger identity for Local 258. We updated our logo and improved the quality and design of our union hats and shirts—items our members are proud to wear on and off the job. Thousands of decals have also been sent out for hard hats, toolboxes, worksites, and vehicles. These decals help demonstrate our solidarity and proudly mark our jurisdiction wherever we work.

Financial stability remains a top priority. Your Executive Board has worked diligently to ensure that the union is in a strong position to support and defend our members—today and into the future.

Our committees continue to be a key part of that strength. A recent success from our Veterans Committee saw veteran Jay Arbuckle hired as a Pre-Apprentice PLT with BC Hydro—a great example of our union supporting transitioning service members.

Thank you for your continued support. Let's keep the momentum going in our final year.

In solidarity,
Kevin Duchak



Kevin Duchak

Local 258 IBEW President

CONTACT

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Cell	604-910-0438
Email	kduchak@ibew258.bc.ca

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