



HOTLINE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
PUBLICATION OF
LOCAL 258 IBEW
DECEMBER, 2012

LOCAL 258, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, BRITISH COLUMBIA

LOCAL 258
IBEW

IBEW delegation gathers to support renewal at the BC Federation of Labour



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IVP PHIL FLEMMING VISITS MEMBERS IN BELLA COOLA



2013 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULES



SHAME ON HARPER CONSERVATIVES WITH BILL C-377



HOTLINE December 2012

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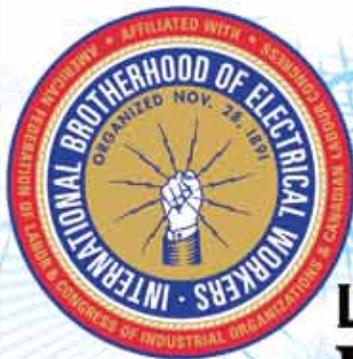
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LOCAL 258 IBEW



THE UNION OF HEARTS AND MINDS

HOTLINE is the official newsletter magazine published for the members of Local 258, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in British Columbia, Canada.

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Visit IBEW Local 258's website at www.ibew258.bc.ca or contact us via e-mail at info@ibew258.bc.ca.

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Unit #6 Chair: Chris Carter

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Local 258 IBEW Dispatcher: Jim McKay

Local 258 IBEW Administrative & Office Staff: Janice Krieger, Lesli McBratney, Geri Watson, Cathy Keely, Tracey Tilsley

Local 258 IBEW Legal Counsel: Rebecca Murdock

Cover Photo:



IBEW members gathered for their largest delegation in history to attend the BC Federation of Labour Convention at the Trade & Convention Centre in Vancouver in November, 2012.

VIEWPOINT from your Business Manager Doug McKay

Eight months of negotiating with BC Hydro, and, in reality, the Public Sector Employers' Council, has resulted in a tentative agreement, reached in early December. Your Bargaining Committee members went to the wall for this round of negotiations and I am very proud of the hard work and dedication they put forward in achieving wage increases, benefit improvements and restarting the BC Hydro/IBEW Labour Forum.

For members working at BC Hydro, voting packages are being mailed in mid-December and you must return your ballot by mail by the date indicated in the package. The results will be announced in mid-January and the Bargaining Committee is recommending acceptance.

These were difficult negotiations and I look forward to the next round of bargaining in 2014 when we will hopefully have a government who understands the value of and respects our union members who put their lives on the line and work hard every day to keep the power on in this province.

Negotiations are now set to commence for our members working at a number of traffic control companies as their contracts expire. Safety on the job is a primary concern for our members in traffic control and we look forward to these negotiations.

For members working in the powerline utility, I pointed

out in the last issue of the Hotline the seriousness of violating safety rules and the consequences that can follow. I am going to repeat myself for the benefit of those who aren't listening – when you deal with electricity, there is no rational reason to take a shortcut – the result can be death, dismemberment or disability. And not just for you, but for those you work with.

When you became a member of this union you swore

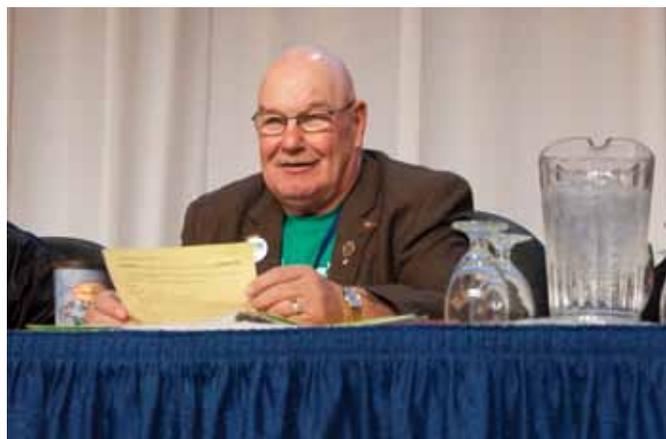
IBEW Constitution

Article XXV: Misconduct, Offenses and Penalties

Sec. 1 Any member may be penalized for committing any one or more of the following offenses:

... (g) Wronging a member of the IBEW by any act or acts (other than the expression of views or opinions) causing him/her physical or economic harm.

... (o) Failure to install or do his/her work in a safe, workmanlike manner, or leaving work in a condition that may endanger the lives or property of others, or proving unable or unfit mentally, to learn properly his (her) trade.



Local 258 IBEW Business Manager Doug McKay, was a member of the BC Fed Resolutions Committee at the Convention that took place in Vancouver the last week of November.

an allegiance to the IBEW Constitution. That Constitution contains provisions where you can be charged if you are found guilty of “wronging a member of the IBEW by any act or acts causing him/her physical or economic harm.” These are serious words and have been put there for a reason. I cannot go to bat for you as a union member if you have intentionally broken the safety rules and I will stand by our Constitution to bring the charges and enforce the penalties for misconduct and offenses when it comes to safety if you have intentionally violated the rules.

It was good to have a strong delegation of IBEW members gather for the BC Fed convention and I thank all of those who participated. Sister Michelle Laurie did an exemplary job of campaigning for president of the BC Federation of Labour and now we all must move forward to face the challenges before us.

I am very disappointed to report that Bill C-377 was passed in Parliament and is now heading to the Senate. We have one last opportunity to turn this monster around - but I don't have much hope. We'll see what the new year brings as union workers continue to be attacked here in Canada and with more Right-to-Work (for less) legislation being passed in the USA. The battle has now taken a new turn with C-377 and we may need to do more than sign petitions and write letters to our MPs. 2013 may just be the year for serious political action, on a number of fronts.

As we head into the holiday season, let me take this opportunity to sincerely wish you and your family a peaceful Christmas, full of joy and contentment. And may the New Year bring you health and happiness. Stay safe this holiday season. 🙏

SAVE THE DATE!

2ND ANNUAL AL ROSS FISHING DERBY, AUGUST LONG WEEKEND, 2013



We've Got Mail!



Bon Dia Local 258!

This city is near the venue where we competed (Sao-Vicente, Brazil). The scenery, beaches and weather are amazing. Thanks again for your support.

Yours as always,

Brother Dave Hicks

Editor's Note: Brother Dave Hicks is an accomplished world class Arm Wrestling Champion and competed in the 2012 World Arm Wrestling Competition in Sao Vicente, Brazil.

Dear Ms. Laurie and Local 258 IBEW,

The Thompson Rivers University Foundation thanks you for your generous contribution to a TRU Foundation Event (the RTO/TRU 2nd Annual Golf Tournament). Your understanding of the value an importance of a post-secondary education is greatly appreciated by TRU and its students. The TRU Foundation is celebrating 30 years of support to students and the institution; thank you for being part of our continued success.

Yours truly,

Christopher Seguin, VP Advancement

John O'Fee, Board Chair

Thompson Rivers University Foundation

Dear Local 258;

Thank you for your sponsorship contribution at the RTO/TRU 2nd Annual Golf Tournament. We really appreciate your support.

Thanks again,

From All of Us at RTO

Editor's Note: RTO is the Resource Training Organization, established in 2007 to oversee the management and development of apprenticeship training for the resource sector in BC. RTO is sanctioned as an Industry Training Organization (ITO), by the Industry Training Authority (ITA), pursuant to the Industry Training Authority Act. Local 258 Senior Assistant Business Manager Jim Greenwell sits on the Board of RTO. For more information visit www.rto.bc.com.



To all my friends at IBEW 258,

Thank you so much for sponsoring a hole at my first annual golf tournament. Your support was essential in making the day such a huge success! Everyone had such a great time that they are already looking forward to next year.

Thanks so much,

Michelle Mungall,

MLA Nelson Creston

To the Executive and Members of Local 258 IBEW;
Thank you for your generous donation in the amount of \$300 to the 12th Annual Ryan Schonke Memorial Ball Tournament held in Likely near Williams Lake on the weekend of July 27-29th.

Your contribution will go to Kids Sport and the Cariboo Memorial Hospital in Williams Lake, BC. Thank you also for your "best wishes for great weather and a great tournament". It poured rain until the first ball game and after that the sun shone, making it a great time for all involved.

Your truly,

The family and friends of Ryan Schonke

Dear Michelle Laurie and Local 258 IBEW,
On behalf of the 2012 Team BC Pee Wee Lacrosse Team, I would like to thank Local 258 IBEW for your generous donation for our team trip to the Pee Wee Nationals in Whitby, Ontario.

Our team had a great experience, playing 10 games in 6 days, meeting new friends and viewing some sites in Toronto. The boys lost a hard fought battle to Team Ontario in the finals, and we were able to take home the Silver Medal.

Thanks,

Brother Josh Wahl

Head Coach Team BC Pee Wee's



Dear Ms. Laurie and Local 258 IBEW,
On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Sunshine Coast Community Foundation, I want to express my thanks for your recent donation to the new endowment for the Breakfast 4 Kids Program initiated by Heather Gordon.

We will be matching your donation by 50% as per the Vera Elizabeth Barron Incentive Plan and together with other donors the grand total for the new Endowment has risen to over \$14,500. What a wonderful start for the new fund!

Your support is greatly appreciated. Working together we will increase awareness of the plight of hungry children on the Sunshine Coast and to make a difference - "building a better community for tomorrow – today"!

Sincerely,

Sandra Cunningham

Executive Director

Sunshine Coast Community Foundation

Dear Local 258 IBEW,
On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you so much for your support of Charlford House Society for Women and our 2012 "Reach for the Stars" Gala Reception and Auction.

Sincerely,

Trish LaNauze

Executive Director, Charlford House Society for Women
Burnaby, BC

To Local 258 IBEW,
On behalf of myself and the Euro FC Soccer Club we would like to thank you for the \$300 donation. It helped us purchase new soccer equipment.

Thank you,

Sal Calandra

Hi Everyone,



I just wanted to send out a big THANKS to all those who supported the 2012 BC Hydro East Kootenay Memorial Charity Golf Tournament again this year.

As you are aware, our tournament took on a very special meaning in 2008. The event is now held in honour and memory of Dirk Rozenboom and Rob Lehmann.

Dirk's charity of choice was the East Kootenay SPCA and Rob's charity of choice was the East Kootenay Regional Hospital Foundation for Health. This year we managed to raise over \$3,500, to be split between these two very admirable East Kootenay charities.

Thank you to everyone who supported the tournament through attending, providing prizes and making monetary donations. A special thanks to the businesses, people and organizations who supported the event. I hope we can count on your support again next year. Thanks!

Ian Kozicky,

Field Operations, Cranbrook Transmission, BC Hydro

Editor's Note: Local 258 IBEW was proud to have been one of the sponsors of this year's tournament.



Get the scoop on what's going with contract negotiations and other important union business

You pay union dues. You get a say in what goes on with your union.

Come and find out what your union is doing. Have a voice.

Attend your upcoming union meetings:

Unit 1 - North Coast

Terrace: February 12 @ 7:00 pm, Best Western Inn
 Prince Rupert: February 13 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room
 Masset: February 14 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room/Plant
 Smithers: January 15, March 12 @ 5:00 pm in the Line Room

Unit 2 - Central Interior

Prince George: January 16, February 19, March 13 @ 7:00 pm at the Coast Inn of the North
 Fort St. John: February 20 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room
 Williams Lake: January 17 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room
 Dawson Creek: February 21 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room

Unit 3 - Southern Interior

Bridge River: January 15, March 12 @ 5:30 pm in Lunch Room B2
 Castlegar: February 12 @ 7:00 pm at the Fireside Inn
 Cranbrook: February 13 @ 4:30 pm at the Labour Temple
 Invermere: February 14 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Kamloops: January 16, March 13 @ 7:00 pm at IBEW Local 993 Hall, 873 Desmond Street, Kamloops
 Revelstoke: January 17, March 14 @ 4:15 pm, Hydro Dam Conference Room
 Vernon: January 17, March 14 @ 7:00 pm at the Army & Navy Club, Vernon

Mica: January 22, March 19 @ 6:00 pm at the Mica Curling Rink

Unit 4 - Vancouver Island

Duncan: January 16 @ 7:00 pm in the Line Room
 Ganges: January 15 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Port Hardy: March 12 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Port Alberni: March 13 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Campbell River: Feb. 12 @ 7:00 pm, Maritime Heritage Center
 Courtenay: February 12 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Nanaimo: February 13 @ 7:00 pm at RCL #256

Unit 5 - Lower Mainland

Burnaby: January 17, February 14, March 14 @ 5:00 pm at the Local 258 IBEW office
 Powell River: March 19 @ 4:30 pm at the Town Centre Hotel
 Sechelt: March 20 @ 5:00 pm at Seaside Centre

Unit 6 - Fraser Valley

Langley: January 15, February 12, March 12 @ 7:00 pm @ USW Hall, 200th St.
 Chilliwack: February 13 @ 7:00 pm at the Best Western



Local 258 IBEW Dispatch Services

Local 258 IBEW offers a Dispatch service for members who are unemployed and are eligible to work (via their trade qualifications) with BC Hydro and Local 258's outside line contractors.

Members are not allowed to accept jobs directly from employers hiring Local 258 members without first obtaining clearance from Dispatch. If you look for work with a Local 258 employer and are hired without getting clearance from Dispatch at Local 258, you may be pulled from the job and fined by the union.

To be eligible for dispatch, please note the following:

It is up to each Local 258 member to sign up to the dispatch list as soon as you are unemployed. Do not delay, as this will affect your standing on the list. Members are called out to work based on a combination of criteria, including trade qualification, union seniority and date of when you called Dispatch to register.

Procedure for Placement on the Local 258 Dispatch List:

1. Your membership in Local 258 must be current - you must be an Active Member with membership dues paid and up-to-date.
2. It is helpful if you submit a resume including your qualifications and work history, copies of trades qualifications and/or tickets you have. If you are a Journeyman, you must have an Interprovincial

Red Seal for applicable trades only.

3. We must have your current contact information, including phone number and full mailing address. Please update your contact information on a regular basis if there are changes, as this impacts our ability to provide you with work opportunities.
4. You must provide copies of your current regular and/or special drivers license.

Please send all of the above required documents - resume, current contact information, copies of trade certificates and drivers licenses PLUS A CHEQUE FOR \$56.50 - via regular mail to IBEW Local 258, ATTENTION: DISPATCH, 7535 Sixth Street, Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2. If you live in the lower mainland area, you can personally deliver these documents directly to the Dispatch office at the union's headquarters.

For Dispatch Inquiries, please contact Jim McKay or Rick Gerrard at the Local 258 Dispatch office at 604-524-3547, or call toll free 1-877-520-3305 and ask for Dispatch. Or email dispatch@ibew258.bc.ca

The Dispatch office is open Monday to Friday (excluding holidays) from 7:00 am to 2:30 pm. After hours, please leave a voicemail with your name and phone number. ☎

Tentative agreement reached for members working at BC Hydro

Following eight months of intense negotiations, the Bargaining Committee for Local 258 IBEW has reached a tentative agreement for members working at BC Hydro.

Local 258 IBEW Business Manager Doug McKay says, “It has been a tough round of negotiations since the contract expired at the end of March of this year. Our bargaining committee was faced with many challenges from this employer and we worked very hard to achieve fair wage increases. We were able to protect our benefits package and negotiate a number of modest improvements for our members working at BC Hydro – and we achieved these improvements across the board for all of our members working at BC Hydro, no one was left behind.”

Highlights of the tentative agreement include:

- 2% wage increase retroactive to May 1, 2012
- 2% wage increase effective August 1, 2013
- an increase in the living out allowance
- improvements to the benefit package for prescription eyewear and protective footwear

The union also agreed to a two-year employment commitment for apprentices who begin training in 2013.

“Thank you to the members who stood strong and were determined in rejecting the concessions and unreasonable proposals brought to the table by this employer,” says McKay.

Union set to commence Traffic Control bargaining

With a number of collective agreements expiring in November and December of 2012, members working in Traffic Control have been sending in their bargaining proposals as the union prepares to commence negotiations.

Local 258 IBEW Assistant Business Manager (ABM) Dan Klassen and Acting ABM Nicole Biernaczyk report many members are looking forward to this round of bargaining to deal with a number of issues in the contract and to negotiate wage, working conditions and benefit improvements. “Many of our members have stepped forward to participate on bargaining committees for their workplaces and we look forward to strong rounds of negotiations with our Traffic Control employers,” says Sister Biernaczyk.

Contracts expiring at the end of November or December 2012 include:

- Island Traffic, based in Sidney, BC
- Valley Traffic, based in Langley, BC
- High Voltage Traffic Control
- Traffic Pro, Abbotsford
- ATC Traffic Management 



Local 258 Business Manager Doug McKay discusses the tentative agreement for members working at BC Hydro with the Bargaining Committee. From left, Business Manager Doug McKay; Dave Rathlef, Garnet Zimmerman; Dave McMinn and Rupinder Dhillon, Bargaining Committee member. Also at the meeting but not in this photo were Bargaining Committee members Dave Mengerling, Frank Nassachuk, Rick Gerrard and Dave Herrington.

Retroactive to May 1, 2012 and subject to a ratification vote with a mail-in ballot, details and a voting package will be mailed to members in mid-December. Results of the vote will be announced in mid-January, 2013. 

International VP Flemming visits members in Bella Coola



International VP Phil Flemming travelled to Bella Coola in October to visit with Local 258 IBEW members - see photos and story on page 28.

PLTs travel to Kansas for International Rodeo



Power Line Technicians from across North America and Hawaii travelled to Kansas City in October to participate in the 29th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo & Expo, an annual event that sees linemen compete against one another, individually and in teams, for the right to be called the best while promoting safe work practices.

The first International Lineman's Rodeo in Kansas was held in September, 1984 and now features over 200 teams and 250 apprentices.

This year's day long rodeo event followed a two day trade show at the Overland Park Convention Center in Overland Park, just south of Kansas City, Kansas. Team and Apprentice events included Hurt Man Rescue, Pole Climb and Mystery Events.

The union sent Vice President Tony Brand and Dispatcher Jim McKay to support Local 258 IBEW PLTs who competed in this year's event:

Steve Lang
Chris Smith
Paul Kramer
Dan Clinaz
Gene Beaton
TJ Fisher
Riley Derkson
Ron Tomm
Jeff Campbell
Adam Arsenault
Christopher Ostopchuk
Trevor Stack
Pat Dawson
Jordan Flanagan
Peter Mottishaw





IBEW 258 members help our southern neighbours with the effects of

Hurricane Sandy



The crew from Allteck.



Many Local 258 members quickly mobilized to the urgency of Hurricane Sandy as the late October forecasts predicted one of the worst storms in US history was heading to the north-east coast of the USA and the heavily populated states of New York, New Jersey and surrounding areas.

Many thanks to Mike Scott from Allteck who sent in photos and a report from his crew's experience and to Brother Rick Klassen who sent in photos from the Rokstad crew who travelled to the affected areas. If you were part of a BC crew that went to help and have photos or a story, please send them to the Local 258 magazine, the Hotline at hotline@shaw.ca.

From Mike Scott at Allteck: This was the third time Allteck has worked storm on the east coast of the US.

In 2011, Allteck sent crews to respond to September's Hurricane Irene and then to the freak Halloween snow storm that left 3 million Americans out of power.

This year, I had the privilege of leading Allteck's crew of 44 line workers as we left for Connecticut on October 26, 2012. Our crews were on the ground ready to respond in Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) trucks when

Sandy made landfall.

During the massive hurricane, our crews were only able to respond to wires down across roads and we cleared the roads so emergency responders could get through. The winds were extreme, breaking massive trees like matchsticks and the rain seemed to be coming in sideways from every direction.

Our crews worked safely and efficiently restoring power to thousands of people left in the dark after Sandy's wake. For two weeks we moved from East Hampton down the coast to a town called Madison, 40 miles from New York City.

Our guys wanted to let people know that we were Canadians so they used phasing tape to add "Team Canada" or "Eh Team" logos on their trucks! We are proud "BC boys" and have earned a reputation from the local residents as the "Canadian Cavalry"!

Our crews displayed their skill and the dedication to the trade that IBEW 258 members are known for. We brought smiles and, more importantly, light and power to people who were in desperate need of help.

I am a proud member of Allteck's "Team Canada" and proud of the work our IBEW 258 members did. 🇨🇦

Post-storm letter sent to Allteck:
I just wanted to drop a quick line to say thank you very much for sending a team to Connecticut to assist with getting the power back on after Hurricane Sandy.



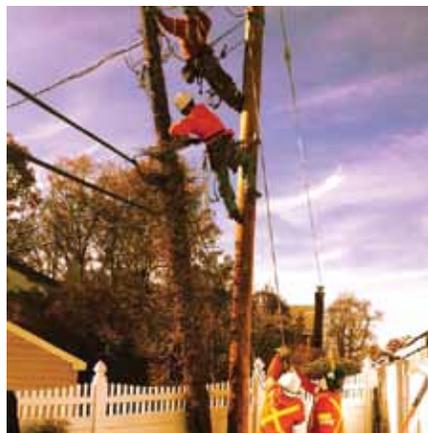
My brother and his family live there. About this time last year, they were hit by a massive snow storm and he and his young family went without power for four days.

Living here on the west coast, we really don't appreciate the weather on the east coast with frigid temperatures and high dumps of snow that make having no power for that length of time an emergency rather than an inconvenience.

Having no way to heat the house or cook food (which rotted), no way to purchase supplies they needed as there was no working bank machines, debit cards or credit cards, they eventually made their way to a neighbouring state to a hotel.

I just want to say thank you and want to let you know that your help has touched and eased the minds of people here at home in Burnaby too. We see you there. We're proud. Thank you again.

A.L.



Local 258's Hotline magazine is looking for more photos and stories from members who travelled to the States to help with the cleanup from this huge storm that wreaked havoc on millions of people. We know members working at Metro Power, Valley Power, Aerial, Highland and Jaco Powerlines went to help out and we would love to hear from you. Please send your photos and stories to the Hotline at hotline@shaw.ca. To view more photos from Local 258 members from this storm, please visit and log in to your Local 258 website at:

www.ibew258.bc.ca

Largest delegation of IBEW members in history attends 2012 BC Federation of Labour Convention



PHOTO CREDIT: BC FEDERATION OF LABOUR

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers had a strong delegation at the 2012 BC Federation of Labour Convention that took place in Vancouver the last week of November. With 65 delegates attending from Locals 258, 213, 230, 993 and 1003, IBEW sent it's largest delegation in history to the 55th gathering of labour activists from across the province.

Showing their support for Local 258's Michelle Laurie as she campaigned for



election as the president of the BC Federation of Labour, the IBEW delegates participated in all aspects of the convention, from speaking to resolutions to attending the rally to engaging in discussions about many important labour issues.

Guest speakers included Burnaby Mayor Derek Corrigan who spoke about his support for the labour movement. Young activist Brigitte de Pape, best known for taking a stand while working as a Page in Parliament with her "Stop Harper!" sign, engaged delegates with a call to action to "take BC and then take Canada" as she was supported by dozens of members of the Young Workers Committee.

Journalist and best-selling author Linda McQuaig took to the stage and gave an enjoyable and informative speech based on her recent book, "The Trouble with Billionaires".



BC NDP Leader Adrian Dix roused delegates with a moving speech on Wednesday and Tom Mulcair, leader of the federal Official Opposition New Democrats activated delegates on Thursday.

Canadian Labour Congress President Ken Georgetti addressed delegates as well.

Many thanks to the Local 258 members who attended convention:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Klaus Kraft | Dave Mengering |
| Andy Andersen | Paul Askin |
| Ben Receveur | Lesley Sharples |
| Gerry Pope | Karen Hornsby |
| Don McNabb | Michael Pereszlenyi |
| Colin Kenney | Ed McEwen |
| Trevor Williams | Karen Porter |
| Larry Byhre | Lloyd Smith |
| Greg Fanning | Mark Davison |
| Tom Greenwell | Rick Gerrard |
| Cathy Tagseth | Walter Goodwin |
| Tony Brand | Rob Munro |
| Dan Klassen | Mark Desilets |
| Ed Higginbottom | Vince Linden |
| Chris Carter | Clay Bouthillier |
| Doug McKay | Tyler Travis |
| Michelle Laurie | Dan Giesbrecht |
| Jim Greenwell | Nicole Biernaczyk |
| Kevin McNabb | Ron Norgaard |
| Alan Laurie | Jim McKay |

BC Fed Election

Delegates remain with incumbents as Laurie & Davies renew commitment to labour solidarity

Following many months touring BC and speaking with labour activists, Michelle Laurie of Local 258 IBEW and Trevor Davies of CUPE Local 374, candidates for election as President and Secretary-Treasurer respectively, hit the BC Federation of Labour Convention with a team of supporters intent on offering new leadership to “Renew the Fed” at the 55th BC Federation of Labour Convention in Vancouver.

After three days of intense campaigning at the convention, including leafleting to delegates, a booth at the trade exhibit and a sea of supporters wearing green t-shirts and campaign buttons, it all came down to the vote.

A news release issued by the Laurie Davies Renew the Fed campaign, said, “Congratulations to Jim Sinclair and Irene Lanzinger for their successful re-election

today. Although we are understandably disappointed by the results, we both pledge to continue working with Jim and Irene, the Federation and its affiliates to make the labour movement in BC even stronger.

“We both want to thank all our sup-

porters and our campaign team. We also want to thank our Locals—IBEW Local 258 and CUPE Local 374. Finally, we thank all the delegates, whether they supported us or not, for dedicating themselves to the labour movement and the interests of working people.”



Local 258 Golf Tourney

raises funds for MS Society of Canada

This year's IBEW 258/BC Hydro Annual Charity Golf Tournament to raise funds for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada was another great success, both for those who participated and for the charity that has a long history with IBEW.

On September 17, more than 100 participants hit the links at Newlands in Langley followed by an Awards Banquet and buffet dinner.

For the last several years Local 258's donation to the MS Society has gone up and this year we were able to raise \$8500.

Thank you to Mark Davison who helped organize the event and to everyone who participated. We look forward to seeing you all again next year!

- Dan Klassen, Local 258 IBEW ABM



Many thanks to our generous sponsors and to the volunteers who spent the day monitoring the Hole-n-Ones - we couldn't do it without you!





Many thanks to our great volunteers from the Power Pioneers and the MS Society and special thanks to Paula Springman from the MS Society of Canada, BC & Yukon Division, for her very moving dinner speech.



Bill C-377 passed by Harper Conservatives in Parliament – now heads to Senate

Bill C-377 is a seriously flawed proposal. Despite being withdrawn, redrafted, and then heavily amended by its sponsor, it presents clear and costly risks to government and taxpayers.

Tweets on Bill C-377 - 12/12/12

Final vote on #C377 - let's be clear its not about transparency; its about targeting unions and labour rights. **Libby Davies @LibbyDavies**

Proud to see my bill #C377 regarding transparency for labour organizations pass 3rd reading in the House of Commons tonight. **Russ Hiebert @HiebertRuss**

Standing up for working people and their right to organize. Opposing the Harper anti-worker agenda #ndp #c377 **nikiashton @nikiashton**

Congratulations! "@HiebertRuss: Proud to see #C377 regarding transparency for labour unions pass 3rd reading in the #hoc tonight." **Merit Contractors NL @Merit_NL**

#c377. labour should challenge this law as unconstitutional. It is none of their *&%\$ business what unions spend their money on #cndpoli **Troy Zohner @TZohner**

MP Wayne Marston calls #C377 a double taxation. Wonder how well that sits with Conservatives? Adding more taxes to the Canadian Tax Payer **Matt Wayland@IBEW_M_Wayland**

#CPC attack on working people continues as they vote for #C377 to weaken unions while letting corporate and gov't secrecy reign unabated. **Andrew Cash @Cash4TO**

Cons whip through discriminatory anti-union Bill C-377 #canlab. Will cost \$10s of millions to administer **Canadian Labour@CanadianLabour**

Harper Cons pass C377, a cowardly, unconstitutional and unjustifiable attack on trade unions. A sad day for civil rights and privacy in Canada, and a setback for those trying to build a middle class in our country... **Don Davies MP, Vancouver Kingsway**

As the Hotline goes to press, Bill C-377 was passed by the Harper Conservatives in a fairly close vote of 147 to 135 on 12/12/12.

The Private Members Bill, strongly backed by well-known anti-union organizations, aims to place unnecessary financial burdens on labour unions and threatens privacy regulations. It will cost Canadian taxpayers millions of dollars and will more than likely be headed to the courts and found to be illegal and unconstitutional.

Testimony by the Canadian Bar Association, the Privacy Commissioner of Canada, and other authorities warn that C-377 encroaches on provincial jurisdiction, violates privacy rights, threatens freedom of association under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, contravenes provincial privacy laws, and poses a clear threat to commercial privacy and private business practices.

When first introduced in the House of Commons, this flawed piece of legislation was ruled unacceptable because of legal errors (the sponsor, MP Russ Hiebert of White Rock, didn't understand what he was doing). Now, despite the introduction of last-minute amendments -- there are more pages of amendments than there are clauses in the final proposal -- issues of constitutionality, privacy and Charter rights remain.

Both the Canada Revenue Agency and the Parliamentary Budget Officer were asked to estimate the cost to set up and operate the new government program C-377 would create. Both agree that the provisions of C-377 are too unclear to provide a reliable guess of the cost to taxpayers.

Over two reports, the CRA has estimated set-up costs ranging from **\$2.4 million and over \$20 million.**

Operating costs were pegged at less than \$1 million each year in one report and at just under \$4 million per year in another. However both reports assume that C-377 requires less than 1,000 reports be

submitted every year. There are currently more than 25,000 unions, union locals and organizations who will be forced by this legislation to report.

The Parliamentary Budget Officer says C-377 is so nebulous that the costs cannot be guessed at this time, although he contends that the CRA has seriously underestimated the costs by underestimating the number it could process (he suggests over 18,000 reports).

In the United States, the government department that manages its electronically-filed union financial reporting had a budget of \$41.29 million and 249 full-time staff in 2012 and has requested a budget of \$41.77 million to operate through 2013. It represents a more realistic picture of what a new division at the CRA would require to collect, audit, and administer the volume of highly detailed reports each year from Canada's more than 25,000 unions, locals, lodges, councils, etc.

The bottom line for MPs is that C-377 has a history of unpleasant surprises, from mistakes in drafting to fundamental misunderstandings of the entities it intends to regulate. Handing taxpayers a multimillion dollar boondoggle at a time of deep budget cuts and government promises that the priority is to "create jobs and growth" is a risk not worth taking.

With information from the Canadian Labour Congress.

A decade of disastrous energy policy decisions need to be reversed if our public utility is to thrive

By John Horgan, MLA Juan de Fuca,
Opposition Energy Critic

Most of us spend little time thinking about where our electricity comes from or the policies and politics behind it. We just flick on the switch and the light goes on; we turn on the tap and the water is hot.

British Columbians are fortunate to have an abundance of natural resources, including our access to clean, reliable electricity. Over ninety-three per cent of the province's electricity comes from hydro, an enviable position in an emerging carbon-constrained economy.

But how much longer will we be able to maintain that position?

Over the last decade the BC Liberal government has undermined much of what made BC Hydro a dominant utility in North America. In doing so they have undermined our province's competitive advantage of low-cost, low-carbon electricity.

Ratepayers expect decisions involving BC Hydro will be made in the public interest. Unfortunately, BC Liberal energy policy severely restricts BC Hydro from building new generation, forcing the crown agency to purchase power from private for-profit companies at inflated prices. The policy also prohibits BC Hydro from storing water and purchasing electricity on the open market when prices are low.

This already bad directive was made worse by the Liberals' "Clean Energy Act," which formalized an artificial "self-sufficiency" requirement defined by a 50-year drought water level, plus a massive insurance requirement of an additional 3000 GWh. With these directions from the Liberal government, BC Hydro signed long-term contracts for this power at locked-in, take-or-pay rates that are many times higher than the spot market price for freshet power.

We saw the ultimate result of these deals last spring, when we lost at least \$180 million dollars with BC Hydro buying private power at a cost averaging \$68/MWh, when the average open market price averaged \$10/MWh. Worse, much of that seasonal power wasn't even needed to meet demand. At a time when we were spilling water over the top of our publicly owned Peace Canyon dam, we bought private power at almost seven times higher than the market price.

This kind of instability is not good for British Columbians or BC Hydro. More troubling, the Liberal policy centralizes decision-making with politicians in the cabinet and cuts the independent BC Utilities Commission out of the loop.

These Liberal policies have undermined the BC Hydro work force, dramatically increased debt and deferral accounts and has resulted in double-digit rate increases on hydro bills. It's a lose-lose situation.

BC New Democrats are working on a plan to restore confidence at BC hydro and ensuring that all British Columbians continue to benefit from a strong public utility.

Four main principles should guide energy policy: Put conservation and environmental protection first; maximize the public benefit by encouraging community-based energy solutions that create jobs, economic development and revenue for social programs; keep a strong BC Hydro at the centre of renewable energy development and generation; and keep rates affordable for both industry and consumers.

BC Hydro has been put in a very precarious position by the constant political meddling and poor decision making that has been the hallmark of BC Liberal energy policy.

Putting our provincial utility back in order will be one of the highest priorities of an Adrian Dix New Democrat govern-



John Horgan, MLA for Juan de Fuca
ment. We will open the books, bring back the oversight role of the BC Utilities commission, and do our best to mitigate the impact of contracts the Liberals signed that are not in the public interest.

We understand the vital role that BC Hydro plays, not just in delivering clean, reasonably-priced energy to BC families, but in promoting industrial development and in making our province an attractive place to invest.

From the very beginning it was clear that the Liberals didn't understand how vital it is to maintain BC Hydro as a strong public electricity utility.

New Democrat leader Adrian Dix is offering a change for the better, one practical step at a time.

We know government can't do everything, but it has to get the fundamentals right. That means putting the needs of British Columbians before narrow political interests, and making sure everything we do is aimed at making life better and more affordable for our citizens. 🇺🇸

LU258 IBEW thanks MLA Horgan for this Guest Column.



Unit 1 Meeting Schedule 2013

UNIT 1 MEETING SCHEDULE

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
MASSET Where: Line Room/Plant When: 4:30 pm		<i>Thurs</i> FEB 14th								<i>Thurs</i> OCT 10th		
PRINCE RUPERT Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm		<i>Wed</i> FEB 13th				<i>Wed</i> JUN 12th				<i>Wed</i> OCT 9th		
QUEEN CHARLOTTE CITY Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm						<i>Thurs</i> JUN 13th						
SMITHERS Where: Line Room When: 5:00 pm	<i>Tues</i> JAN 15th		<i>Tues</i> MAR 12th		<i>Tues</i> MAY 7th		<i>Tues</i> JUL 18th		<i>Tues</i> SEP 10th		<i>Tues</i> NOV 13th	
TERRACE Where: Best Western Inn When: 7:00 pm		<i>Tues</i> FEB 12th		<i>Tues</i> APR 9th		<i>Tues</i> JUN 11th		<i>Tues</i> AUG 13th		<i>Tues</i> OCT 8th	<i>Tues</i> NOV 13th	



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Unit 2 Meeting Schedule 2013

UNIT 2 MEETING SCHEDULE

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
PRINCE GEORGE Where: Coast Inn When: 7:00 pm	<i>*Wed</i> JAN 16th	<i>*Tues</i> FEB 19th	<i>*Wed</i> MAR 13th	<i>*Wed</i> APR 10th	<i>*Wed</i> MAY 8th	<i>*Wed</i> JUN 19th			<i>*Wed</i> SEP 11th	<i>*Wed</i> OCT 16th	<i>Thurs</i> NOV 14th	
DAWSON CREEK Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm		<i>Thurs</i> FEB 21st				<i>Thurs</i> JUN 27th						<i>*Thurs</i> DEC 12th
FORT ST. JOHN Where: Line Room When: 7:00 pm		<i>Wed</i> FEB 20th			<i>Thurs</i> MAY 16th		<i>*Thurs</i> JUL 11th		<i>Wed</i> SEP 18th			
HUDSON'S HOPE Where: Parkes Centre When: 4:30 pm				<i>Thurs</i> APR 11th				<i>*Thurs</i> AUG 15th				
FORT NELSON Where: Woodland's Inn When: 7:00 pm					<i>Wed</i> MAY 15th				<i>Thurs</i> SEP 19th			
QUESNEL Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm						<i>Thurs</i> JUN 20th					<i>Thurs</i> NOV 21st	
WILLIAMS LAKE Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm	<i>Thurs</i> JAN 17th				<i>Thurs</i> MAY 9th						<i>*Wed</i> NOV 20th	
100 MILE HOUSE Where: BC Hydro Line Room When: 7:00 pm			<i>Thurs</i> MAR 14th						<i>Thurs</i> SEP 12th			
BELLA COOLA Where: TBA When: 7:00 pm					<i>Thurs</i> MAY 2nd					<i>Thurs</i> OCT 3rd		

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Unit 3 Meeting Schedule 2013

UNIT 3 MEETING SCHEDULE

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
BRIDGE RIVER Where: Lunch Room B2 When: 5:30 pm	<i>*Tues</i> JAN 15th		<i>Tues</i> MAR 12th		<i>Tues</i> MAY 14th				<i>Tues</i> SEP 10th		<i>Tues</i> NOV 12th	
KAMLOOPS Where: IBEW #993 Hall When: 7:00 pm	<i>Wed</i> JAN 16th		<i>Wed</i> MAR 13th		<i>*Wed</i> MAY 15th			<i>*Wed</i> AUG 14th	<i>Wed</i> SEP 11th		<i>Wed</i> NOV 13th	
VERNON Where: Army & Navy Club 2500 46th Avenue, Vernon When: 7:00 pm	<i>Thur</i> JAN 17th		<i>*Thur</i> MAR 14th		<i>Thur</i> MAY 16th		<i>*Thur</i> JUL 11th		<i>Thur</i> SEP 12th		<i>Thur</i> NOV 14th	<i>*Thur</i> DEC 12th
MICA Where: Curling Rink When: 6:00 pm	<i>Tues</i> JAN 22nd		<i>Tues</i> MAR 19th		<i>Tues</i> MAY 21st				<i>*Tues</i> SEP 17th		<i>Tues</i> NOV 19th	
REVELSTOKE Where: Hydro Dam Conf Room When: 4:15 pm	<i>Mon</i> JAN 21st		<i>Mon</i> MAR 18th		<i>Mon</i> MAY 20th				<i>Mon</i> SEP 16th		<i>*Mon</i> NOV 18th	
CASTLEGAR/TRAIL Where: Castlegar: Fireside Inn Trail: Terra Nova Hotel When: 7:00 pm		<i>*Tues</i> Castlegar FEB 12th		<i>Tues</i> Castlegar APR 9th		<i>Tues</i> Trail JUN 11th				<i>Tues</i> Castlegar OCT 8th		
CRANBROOK Where: Labour Temple When: 4:30 pm		<i>Wed</i> FEB 13th		<i>*Wed</i> APR 10th		<i>Wed</i> JUN 12th				<i>*Wed</i> OCT 9th		
INVERMERE Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm		<i>Thur</i> FEB 14th		<i>Thur</i> APR 11th		<i>*Thur</i> JUN 13th				<i>Thur</i> OCT 10th		

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Unit 4 Meeting Schedule 2013

UNIT 4 MEETING SCHEDULE

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
VICTORIA Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm				<i>*Wed</i> APR 10th				<i>*Tues</i> AUG 13th			<i>*Wed</i> NOV 13th	
GANGES Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm	<i>*Tues</i> JAN 15th				<i>Tues</i> MAY 14th					<i>*Tues</i> OCT 8th		
DUNCAN Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm	Wed JAN 16th				<i>*Wed</i> MAY 15th							<i>Tues</i> DEC 10th
QUALICUM BEACH Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm				<i>Tues</i> APR 9th						<i>Wed</i> OCT 9th		
PORT ALBERNI Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm			<i>*Wed</i> MAR 13th			<i>Wed</i> JUN 12th						
NANAIMO Where: Nanaimo Legion #256 When: 7:00 pm		<i>Wed</i> FEB 13th					<i>*Tues</i> JUL 9th					<i>*Wed</i> DEC 11th
PORT HARDY Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm			<i>Tues</i> MAR 12th						<i>Tues</i> SEP 10th			
COURTENAY Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm		<i>*Tues</i> FEB 12th				<i>*Tues</i> JUN 11th			<i>*Wed</i> SEP 11th			
CAMPBELL RIVER Where: Maritime Heritage Centre When: 7:00 pm		<i>Tues</i> FEB 12th				<i>Tues</i> JUN 11th			<i>Wed</i> SEP 11th			

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Unit 5 Meeting Schedule 2013

UNIT 5 MEETING SCHEDULE

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
BURNABY Where: Union Hall, 7535 Sixth St., Burnaby When: 5:00 PM	<i>*Thur</i> JAN 17th	<i>*Thur</i> FEB 14th	<i>Thur</i> MAR 10th	<i>*Thur</i> APR 11th	<i>*Thur</i> MAY 9th	<i>Thur</i> JUN 9th	<i>*Thur</i> JUL 11th	<i>*Thur</i> AUG 15th	<i>*Thur</i> SEP 12th	<i>Thur</i> OCT 10th	<i>*Thur</i> NOV 14th	<i>*Thur</i> DEC 12th
SECHLT Where: Seaside Centre, Sechelt When: 5:00 pm			<i>*Wed</i> MAR 20th			<i>*Wed</i> JUN 26th				<i>*Wed</i> OCT 23rd		
POWELL RIVER Where: Town Centre Hotel When: 4:30 pm			<i>Tues</i> MAR 20th			<i>Tues</i> JUN 26th				<i>Tues</i> OCT 23rd		

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Unit 6 Meeting Schedule 2013

UNIT 6 MEETING SCHEDULE

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
LANGLEY Where: Steelworkers Hall #202 - 9292 200th Street Langley, BC When: 7:00 pm	<i>*Tues</i> JAN 15th	<i>Tues</i> FEB 12th	<i>*Tues</i> MAR 12th	<i>Tues</i> APR 9th	<i>*Tues</i> MAY 7th	<i>Tues</i> JUN 11th	<i>*Tues</i> JUL 9th		<i>*Tues</i> SEP 10th	<i>Tues</i> OCT 8th	<i>*Tues</i> NOV 12th	<i>Tues</i> DEC 10th
CHILLIWACK Where: Best Western 43971 Industrial Way, Chilliwack When: 7:00 pm		<i>*Wed</i> FEB 13th		<i>*Wed</i> APR 10th		<i>*Wed</i> JUN 12th		<i>*Wed</i> AUG 14th		<i>*Wed</i> OCT 9th		<i>*Wed</i> DEC 11th

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www.ibew258.bc.ca

UNION NOTICE BOARD

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The delegates of the 38th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, during the week of September 19 through 23, 2011, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution. Accordingly, effective January 1, 2013, there will be an increase of one dollar (\$1.00) for the IBEW Pension Fund Benefit, which applies to "A" members only. There will be no change to the per capita that is paid to the General Fund, and therefore, the rate for all "BA" members shall remain the same. The following rates will apply to the I.O. portion of all monthly dues payments for January 2013, and thereafter:

	"A" Members	"BA" Members	"FP" - fee payers
Per Capita:	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
Pension Fund:	<u>\$15.00</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>	<u>Not Applicable</u>
Total:	\$30.00	\$15.00	\$15.00

In accordance with Article IX of the IBEW Constitution, \$15.00 per month from each member will be deposited in the General Fund, and the additional amount paid by "A" members (\$15.00) per month will be deposited into the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund.

Attention all Local 258 IBEW *A* members

This is a reminder to all *A* members to update your beneficiary information for your International Pension when there is a change in your personal status. Please contact the office in Burnaby for further information or if you have any questions. Phone: 604-520-3305 Toll Free: 1-877-520-3305

Have you moved?

If you have recently moved, make sure your local union office has your new mailing address so we can make sure you continue to receive important information from the union, be notified about current events and to receive your copy of the Hotline news magazine. **Please note: your employer is not responsible for forwarding your new mailing address**, so please let your union know where you are.

Call the office at 604-520-3305, fax us at 604-522-3371, or e-mail us at info@ibew258.bc.ca

Do you have photos, original artwork, cartoons or poems for The Hotline?

The Hotline knows many of you have an interest in photography and sometimes take photos at your workplaces. We also know there are some of you who are very creative. Share your photos and creative works — and your stories too — with your union's member magazine, The Hotline!

Send your items via e-mail to hotline@shaw.ca, or mail to:

Local 258 IBEW, Attention, The Hotline
7535 Sixth Street
Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2

Seeking Adventure?
Leaving Town?
Looking elsewhere for work?

Before you leave, call the Local 258 Union Hall and get your Travel Card and/or paid up dues receipt. If you live close by, just drop in and see us to get your Travel Card.

Local 258 Travel Cards are made out for three months (as per the IBEW Constitution, p 66, sec 2), giving you plenty of time to deposit your Travel Card with any Local in which you are seeking work.

Please contact Janice at Local 258's headquarters in Burnaby for further details. Call 604-515-3530 or 604-520-3305
Toll Free: 1-877-520-3305





RUMINATIONS OF A RETIREE

By Ken McEwen
Retired Local 258 member

It is December so this must be sunny southern California. When we left home at the end of October it was cool and rainy. We travelled for three days and a little over 1000 miles before the rain stopped and we found some sunshine. While we were driving through the rain there was always a band of brighter sky on the horizon ahead. I kept thinking that we would soon be enjoying sunny weather. Even when we crossed into California it was still raining and the bright sky was just ahead tantalizing us. Our perseverance was rewarded on the fourth day and sunny weather was achieved. Since we arrived at our desert home sunny southern California has performed as advertised with daily sunshine and temperatures around 26 to 28 Canadian degrees. The weather persons on TV are telling us that a cooling trend is on the way and by the weekend the temperatures will plunge to 20 to 22 Canadian degrees. It appears that winter is just around the corner.

With this being December and winter just around the corner the Christmas frenzy is in full swing. We have already weathered the US American presidential election and Thanksgiving with the attendant "Black Friday" shopping event. The weekend newspaper comes complete with 20 pounds of glossy advertising flyers enticing us to buy all sorts of merchandise. Well, 20 pounds might be a bit of exaggeration. It just feels like 20 pounds when I have to carry it over to the recycle bin. It is probably not much more than 15 pounds of advertising copy. I wonder what all the save the trees people think of that method of marketing. With the six weeks or so of hype leading up to Christmas the day itself is kind of anticlimactic by the time we get there. I'm not really all "Bah, Humbug!" about Christmas. I just think a couple of weeks of preparation and Christmas carol music would be enough.

Past experience has shown that Christmas time generally brings folks over to visit. The imminence of company coming always requires copious amounts of dusting and cleaning and vacuuming. At this point I want to assure you that we do not reside in filth and squalor in our daily lives. I therefore wonder why, if the place is clean enough for us to live in on a day to day basis, we have to endure this cleaning regimen because company is coming. If it is good enough for me it should be good enough for them.

When it comes to cleaning we have established that I have the necessary qualifications for heavy lifting, washing windows and floors and vacuuming. I have been asked to not do laundry (something about the dryer and wrinkled clothes), I may not wash the ingredients for a salad (especially if company is coming) and any dishes I do are suspect and require further inspection. While not exactly cleaning, another area of household chores I apparently require remedial training in is putting the groceries away in the refrigerator and pantry. The few times I have taken the initiative to

store the groceries on my own have required a subsequent complete reorganization of refrigerator and pantry. It is always good to identify the limits of one's qualifications in such matters.

Still sort of obliquely relative to cleaning is the organization of our shed. The shed is a 10' by 10' structure that takes the place of a basement or garage in a normal house. I therefore submit that the shed should be a guy domain where things can be left scattered around close to hand and not subject to the same organizational requirements as the house. Well, in our case, a park model trailer sort of a house. Anyway, the shed has a work bench and sundry tools and equipment including, but not limited to, garden implements, nuts, bolts, screws etc. as well as such other items that may now be unnecessary but are too good to throw away and may be of some use in the future. Unfortunately (for me) the shed also contains the laundry equipment (washer and dryer) which I have been asked not to use. Encroachment by other than guy personnel has therefore occurred. It may only be my perception but it seems that over the years the space and shelving allotted for storage and retention of the aforementioned guy stuff has been usurped to store and retain more mundane household items. From time to time these household items will be reorganized resulting in my inability to locate, without considerable searching, car care products or golf cart parts. Shed sharing requires ongoing discussion, negotiation and compromise.

While all this rumination about cleaning and sheds was going on, the same newspaper that provides 20 or 15 pounds of advertising copy had a story about a job fair held in Indio, California. It was reported that job seekers came from as far away as Arizona, which really isn't all that far, but the element of the story that caused a lot of rumination was that the work was in British Columbia, Canada where there are 40,000 unfilled jobs. It was further reported that there were 2000 companies represented along with people from the British Columbia Construction Association and the BC Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skill Training. Having been away from BC for a month or so and therefore short on facts my rumination has been given free rein. It struck me that 40,000 is about the number of people in a small city. So, somewhere in BC there is a small city's worth of jobs with nobody to work at them. I would therefore imagine that everybody in BC is working and those not are being trained to fill the jobs. I also imagine that technical institutes and apprenticeships are operating above capacity to address the shortfall. Unfortunately for the California job seekers I am sure that the BC government and industry are working together at a fevered pace to supply trained and qualified BC workers for the small city's worth of unfilled jobs. At least that is what I imagine.

Catherine Dear and I wish you all a very happy Christmas and peace, joy and prosperity in the coming years. 🍀

Members gather for Tribute Dinner

Salute to the Electrical Industry Training Institute

Members of Local 258 IBEW gathered at the Hilton Vancouver Metrotown Hotel in Burnaby, BC, on Friday, October 19 to pay tribute to the trainers, students and staff of the union's training school, the Electrical Industry Training Institute, as it closed its doors at the end of August after 21 years.

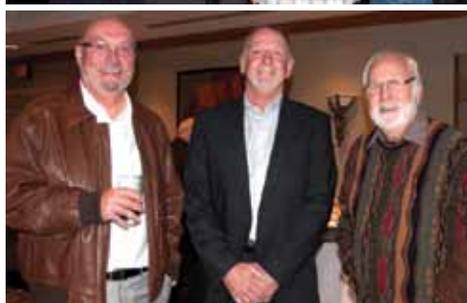
The Tribute Dinner was attended by more than 200 IBEW members, many bringing their spouses or adult children. Many years of memories were shared by everyone in attendance as they viewed the historical photos displayed in the reception area and enjoyed the unique balloon sculptures created for the event by local artist Mike Akizuki.

Mark Siermaczeski of Cruelty Free Cartoons was on hand entertaining guests with custom caricatures throughout the evening. Enjoying refreshments and a delicious buffet dinner, guests were also entertained by local comedian Carter Hortie and afterwards enjoyed an evening of dancing with local band KickBack.

Local 258 President Michelle Laurie MC'd the evening and Business Manager Doug McKay thanked everyone for attending. Guests heard from Gerry Bramhill, long time Local 258 member and former Business Manager who spent many years involved as a leader at the school. Brother Ed Higginbottom, the first Managing Director at the school, and Brother Rick Klassen who also managed the school over the years, were both in attendance. Guests also heard from Phil Davis, Executive Director, who couldn't attend the evening event but sent a letter that was read aloud.

Thank you to everyone who joined together to travel down memory lane and pay tribute to Local 258 IBEW's training school, EITI.

To view more photos from the EITI Tribute Dinner, log onto the Local 258 website and view "Photo Galleries". 



Call for submissions

Local 258 IBEW Tom Forkin Student Scholarship

Once again, it is time for Local 258 IBEW's annual Tom Forkin Memorial Scholarship. This Scholarship was created in 1991, in memory of our first Local President - Brother Tom Forkin, and is open to members, or dependants of members, of Local 258.

We are asking participants to explain their educational goals and define their relationship with the union, their community and their labour activities. Applicants must complete the application form, available on the union's website at www.ibew258.bc.ca and submit it either by mail, or if possible, via e-mail to info@ibew258.bc.ca. If submitting via e-mail, "Tom Forkin Scholarship" must be included in the subject bar of the e-mail.



To be eligible, applicants must be registered, or plan to register in a full-time post-secondary program in 2013/2014 at a BC educational institution. Special consideration may be given to applicants who are attending or planning to attend a post-secondary institution outside of BC, if the program they will be attending is not available in BC. Applicants must have a letter-grade standing of C or better, and copies of the letter-grade standing must be included with the application letter. Mature students may have this requirement waived if approved by the Executive Board.

Applications can be mailed to:

Tom Forkin Scholarship
Local 258, IBEW
7535 – 6th Street
Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2



All submissions must be received by 4:00 p.m. on April 19, 2013. The Executive Board shall assess all submissions, and will make a final and unalterable decision by **May 17, 2013**. Successful applicants will be notified immediately, but the scholarship funds will not be released until proof of enrollment is provided. 

International VP Flemming visits members in Bella Coola



From left are Brother Joe Hinke; Brother Gunnar Moren; Brother Gerald Pope, Unit 2 Chair; Brother Brant Underhill; Brother Slade Wheatley; Brother Phil Flemming, International Vice President District One; and Brother Ray Hern, Shop Steward.

Unit 2 Chair Gerry Pope reports International Vice President Phil Flemming travelled to Bella Coola in October after a chance conversation they had while attending a conference in Washington, DC.



Brother Brant Underhill receives the IBEW watch from Phil Flemming, IBEW International Vice President, District One.



Unit 2 Chair Gerry Pope and Local 258 ABM Don McNabb joined Brother Phil Flemming on the flight to Bella Coola from Vancouver.

“I spoke to Brother Flemming about an upcoming trip I was making into Bella Coola and suggested that he should come with me,” said Brother Pope. “He asked me for dates and info about the trip and said he would get back to me if he could make it. As the picture above clearly shows, he was able to make the trip, and what a glorious trip it was! A picture perfect day for flying into Bella Coola from Vancouver and a great opportunity for Brother Flemming to meet with our members who work in the surrounding area.”

Brother Flemming attended the Unit 2 meeting in Bella Coola and presented an IBEW watch to Brother Brant Underhill, the winner of the meeting’s watch draw.

He visited with members at the meeting and was taken on a tour of the community by Brother Pope.

Thanks Phil for visiting our members in Bella Coola, BC! 🇨🇦

**The IBEW
represents
workers
from many
communities.**

The Electrical Workers
Minority Caucus meetings
take place on the
4th Tuesday of each month
and alternate between
the IBEW 213 office,
1424 Broadway Street,
Port Coquitlam, BC
and the IBEW 258 office at
7535 Sixth Street,
Burnaby, BC
Meetings start at 7:00 pm.

**Electrical Workers
Minority Caucus**



Be a part of IBEW's
**Next
GEN**

Local 258 is seeking young members (under 35 years of age) to join the union's Youth Committee and be part of creating the future of our union. By taking an active role in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Worker's campaign to engage young members in our union, we invite you to step forward to have your voices heard and to work with your ideas for shaping our union to meet the challenges of the future.

If you are interested in Local 258's Youth Committee, please contact Dan Klassen, Assistant Business Manager at Local 258 by e-mail at dan.klassen@ibew258.bc.ca or by phone at 604-520-3305, toll free 1-877-520-3305.

Supporting the United Way/Labour Partnership

Labour's long standing relationship with the United Way is a unique partnership that spans more than 30 years. With common goals of improving lives and strengthening communities, the United Way and the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) work together on many important projects, including the Michael Wayne McDonell Labour Community Services Fund.

This fund helps provide ongoing support to the Labour College of Canada, Labour Education through the CLC Pacific Region and the CLC/United Way Union Counselling Program in British Columbia.

This Fund is dedicated to the memory of Michael Wayne McDonell, whose life was cut tragically short by an accident in 1996. His father, Paul McDonell, a long-time Labour activist with the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 18 and the Vancouver and District Labour Council, and his family, created this fund as a legacy to Michael's memory. McDonell currently serves as a City Councillor in Burnaby.

Please consider supporting this important Fund as it helps ensure union education and union counselling programs are available for union members in British Columbia.

The Local 258 website features more information about the Michael Wayne McDonell Labour Community Services Fund. Log in to find out more under Need Assistance? Union Counselling at www.ibew258.bc.ca. 



Unit 5 Chair Cathy Tagseth and Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter at the United Way Campaign Kickoff Breakfast event at the Shadbolt Theatre in Burnaby in early October.

Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter reports on his experience being a loaned rep to the United Way

This was my second time spending four months as a loaned rep to the United Way, helping to bring awareness to the work United Way does in our communities and to raise funds to reach our fundraising goal of \$24 million dollars. We won't find out until March if we met our financial goal, but I believe success can be measured in many ways.

For example, when I stood in front of a group of workers and explained the local community work the United Way does in one of its key areas of focus – preventing social issues with children and seniors – I witnessed immediate, on-the-spot, pledges to help.

I had the honour of attending a “Day of Caring” at a women's shelter that the United Way supports and was able to see first-hand the direct benefits the agency provides.

It's been very rewarding to work with groups of like-minded people who have the same goal, and I am very appreciative of the opportunity my union has given me to participate in this very rewarding experience.

When I found a hurdle, there was always someone in the union office to help me conquer it. When I had a success, they were there to help celebrate. For this I am very grateful.

I was told that the experience would give me something that I couldn't hang on the wall or display on my fireplace mantle, but it would be something I could be proud of – and this couldn't be more true.

I would like to thank all the members who helped build this year's United Way campaigns – your involvement is a real measure of success. Please consider how an experience like this could change the trajectory of your career and get involved with your local United Way. 

Employer acknowledges safety record



On October 29, 2012, four IBEW members, electricians working for BC Hydro at Bridge River, were presented with 5-year Accident Free Award pins from Station Manager Ray Stevens. From left are Brother Sean Baylis, Brother Kyle Liebaert, Brother Dave Campbell and Brother Dave Witt. The picture was taken in the Bridge River Shops parking lot with Seton Lake in the background. Thank you to Lorne Piccolo for sending the photo for the Hotline.

Sign up today on Local 258's website!

The updated website for Local Union 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is seeing members sign up on a daily basis and has begun sending regular news bulletins via email to those registered members.

Launched in September at www.ibew258.bc.ca, the website features the "Members Resources" section. To view the "Member Resources", you have to be a current, active member in good standing of Local 258 and complete the sign-up process, linked from the home page, by completing the Member Registration form. You will need your union member number, available on your IBEW union card, to confirm your membership as this part of the website is exclusive for members of Local 258 IBEW.



By including your personal cell phone number and email address on the registration form the union will be able to communicate with you directly from the website, notifying you of important news and events via your smart phone and email. Receiving text messages is optional, but recommended.

Although every effort will be made to activate your registrations as soon as possible, the process can take up to 48 hours. If your membership is not current you will be notified by email your registration has been rejected and you won't be able to log in and view the Member Resources or be notified via text or email about important union events.

If you can't recall your union member number or can't find your card, you can retrieve your number by calling the Local office at 604-520-3305 or toll-free 1-877-520-3305 and making an inquiry.

Once your registration is approved, you can then log in and



view member-specific information and have quick access to a number of downloadable forms as well as detailed information about the Dispatch process. This secure section of the website is ONLY available to members of Local 258 IBEW and will also feature regularly updated member-specific information on the Member Home page. Current collective agreements will be available for viewing as they become available in digital format.

A Unit Meeting Calendar is available on the Member Resource section, listing dates, times and locations of your union meetings.

We hope you find the updated website a source of information that you can use as a member of Local 258 of IBEW. We look forward to your feedback and suggestions - please contact us by email at hotline@shaw.ca. Feedback has been positive since the new website design took effect and although we are still working on some of the policies for the website, we have welcomed hundreds of members as they sign up. 

WCB Teleclaim service for injured workers

1-888-WORKERS
1-888-967-5377 or #5377 on your cell phone

Injured workers can now file time-loss claims more quickly and easily through the WCB's Teleclaim Contact Centre.

Workers who are injured at work and miss time as a result can report their injuries to WorkSafe BC by calling the Teleclaim Centre. By doing so, you will be connected with a WCB representative who completes an injury report on your behalf.

The Teleclaim representative will help explain the claims process in an average 30 minute discussion, and can help obtain services to assist with recovery and return to work.

Teleclaim is available to workplaces throughout BC, Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 6 pm.



BCFED Health & Safety centre

JHSC Basic & Advanced • Incident Investigations • Chemical Hazards
Strains, Aches & Pains • Prevention of Violence in the Workplace
Understanding & Preventing Stress • Ergonomics for Drivers & Operators

Providing province-wide education for Joint Health & Safety Committees

View our course schedule and descriptions at
www.healthandsafetybc.ca

Kel Ladyka Memorial Ride

The 3rd Annual Kel Ladyka Memorial Ride took place in the Okanagan this summer spearheaded by IBEW members Ken Walters, Bill Dalling and Brian Durand. Brother Ladyka worked as a lineman for BC Hydro for more than 30 years and passed suddenly in the summer of 2010. The Memorial Ride is held in his honour. Thanks to Kathy Ladyka for sending in the photos.



LIVE TO RIDE... RIDE TO LIVE



**PROBLEMS
AT HOME
OR AT WORK?
NEED TO TALK
WITH SOMEONE?**



Trained union counsellors are now available to help you with issues that may be affecting your well-being, home life and/or work performance.

To arrange a completely confidential phone call to talk with someone who can help, call IBEW Local 258 at 604-520-3305 (Lower Mainland), or Toll Free at 1-877-520-3305, during regular business hours. Or call Dan at 604-312-5929 anytime.

**IF WE CAN'T HELP YOU,
WE KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN.**



PHOTO OPPORTUNITY LU 258



11/23/2012
Brother Eric Wesner was recently awarded a 60 year service certificate and pin by Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter. Brother Wesner is from Maple Ridge and worked as a lineman and an underground worker before his retirement.



Brother Mike McMahon receives congratulations from Local 258 Business Manager Doug McKay on his recent retirement from BC Hydro.



Congratulations to Brother Craig Masse, left and Brother Dean Blackburn, right, new journeyman PLTs, who are shown here with Shop Steward Dave Arnold, Sub Foreman.



ABM Dan Klassen, right, congratulates Brother Al Raven on his recent retirement.



Brother Ric Condrashoff receives a retirement plaque and watch from Sr. ABM Jim Greenwell at the Local 258 office in October. Ric worked for 33 years as a Meter Technician at BCH. Happy Retirement Ric!



Brother Gord Sawka, left, gets congratulations from Brother Dan Payne on his recent retirement from BC Hydro in Duncan.



Congratulations to Brother Chris McMillan and Brother Eric Groves, shown here with ABM Dan Klassen, left, on graduating from their apprenticeships as PLTs.



Pro-tem Unit #2 Chair Ed McEwan swears in new members Brother Tyler Price, left, and Sister Lianne Bunting at a recent Unit meeting in Prince George.



Pro-tem Unit #2 Chair Ed McEwan swears in new members Brother Kyle Burns, Reese Van Vlier and Mike Lange at a recent Unit meeting in 100 Mile House.



Dustin Hunter getting a congratulations picture from the Duncan Line staff. Dustin has completed his PLT apprenticeship and is moving on to Hope as a fully qualified PLT. From left are: Brother Mike Seery, Brother Ryan Parker, Brother Dustin Hunter, Brother Trevor Truhn, Brother Darren Smart, Brother Max Berard, Gerry Wright (manager), and Brother Dan Payne. Missing from the photo are Rob Williams, Rob Hill and Harrison Parker. Thanks to Brother Dan Payne for sending this photo to the Hotline.



The Mechanic Apprentice Sub Committee presented graduating papers to Matt Elliott at Mica Generating Station this past August. Pictured from left to right are Dave Mengerling, IBEW representative on the Mechanic Apprentice Sub Committee, Matt Elliott, graduating apprentice, and Rob Gill, Management representative on the Mechanic Apprentice Sub Committee. Matt graduated in August, and was immediately successful bidding a full time regular Mechanics position at Mica Generating Station. Thanks to Brother Dave Mengerling for sending this photo to the Hotline.



Pro-tem Unit #2 Chair Ed McEwan presents Brother Rainier Kemp with retirement goodies at a recent 100 Mile House Unit meeting.



Brother Jan Langauer came into the LU258 office in October and received a retirement watch from President Michelle Laurie. Jan has been a member of the IBEW for 36 years and worked at BC Hydro as a Winder.

See next page for more photos of IBEW members volunteering with the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation's Lights of Hope display...



LOCAL 258
IBEW



Lights of Hope



Many thanks to all the IBEW members in the lower mainland who answered the call in late October and volunteered to help set up the St. Paul's Hospital (SPH) Foundation's Annual "Lights of Hope" display that adorns the downtown Vancouver hospital's Burrard Street facade.

From members who trimmed the trees to those who set up the electrical displays on the scaffolding to those who connected it all together, IBEW members contributed their skills and their time to help the Foundation raise important funds for enhanced patient care, capital projects, equipment, research and teaching at SPH.

Special thanks goes to Sister Nicole Biernaczyk and Brother Dan Klassen for helping to organize Local 258 IBEW volunteers for this event. Volunteers are still needed to help with the takedown on Saturday, January 12, 2013 - if you would like to participate, please contact the union hall or visit the Local 258 website for details.

If you or an IBEW member you know is volunteering in their community, get some photos and send them in to the Hotline with a story about what IBEW members are doing in communities across British Columbia! 



Thanks to the Rokstad Crew! Back row, from left: Don Klassen, Noleen Martin, Kevin Flodin, Darla Colville, Kyle Neef, Mike Fox, Dan Klassen & Katrina McCawley. Front row, from left: Chris Elkie, Lisa Cardarelli, Kevin Dagg, Taylor Lucas & Michele Zacharias.



Thanks to the crew from Asplundh!



From left: Dan Klassen, Lisa Cardarelli and Don Klassen.

HOTLINE



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It has been an honour to work with the Executive of your Local Union as Vice President since first being elected to serve in the year 2000. And it has been an especially rewarding experience to work with Michelle Laurie in her role as president for so many years - she has been a leader with this Local and our union.

Currently I am serving as Acting President and have taken on the duties of chairing our monthly Executive Board meetings and fulfilling the requirements of that position. I would like to thank our Executive Board members for their support and participation as we move forward with the business of the union. And I would also like to acknowledge the hard work of Local 258's support staff for their assistance in the preparation of documents and materials for the efficient running of our meetings.

I am looking forward to the work that lies ahead at the Executive level of our union and although I've been involved as an elected member for many years, I have maintained a somewhat low profile in our union's magazine, the Hotline. I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce myself and give a few details of my history with Local 258 of the IBEW.

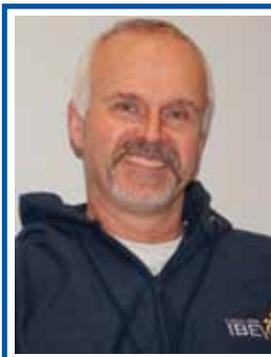
I first became a member in 1977, just after I was hired at BC Hydro as a Storeman. I was at Store 1 when I bid a line truck driver job in Squamish, did that for a year and then started my apprenticeship as a lineman. I was just barely into my second year when BC Hydro laid off all the apprentices, and then the bumping started.

I went to Pemberton for a year, then to Dawson Creek and then to Kootenay Canal Generating Station near Nelson for a few years. I then got recalled to the apprenticeship starting in Kamloops for 2 1/2 years. When I topped out, I bid the North Shore in 1990 and am now working as the Foreman Lineman.

In 2002, when former union VP Murray MacDonald was heading into retirement, Brother Rick Klassen approached me while I was taking some classes at EITI and suggested I step forward and run for office in the union. It sounded interesting so I took the opportunity and the campaign was on! I was successful in getting elected as VP after a run-off election as we had four candidates vying for the position and I am now serving my third term.

Since becoming more involved with Local 258 and the broader labour movement as a whole, I've had a number of experiences that have opened my eyes to the real importance of unions in our communities. What I've seen is that unions aren't just there to negotiate collective agreements, provide strongly backed representation to members and support for one another in the workplace - unions help to shape our society with a strong middle class that contributes to a vibrant economy.

I take great pride in the accomplishments of our union, the IBEW. For more than a hundred years, we have represented millions of workers across North America, and together with the broader labour movement, have much to be proud of with our accomplishments. But we cannot ignore the fact that there are, and always have been, significant forces seeking to dismantle, divide and conquer our membership and destroy the strength we have when we stand together.



From the Back Corner

Report from Tony Brand,
Acting President,
Local 258 IBEW

Our capacity as an influential movement has suffered another series of setbacks as we watch, in the United States, more "Right-to-Work" legislation being imposed - and here in Canada, the Harper Conservative government's escalating attacks on unions.

Most recently, Bill C-377, portrayed as legislation that will make "union finances more transparent to their members" was passed through parliament and is now heading to the Senate. This legislation is nothing more than a favour from the Harper government to the non-union companies who financially support them and whose aim is to weaken and destroy their competition - unions. This legislation comes at a cost to all Canadians as tens of millions of taxpayer dollars will now be spent to institute this needless reporting system by the Canada Revenue Agency.

The only way we can fight these escalating attacks on unions and our members is through political action. When our world can be turned upside down with the stroke of a pen through legislation, we have to fight back in the same arena. We just can't sit idly by and let it happen.

In all my years of being a union member and all the meetings I've attended, our Local's finances have always been there on the table for anyone to look at. We already are financially transparent to the people who matter - our members. This is our business and the government doesn't need to stick their noses into it.

Times will be very interesting in the near future. With a provincial election on the horizon, I look forward to the New Year and wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy Holiday season. ⚡

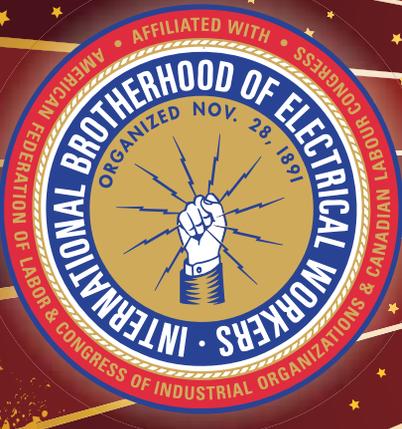


LOCAL 258
IBEW



*Celebrate the holidays
with peace, love and
friendship!*

*Merry Christmas from your
IBEW Officers, Staff
& The Hotline*



And Happy New Year Too!

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