



HOTLINE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
PUBLICATION OF
LOCAL 258 IBEW
FALL, 2008

LOCAL 258, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Local 258 members take home awards at 25th Annual Linemans Rodeo



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IBEW HELPS LIGHT UP ST. PAUL'S HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER



CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT IN
HONOUR OF FALLEN BROTHERS

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

Local 258, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers:

Executive Board Members:

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Doug McKay

President: Michelle Laurie

Vice-President: Tony Brand

Treasurer: Larry Byhre

Recording Secretary: Dale Haines

Unit #1 Chair: Klaus Kraft

Unit #2 Chair: Gerry Pope

Unit #3 Chair: Leon Arishenkoff

Unit #4 Chair: Tom Greenwell

Unit #5 Chair: Cathy Tagseth

Unit #6 Chair: Karen Porter

Local 258 IBEW Senior Assistant Business Manager: Jim Greenwell

Local 258 IBEW Assistant Business Managers: Greg Fanning, Dan Giesbrecht, Dan Klassen, Susan Longva, Don McNabb

Local 258 IBEW Dispatcher: Jim McKay

Local 258 IBEW Administrative & Office Staff: Eileen Baldwin, Janice Krieger, Lesli McBratney, Judith Haugen, Geri Watson

Local 258 IBEW Legal Counsel: Rebecca Murdock

FRONT COVER PHOTO: IBEW 258 members travelled to Kansas City to participate in the 25th International Linemen's Rodeo. Inset: left to right, Tyson Unruh, Mike Scott and Doug Laity who took 4th place overall in Journeyman Team Contractor Division. See story page 8. Photos by Mike Scott.

VIEWPOINT from your Business Manager Doug McKay

As the holiday season is upon us, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Local 258 members and your families all the best for a festive time together and that Santa Claus brings good cheer to you and yours. If you find yourself having to work this holiday season, please remember that safety is still of paramount importance and returning home safe and sound at the end of the work day is the greatest gift your family can have.

It is again with a sad heart I have to write about two of our brothers, employed by BC Hydro, who were recently involved in an electrical contact accident resulting in serious injury. It is difficult to understand what's happening in our work world, as in the last issue of The Hotline we were mourning the loss of three of our brothers (two from BC Hydro and one from traffic) who lost their lives in the line of duty.

There are no words to describe the sorrow I feel when I get the call about injury or death on the job. It has to be the worst part of the job as Business Manager, dealing with members and their families who are involved in these tragic events.

Is this what it takes for us to have meaningful conversations about safety? Is all the work we do in advancing safety procedures, rules and guidelines, all for naught – that it actually takes an incident to happen before we really begin to pay attention?

As members of IBEW, we are skilled professionals, and it is true, ours are dangerous jobs.

But these most recent incidents have certainly brought forward a stark realization that something may be wrong. Members have suffered serious injury and, as a result, it is prudent we now review the safety rules and their enforcement to see what more we can do to improve safety on the jobsite.

I have heard it said that we have “too many rules”, but could it be we just don't have the understanding of what these rules mean or how to apply them? Rules are usually put in place after an incident has happened – somebody gets hurt, a review is undertaken, and steps are put in place to prevent the same incident from occurring in the future.

I know that frustration or overconfidence can sometimes lead to shortcuts, but the company isn't going to thank you if you get the job done faster. What counts in life and at work is that at the end of the day, we all go home safe and sound.

So now we go down the road again, asking the questions, trying to find the answers. Are limits of approach right? Are they wrong? When to guard? When not to guard? When to use protective guarding? When not to use protective guarding?



Members and officers of IBEW Local 258 participated in this year's BC Federation of Labour Convention. Sister Michelle Laurie, Chair of the BC Fed's Occupational Health & Safety Committee, delivered the Committee's report to delegates and Business Manager Doug McKay sat on the convention's Resolutions Committee. From left are Chris Carter, Shop Steward and young worker from BC Hydro; Rick Gerrard, long time BC Hydro Shop Steward, storekeeper and relief dispatcher with Local 258; Doug McKay, Business Manager Local 258; Leon Arishenkoff, Unit 3 Chair; Michelle Laurie, Local 258 President, Cathy Tagseth, Unit 5 Chair; Tom Greenwell, Unit 4 Chair. Missing from the photo are Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft and Unit 2 Chair Gerry Pope.

It's easy to say we don't need more rules, but we must follow the rules we do have to keep us safe. And if we're dealing with rules we don't think are right and we don't follow them, I don't believe that's the answer.

I believe if we think the rule isn't right, we discuss it.

The only part about this that's good for all of us is that we are again having serious conversations about safety and the rules we work under in our efforts to find solutions to these difficult problems in our workplaces.

I believe strongly the members I represent are professionals in the work we do and as professionals we will figure out what and why this is happening.

As the saying goes, “Look Up and Live”; let's make sure we analyze every job we do as the professionals we are and always do our work with safety first in our minds.

As always, work safe, play safe and think safe. 



We've Got Mail!

Dear Brother McKay,
Thank you for your support of the IBEW All Canada Progress Meeting in Toronto by sponsoring an ad in our Progress Meeting Magazine.

We couldn't have succeeded in our Progress Meeting without your support and sponsorship.

Thanks again.

Yours truly
Phil Flemming
International Vice President, IBEW

To The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers,
The Highland Venturers wish to thank you again for your continuing support at the 2008 Abbotsford International Airshow.

Thank you for the invitation and all that you offer. We look forward to serving with you at future endeavours.
Much Appreciated,
Kevin King
Event Coordinator, Abbotsford Highlanders

Dear Ms. Laurie,
On behalf of Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association, I would like to thank you for your recent sponsorship of our 2008-2009 Handbook.

The mission of our Association is to promote minor hockey in partnership with member associations and leagues, to stress fun and respect, promote sportsmanship, encourage fair competition and development, and stress safety for minor hockey players of all skill levels. There are 17 Associations in our membership; from Port Hardy in the north to Sooke in the south.

Your generosity as a sponsor is noted in our Handbook which is distributed throughout Vancouver Island.

Once again, thank you on behalf of all our Associations and for supporting our efforts to build on Canada's game.

Yours truly,
Mark Kenny
President, VIAHA

Dear Michelle, Doug & the Board,
Thanks for the great jacket – I'll wear it with pride!

Michelle, thanks for taking the time out of your busy schedule to attend the Grad.
Warm regards,
Kerry

To Dirk's Brothers & Sisters,
Thank you all for the kind words and support during this terrible time. Thank you also for giving Dirk your friendship, it meant a great deal to him!

To Doug McKay: I wanted to thank you personally for coming to our home and to Dirk's service. Your presence was comforting and reminded me that Dirk meant a great deal to many people.

Please also thank Michelle for her presence at the service, even though I was unable to speak with her.

We carry forward the memory of Dirk's quiet, gentle strength and immense love and we are comforted.

Warmest regards,
Lynne Rozenboom

Dear Michelle Laurie,
I just wanted to send you a quick note to thank the IBEW 258 for all their support, as well as the \$500 cheque. I really appreciate the thoughtfulness. Please pass along my thanks to the members. Also, I wanted to let you know that the boys and I will be moving to Kelowna this summer.

Regards,

Nicola Lehmann

Dear Ms. Laurie,
The Wilderness Committee would like to thank Local 258 of the IBEW for your generous cheque for \$5,000 to help cover some of the costs of our recent paper, Power Grab—BC's River and Streams at Risk.

As you may have noticed, this issue has garnered a lot of publicity and media attention. At public events and rallies throughout the province, demand for the paper was incredibly high, and copies of "Power Grab" was distributed by groups and individuals of all stripes, including loggers, fishers, tree huggers, hikers and naturalists, all united in their concern about stopping the privatization of our rivers and our electrical utility BC Hydro.

The Wilderness Committee is calling for a moratorium on all private power developments, and for our power planning to be put back in the hands of BC Hydro. We are calling for hydropower to be publicly owned, regionally planned and environmentally appropriate.

Thank you again for your generous support and please convey our appreciation to your membership.

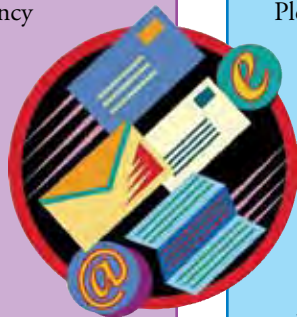
Sincerely
Gwen Barlee
National Policy Director, Western Canada Wilderness Committee



Dear Ms. Laurie,
Thank you for donating \$200 to our Emergency Lunch Program at Henry Bose School, it is greatly appreciated. An acknowledgment will go out in our newsletter and your letter will be posted on the Parent Bulletin Board.

The day before your donation arrived, our office staff told me we were completely out of the supplies we give the students and we still had three weeks of school. Your timely donation allowed us to replenish the emergency lunch supplies with apples, bananas and granola bars. It is just a small percentage of the students who need the assistance but it is an important percentage. Too many families truly are in need in these working poor communities such as Newton, so I thank you and the IBEW for your timely donation to our little community.

Yours truly,
Barbara Bell
Principal, Henry Bose Elementary School



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Please extend to the members and officers of Local 258 of IBEW, our sincere thanks for the donation to assist our Sears members who were locked out for more than seven months.

The support they have received from our affiliates throughout Canada is very much appreciated.

I am pleased to report that a memorandum of agreement was ratified on May 10.

Yours in solidarity,

Rick Dowling
Business Manager and Financial Secretary, IBEW Local 213

Dear Ms. Laurie,
Thank you for your recent \$1,000 contribution to the BC Federation of Labour's Apology to Action advertising campaign. We understand the financial pressures faced by all our affiliates and very much appreciate the generosity we find when we seek support for causes like these.

In solidarity
Angela Schira
Secretary-Treasurer, BC Federation of Labour

Dear Friends,
Thank you for your gift to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon honouring Deb Morhart. This special tribute is a thoughtful and important way to help accelerate our efforts to eliminate heart disease and stroke.

We are making headway: our increased funding for research is resulting in ground-breaking discoveries right here in BC; 45% of British Columbians can name three risk factors for heart disease, up from 41% just a year ago; our successful advocacy for BC's new smoke free legislation now protects non-smokers from deadly second-hand smoke exposure; and, this year, through our growing HeartSmart Kids™ education program 183,000 more children will learn what it takes to live a healthy lifestyle.

Sincerely,
Bobbe Wood, President & CEO,
Heart & Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon

Dear IBEW Local 258,
Thank you so much for your generous donation! It will help the Food Bank a lot.
Sincerely
JH Pringle
The Cranbrook Food Bank Society

Dear IBEW Local 258,
Thank you for supporting the BC Hydro East Kootenay Memorial Charity Golf Tournament in honour of Rob Lehmann and Dirk Rozenboom this year.
Thanks!
Ian Kozicky
BC Hydro Cranbrook Transmission: Field Operations

Dear Michelle,
On behalf of the BC Hydro Power Pioneers Golf Club (Vancouver) members, I would like to thank you most sincerely for the \$200.00 towards our annual golf wind-up tournament in September.

We're all retired and our club is self-supporting, so we really appreciate receiving your donation and the support you have given us over the past many years.

Sincerely,
Irene Bedard
President, BC Hydro Power Pioneers Golf Club Vancouver

HAVE YOU MOVED?

If you have recently moved, make sure your local union office has your new mailing address. Contact Local 258 IBEW and let us know your new address so we can make sure you continue to receive news alerts, The Hotline newsletter and be notified of current events.

Your employer is not responsible for forwarding your new mailing address in a timely fashion, 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

News from around Local 258

Brother Bell moves on to Bridge River; Sister Porter appointed Unit 6 Chair



Sister Karen Porter

Brother Barry Bell has submitted his resignation as Unit 6 Chair as he has been transferred to work in Bridge River. Sister Karen Porter, who was elected Vice Chair of Unit 6, has been appointed by the Executive to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. Active in the labour community, Sister Porter is also a Table Officer with the Fraser Valley Labour Council and has been active on the Hydrecs campaign for the past six years. She works at Ruskin Generation.

IBEW supports Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada with Annual Golf Tournament



From left: Mark Davison and Dan Klassen from IBEW Local 258 with Paula Springman, Director of Development and Bev Matsu, Special Events Coordinator for the MS Society of Canada, BC & Yukon Division.

This year's Local 258 Golf Tournament to raise funds for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada was another great success. Participants in this year's tournament, organized by Dan Klassen and Mark Davison, played at Burnaby Mountain Golf Course and raised \$10,100 for the Society. These funds will be used to help support much needed research and many of the programs the Society runs.

One of the research programs currently underway at UBC aims to improve the overall health of people with Multiple Sclerosis and the Society invites people with MS to participate in this questionnaire driven study. For more information, please contact Dr. Verena Strehlau at vstrehlau@brain.ubc.ca or Michelle Eisner at 604-827-3111.

Master Line Contract Negotiations underway

With the Master Line Contractor Agreement expiring on January 31, 2009, Local 258 has secured dates to begin negotiations with this employer group.

Brother Dan Giesbrecht, Assistant Business Manager with 258, reports members have sent in their proposals for this round of negotiations and members have stepped forward to be on the bargaining committee. Brothers Walt Hockey and Doug Laity will join with Jim Greenwell, Local 258's Senior ABM and Brother Giesbrecht to represent almost 500 Local 258 members covered under this Master Agreement.

Members dig deep to support kids



From left: Dan Klassen, ABM Local 258; Steve Winkelman, Manager, BC Hydro; Doug McKay, Local 258 Business Manager.

IBEW members supporting the Store 1 MMBU Golf Tournament this year took on a worthy cause and raised \$1630 to donate to the children of our members who have died on the job. Local 258 ABM Dan Klassen reports the funds were raised by selling tickets for donated prizes, and as soon as members heard where the money was going, ticket sales took off! Many thanks to Brother Rick Gerrard for helping out with this worthy cause.

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 Judith or Lesli at the Union office in Burnaby for further information or if you have any questions.
Phone: 604-520-3305
Toll Free: 1-877-520-3305

Per Capita Dues Increase

As per the decision of the 2006 International Convention, per capita dues will increase as of January 1, 2009. This means that monthly dues for unemployed BA members will now be \$12.50, and \$25.50 for unemployed A members.

IBEW helps light up St. Paul's Foundation fundraiser



Members of IBEW Local Unions helped out the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation "Lights of Hope" fundraising effort again this year when they volunteered their time in early November to help stage the huge structure in the hospital's courtyard on Burrard Street in downtown Vancouver and placed the light display for this year's seasonal event.

IBEW Local 258 members volunteered their time in November to help set up the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation Lights of Hope in downtown Vancouver. Back row, from left: David Macpherson, Chase Anderson, Dan Klassen, Dorsey Nadderick, Jim Leckie, Arron Nelson. Front row, from left: Mike Scott, Nick Scott, two young women volunteers, Daniel Mansoor. Missing from photo is Brandon Vatne.

This year's campaign hopes to raise \$2.1 million, with over \$10 million being raised to date to help fund patient care, research and education initiatives at St. Paul's. 📄

Welcome to new members!



New members sworn in at the October 2008 Unit 6 meeting in Chilliwack are: back row, from left, Dave Devlin, Jesse Holitzki, Brandon Smythe. Front row, from left, Audrey Hjalmarson and Gloria Golnick.



BOYCOTT PETRO-CANADA!

PETRO-CANADA HAS THROWN 260 MONTREAL WORKERS OUT ON THE STREET!

- Petro-Canada refuses to negotiate the same contract with the Montreal refinery workers as it did with refineries in Ontario and Alberta.
- Petro-Canada is thumbing its nose at Quebec laws that make hiring scabs illegal.

PETRO-CANADA IN NUMBERS

- ➔ Profits 2007 2 700 000 000 \$
- ➔ Families on the street 260
- ➔ Respect for workers 0
- ➔ Days locked out 365+

The 260 workers have been locked out since November 17, 2007.

www.ccp.ca

Local 258 members travel to Kansas City to participate in International Rodeo



Mike Scott, left, and Ben Bailey.

Two teams of three linemen and one apprentice, all IBEW Local 258 members working for Allteck, took home top prizes when they traveled to Kansas City this fall to participate in the 25th Annual Lineman's Rodeo & Expo World Championship.

Brother Mike Scott and Brother Ben Bailey, who both

work for Allteck Line Contractors in Burnaby, sat down for a moment with The Hotline to describe the competition that attracts some of the best linemen in the world to compete in events based on traditional tasks and skills such as pole climbing and rescue.

"It was an awesome experience," described Scott, who has worked at Allteck for almost 7 years. "It was great to meet so many people from around the world and share our stories of the work we do everyday."

Two Allteck Teams placed in the top ten in the Journeyman Contractor Division with Mike Scott, Doug Laity and Tyson Unruh placing 4th and Bruce Scott, Shannon Sawchuk and Clayton McKay taking 8th place.

Apprentice Ben Bailey took home 7th place in the Apprentice Contractor Division. "We're looking forward to putting together a 'dream team' for next year's competition," said Bailey. "I'd highly recommend this experience to anybody who wants to get involved."

Hosted by Kansas City Power & Light and Westar Energy, this year's rodeo saw more than 200 teams and 250 apprentices travel to Kansas where they took part in the rodeo that also featured an exhibition and safety & training conference. 🚧



East Kootenay Golf Tournament honours Rozenboom and Lehmann



The East Kootenay BC Hydro Annual Golf Tournament sends a big thanks to all those who supported the well-attended event this year, held in honour of the late Dirk

Rozenboom and Rob Lehmann, two IBEW members who were tragically killed in a workplace accident in the spring.

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 the golf tournament raised over \$3,000 that will be split between both of these very admirable East Kootenay charities.

Organizers of the tournament would like to thank all who supported this memorial event through their participation, by providing prizes, financial donations, or by bidding on a silent auction item, including:

IBEW Local 258	South East Disposal
Bighorn Helicopters	HD Utility Supply
Resorts of the Canadian Rockies	Kootenay Ice Hockey Club
Cranbrook Dodge	Bootleg Gap Golf Course
Prestige Inn (Cranbrook)	Asplundh
Eagle Ranch Golf Course	Panorama Mountain Resort
Arrow Installations	St. Eugene Mission Resort
Lizard Creek Lodge	Columbia Truck
LineStar Utility Supply	Tri-K Trenching
Prestige Inn (Corporate Office)	Glacier Rafting Co.
Copper Point Golf Course	Kal Tire
EK Foundation for Health	Tri-Kon Precast Products Ltd.

BC Hydro Management

Season's Greetings

**WISHING YOU
ALL HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!**

**FROM YOUR UNION
OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE,
REPS AND STAFF.**



"THE UNION OF HEARTS & MINDS"



Unit 1 Meeting Schedule 2009

UNIT 1 MEETING SCHEDULE

MASSET

Where: Line Room/Plant

When: 4:30 pm

PRINCE RUPERT

Where: Line Room

When: 4:30 pm

QUEEN CHARLOTTE CITY

Where: Line Room

When: 4:30 pm

SMITHERS

Where: Line Room

When: 5:00 pm

TERRACE

Where: Carpenters Hall

When: 7:00 pm

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
MASSET		12th								22nd		
PRINCE RUPERT		11th				10th				21st		
QUEEN CHARLOTTE CITY						11th						
SMITHERS	13th		10th		12th		14th		15th		9th	
TERRACE		10th		21st		9th		11th		20th		15th



LOCAL 258
IBEW



Your Local 258 IBEW

Executive Board Members:

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Doug McKay

President: Michelle Laurie

Vice-President: Tony Brand

Treasurer: Larry Byhre

Recording Secretary: Dale Haines

Unit #1 Chair: Klaus Kraft

Unit #2 Chair: Gerry Pope

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Unit #4 Chair: Tom Greenwell

Unit #5 Chair: Cathy Tagseth

Unit #6 Chair: Karen Porter

Your Local 258 IBEW Representatives:

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Assistant Business Managers:

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Susan Longva, Don McNabb

Local 258 IBEW Dispatcher: Jim McKay

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phone: 604-520-3305 fax: 604-522-3371



Unit 2 Meeting Schedule 2009

UNIT 2 MEETING SCHEDULE

PRINCE GEORGE

Where: Royal Canadian Legion

When: 7:00 pm

DAWSON CREEK

Where: Labour Temple

When: 7:00 pm

FORT ST. JOHN

Where: Northern Grand

Quality Inn

When: 7:00 pm

HUDSON'S HOPE

Where: Pearkes Centre

When: 4:30 pm

FORT NELSON

Where: TBA

When: 7:00 pm

QUESNEL

Where: Line Room

When: 4:30 pm

WILLIAMS LAKE

Where: BC Hydro Line Room

When: 4:30 pm

100 MILE HOUSE

Where: TBA

When: TBA

BELLA COOLA

Where: TBA

When: TBA

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

	14th*	17th	11th*	14th*	13th*	16th*			8th*		17th	
		18th				18th						17th*
							16th		14th*			
				15th				13th*				
					19th					15th		
	15th		12th		17th						19th	
									9th		18th*	
	15th				15th							
					7th					8th		

* denotes Official Meeting

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Unit 3 Meeting Schedule 2009

UNIT 3 MEETING SCHEDULE

BRIDGE RIVER

Where: Lunch Room B2

When: 5:30 pm; 250-259-8221

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
BRIDGE RIVER Where: Lunch Room B2 When: 5:30 pm; 250-259-8221	13th*				12th				8th			
KAMLOOPS Where: IBEW #993 Hall When: 7:00 pm; 250-376-8755	14th				13th*				9th		18th	
VERNON Where: Army & Navy Club 2500 46th Avenue, Vernon When: 7:00 pm; 250-542-3277	15th		12th*		14th		16th*		10th		19th	10th*
MICA Where: Curling Rink When: 6:00 pm; 250-834-7218	19th				25th				14th*		16th	
REVELSTOKE Where: Hydro Dam Conf Room When: 4:15 pm; 250-814-6600	20th				26th				15th		17th*	
CASTLEGAR/TRAIL Where: Castlegar: Fireside Inn; 250-365-2128 Trail: Terra Nova Hotel; 250-368-3355 When: 7:00 pm			Castlegar 10th*	Trail 14th		Castlegar 9th		Castlegar 11th*		Castlegar 13th		
CRANBROOK Where: Labour Temple When: 4:30 pm		11th		15th*		10th				14th		
INVERMERE Where: Hydro Line Room When: 4:15 pm		12th		16th		11th*				15th		

* denotes Official Meeting

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Unit 4 Meeting Schedule 2009

UNIT 4 MEETING SCHEDULE

VICTORIA

Where: Line Room OR

Howard Johnson

When: 4:00 pm

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

GANGES

Where: Line Room

When: 4:00 pm

DUNCAN

Where: Cowichan Valley Inn

When: 7:00 pm

QUALICUM BEACH

Where: Line Room

When: 4:00 pm

PORT ALBERNI

Where: Clutest Haven Marina

When: 4:00 pm

NANAIMO

Where: Nanaimo Legion #256

When: 4:00 pm

PORT HARDY

Where: Line Room

When: 4:00 pm

COURTENAY

Where: Line Room

When: 4:00 pm

CAMPBELL RIVER

Where: Maritime Heritage Centre

When: 7:00 pm

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
VICTORIA Where: Line Room OR Howard Johnson When: 4:00 pm		10th*		HOWARD JOHNSON @ 7:00 PM 15th*		14th*						16th
GANGES Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm	14th			16th						13th		
DUNCAN Where: Cowichan Valley Inn When: 7:00 pm	14th				MTG. @ 4:00 PM 12th					MTG. AT 4:00 PM 14th*		
QUALICUM BEACH Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm			11th			10th					10th	
PORT ALBERNI Where: Clutest Haven Marina When: 4:00 pm						MTG. AT 7:00 PM 10th			10th*			
NANAIMO Where: Nanaimo Legion #256 When: 4:00 pm			MTG. AT 6:30 PM 11th			13th*		11th*			MTG. AT 6:30 PM 10th*	
PORT HARDY Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm				14th					8th			
COURTENAY Where: Line Room When: 4:00 pm			10th*			9th			9th			15th*
CAMPBELL RIVER Where: Maritime Heritage Centre When: 7:00 pm			10th			9th*			9th			15th

* denotes Official Meeting



Your Local 258 IBEW

Executive Board Members:

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Doug McKay

President: Michelle Laurie

Vice-President: Tony Brand

Treasurer: Larry Byhre

Recording Secretary: Dale Haines

Unit #1 Chair: Klaus Kraft

Unit #2 Chair: Gerry Pope

Unit #3 Chair: Leon Arishenkoff

Unit #4 Chair: Tom Greenwell

Unit #5 Chair: Cathy Tagseth

Unit #6 Chair: Karen Porter

Your Local 258 IBEW Representatives:

Senior Assistant Business Manager: Jim Greenwell

Assistant Business Managers:

Greg Fanning, Dan Giesbrecht, Dan Klassen,

Susan Longva, Don McNabb

Local 258 IBEW Dispatcher: Jim McKay

LOCAL 258, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

7535 Sixth Street,
Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2
phone: 604-520-3305 fax: 604-522-3371



Unit 5 Meeting Schedule 2009

UNIT 5 MEETING SCHEDULE

BURNABY

Where: Union Hall,
7535 Sixth St., Burnaby
When: 5:00 pm

SEHEL T

Where: Seaside Centre, Sechelt
When: 5:00 pm

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
BURNABY	15th*	12th	12th*	16th*	14th	11th*	16th*	13th*	10th	15th*	12th*	17th*
SEHEL T		18th*			20th*				16th*			

* denotes Official Meeting



LOCAL 258
IBEW



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7535 Sixth Street,
Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2
phone: 604-520-3305 fax: 604-522-3371



Unit 6 Meeting Schedule 2009

UNIT 6 MEETING SCHEDULE

SURREY

Where: Millwrights Union Hall,
#202-14625 108th Ave., Surrey
When: 7:00 pm

CHILLIWACK

Where: Best Western
43971 Industrial Way, Chilliwack
When: 7:00 pm

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
SURREY	13th*	10th	10th*	14th	12th*	9th	14th*	11th	8th*	13th	10th*	15th
CHILLIWACK		11th*		15th*		10th*		12th*		14th*		16th*

* denotes Official Meeting



LOCAL 258
IBEW



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Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2
phone: 604-520-3305 fax: 604-522-3371

Your website: www.ibew258.bc.ca



Local 258 IBEW's website, located at www.ibew258.bc.ca on the internet, continues to attract lots of traffic.

Your union website features information about the Local and also includes a number of links for important union information, including downloadable pdf files of your member magazine, The Hotline.

You will also find a number of resources for members such as a Membership Application Form, Unit Meeting Schedules and Applications for Training Assistance.

We hope you enjoy the website and look forward to receiving any suggestions on how we can improve your website, including information that you would like to see on the site. Contact the union's president, Michelle Laurie, at mlaurie@ibew258.bc.ca with your suggestions. ☑

Do you have photos, original artwork, cartoons, 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. We would like you to share your photos and creative works — and your stories too — with your union's member magazine, The Hotline!

You are welcome to send in photos from your workplace, and if you have a bit of writing ability, we are also interested in any stories, poems or articles you have written about a work-related issue. Cartoons and drawings are also welcome.

If you'd like to send photos to be published in The Hotline, there are a few requirements:

- If you are sending digital photos - and that's a lot easier to do these days with almost everybody having a digital camera - it's best if the photos are from a minimum 4.0 megapixel camera, set at the highest quality setting ("Fine/Superfine" or "Large").
- If you don't have a digital camera, traditional glossy colour prints developed at the local camera shop or drug store work well too.
- Please **don't** send ink jet, colour copier or colour laser prints - they just don't work well for publishing purposes.
- Include your name and where you work, along with a description of who is in the photo including the occasion and date.
- You can also burn the photos onto a CD and mail them to the Local 258 IBEW office, Attention: The Hotline.

** Remember to turn off the automatic date when taking pictures on your camera. Please do not send original photographs - copies will be best as we cannot confirm return of originals. By sending photos you consent to having your photos published in The Hotline. Please be aware the union's member magazine is downloadable on the union's website.*



The above photo was taken in 2000 by Harold Wootton, a 35 year IBEW member who works for Allteck Line Contracting. It shows Brother Dwight Barker and Brother Dennis Devoe on 100 ft. poles stringing express lines over the river in Kamloops. Thanks to Sylvie Wootton, Harold's wife, for sending this photo to The Hotline.

Send your photos via e-mail to:
hotline@shaw.ca

Send your photos via mail to:
Local 258 IBEW
Attention, The Hotline
7535 Sixth Street
Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2

RUMINATIONS OF A RETIREE

by **Ken McEwen**
Retired IBEW Member

The e-mail announcing the deadline for this issue found us somewhere on the road in California. It is that time of year again and we were on our way to the desert for the winter. Now that we are static at our destination I will try to get this done in time so the editor won't get too cranky.

Our trip south went well although not quite as planned. Because it has been a few years since we travelled the coast route we thought it would be nice to take a leisurely wander along the ocean through Washington, Oregon and California. On a bright sunny day we drove out to the coast at Aberdeen, Washington. After some miles of twisty-turny up-and-down roads, Sesame the dog got sick a couple of times. It is apparent she hasn't totally outgrown her motion sickness affliction. Not wanting Sesame to feel poorly for 2500 kilometres of driving, we left the coast at Seaside, Oregon, and completed the trip via Interstate 5. Sesame does better on less curvy roads.

Speaking of roads, a subject of much rumination on my part, it has been my experience that of the half dozen or so western states we generally travel, California has the lumpiest and bumpiest. Given that the population of California is greater than the population of all Canada you'd think there would be a lot of tax dollars available to keep the roads in good condition. Another travelling detail I have ruminated about has to do with highway rest areas. Through Washington and Oregon the rest areas are, on average, about 30 miles apart and are very pleasant and well maintained. In California, 60 miles between rest areas is not uncommon to discover poorly maintained facilities. Indeed there are some instances of 90 mile intervals and then many of these widely spaced rest areas are closed. That can make for long waits between grass (or acceptable substitute) stops for Sesame. Now that I ruminate a little further on the subject, maybe the condition of roads does have something to do with population. Canada and California have a similar population and the Trans-Canada Highway that I've travelled through the four western provinces compares equally with California roads for lumps and bumps. Further rumination is required.


Quite apart from roads, rest areas and elections, this is a notable year for me. October 28, 2008, marked the tenth anniversary of my retirement. Given our society's tradition of celebrating events in increments of years that end in zero or five, perhaps some sort of festivity should have memorialized the day. However, the day passed without fanfare. Mind you, in my retirement, I find increasingly that other prominent dates such as wedding anniversaries, birthdays and the like pass unnoticed as well. Just yesterday (I think it was yesterday) I was filling out a form that required me

to enter my age. After some thinking, I had to ask Catherine Dear how old I was, to be sure I entered the correct number. Catherine Dear remembers most things like that. Well, I have to remind her about our wedding anniversary. I generally remember four or five days past the date. Anyway, I've been kind of thinking that since I've been writing this column and taking up a page in the Hotline for ten years now, perhaps it's time to relinquish this space to fresh ideas and a fresh perspective.

Further to the discussion of dates and times, this morning (I think it was this morning), I was ruminating around and thought, "I don't have a watch". Well, I do indeed have a watch, somewhere. I think it might be in a drawer in New Westminster. That's one of the great things about retirement — there is no need for a watch. More specifically, there is no real need to be any particular place at any particular time. On those occasions when time may have some importance, I find there are enough clocks in the world to keep one fairly close to 'on time'. Take doctors appointments for example; if the appointment is for, say, 2:15 pm, you can be pretty sure you're not going to see a doctor any time before 2:45 pm. That gives a good half hour leeway which can be met by the dashboard clock in the car or even by clocks in store windows. For soon-to-be retirees, this all important subject of time is covered in volume one of the Retiree's Apprenticeship Manual.

While time may not be of paramount importance to a retiree, weather is. The most important element of the nightly newscast is the weather report. Even though the forecast is not always accurate, I find that retirees take some comfort in looking forward to tomorrow and anticipating what the day might bring, weather wise. I note that weather persons in both Canada and the United States of America speak the same jargon. I still have some difficulty differentiating between showers, periods of rain and occasional rain as well as cloudy with sunny periods, sunny with cloudy periods and partly cloudy. Really, all I need to know is should I cover the barbecue and is it going to be a good day to wash the camper.

I very much wanted to report on my acquisition of "Listening Ears" for the TV. I can now hear everything the TV persons say while Catherine Dear can keep the volume control at a level that doesn't offend the neighbours. I can also shut the TV speakers off and watch all the good action movies with gratuitous violence as well as sporting events without Catherine Dear saying, "What's that horrible noise?". The "Listening Ears" rank right up there with the Garmin GPS unit as great things I have bought. However, it seems that my allocated space will not allow such a report.

Please take care and continue to work and play safely because retirement is the best use of time I have found. 

Blogging, not so funny after all

by Rebecca Murdock, Local 258 Legal Counsel



Blogging that criticizes the employer or co-workers may be grounds for discharge, according to a 2008 arbitration decision from Alberta: (Alberta—and—AUPE, 2008, AGAA No. 20 [Ponak]). “R”, who worked for the Alberta government, blogged that her department was a “lunatic asylum”, and her supervisor was “Nurse Ratchet” or the “Lunatic in Charge”. She similarly caricatured her co-workers using thinly disguised identities.

In other postings she reproduced emails and bits of information that disclosed the identity of her employer, and the contents of confidential client files.

In finding the employment relationship was irreparably damaged, the Arbitrator took into account that “R” was initially unapologetic and defensive about the blogs, and that the malicious nature of R’s comments regarding her co-workers made a future relationship with them untenable.

Conversely, a BC Arbitrator reinstated an employee fired from EV Logistics in Langley when he blogged about his employer and even posted comments that were racist and hateful (EV Logistics v. RWU, Local 580, 2008, BCCAAA No. 22, Laing). The employee was a forklift driver and he was given a second chance because, when confronted, he immediately took down his blog and posted an apology in its place. He also wrote a letter to his employer saying:

“I’m just a young barely out of teen years 22-year old guy who made a very childish stupid mistake without thinking about who it could offend or hurt. Most of the entries in the blog were just made up stories people egged me into writing because they thought the hate or death theme was funny.”

Instead of termination the Arbitrator imposed a suspension of time served.

Because a blog is posted to the world wide web, an employee cannot claim the communication was private and not intended for wide publication. Nor will a defence of “off-duty” conduct succeed where the employer’s name or reputation is diminished through negative comment or a breach of confidential information.

Employees may think blogging is protected expression under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. This is a grave misconception. The Charter does not apply to activities in the private sector. A “freedom of expression” argument can only be brought against the government, its legislation or activities.

Employees in the public sector may bring a “freedom of expression” defense to the blogging debate, but it is doubtful that argument will succeed where the comments are satiric or intended to skewer the employer or one’s co-workers. An employee owes his/her employer and co-workers a duty of confidentiality and this includes a cone of silence around the internal foibles of the employer’s operations. Put simply, employees are entitled to their opinions, but they are not entitled to publish their negative opinions to the world wide web. ☑

WCB launches Teleclaim service for injured workers

Injured workers can now file their time-loss claims more quickly and easily with a new service through WorkSafeBC (the Workers Compensation Board of BC) known as Teleclaim.

1•888•WORKERS

(1•888•967•5377 or #5377 on your Telus, Rogers or Bell cell phone)

Workers who are injured at work and miss time as a result can now 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 4 pm.

EITI helps train First Nations students

When Brian Jones of Seabird Island First Nation began looking for ways to stimulate worthwhile, family supporting jobs and careers for members of his community, he knew the challenge he was up against. With unemployment high among aboriginal people and with limited opportunities, he knew he had to think outside the box. As Economic Development Officer for the band, he engaged in talks with local leaders and together they came up with a comprehensive training plan to meet the needs of their community and hopefully launch a few worthwhile careers as a result.

This fall, the Seabird Island First Nations launched a federally funded pilot project in partnership with the Electrical Industry Training Institute, Local 258's electrical utility training facility, to train entry level workers with the basic core skills they will need for a career in electrical utilities.

16 students registered in the six-week course that featured training in traffic flagging, first aid, safety training, boom truck

use, forklift training, rigging, working with pesticides and WHMIS. The students attended classes at Seabird Island, went on a tour of the Stave Lake Dam and received customized training at EITI's facility in Surrey

EITI Director Phil Davis said, "This pilot project was initiated by Seabird Island First Nations – they selected the course participants and customized the program. The response was phenomenal from the community and we were very pleased to work collaboratively with the band on meeting their needs."

The enthusiastic students were described by Davis as being "very dedicated, conscientious and eager to learn." Upon graduation, the students will be qualified for further entry level trades training. ⚡



EITI Director Phil Davis.



The Electrical Industry Training Institute is owned by Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

EITI creates and delivers training that develops safe, skilled and competent workers in the electrical industry with a vision to enhance the industry's workforce by leading the way with innovative, responsive training solutions.

EITI's mission is to be recognized as the leading provider of quality customized training that develops safe, skilled and highly respected workers for our industry with a competitive advantage of quality customized training from our industry for our industry.

www.eiti.bc.ca

Students from Seabird Island First Nation's electrical utility training program attended specialized classes at the union's training facility in Surrey, the Electrical Industry Training Institute.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

LOCAL 258

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS & CANADIAN ELECTRICAL BROTHERHOOD OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS & CANADIAN ELECTRICAL BROTHERHOOD OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.



ABM Don McNabb, left, and Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft, right, congratulate Brother Tom Kile on his retirement.



Unit 2 Chair Gerald Pope, left, presents Brother Karl Fulson with a retirement plaque and jacket at the Hudson's Hope union meeting.



Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft, center, congratulates Brother Howard Chafin, left, and Brother Jerry Root, right, on receiving their 50 year service pin awards and certificates.



The 100 Mile House R&R Interior Power Line Crew, from left: Orrey Rislund, Paul Davis, Ryan Lucas, Curtis Colbourne (displaying his new IBEW Lineman Certificate) and Roger Bissat.



Brother Frank McGowan receives his 15 year service pin award from Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft at the Queen Charlotte City union meeting.



Brother Glen Cromarty, left, receives a retirement jacket and plaque from Unit 2 Chair Gerald Pope at the Prince George union meeting.



Unit 2 Chair Gerald Pope, left, presents Brother Al Cross with a retirement plaque and jacket at the Hudson's Hope union meeting.



The Williams Lake Interior Power Line Crew, from left: Raiden Kika, Ron Tomm and Shaun Leggett with his new IBEW Lineman Certificate.



Congratulations to Brother Barry Kinsley who was recently awarded his 30 year service pin.



Congratulations to Brother Clint Wishnowski, on becoming a Journeyman Lineman.



Congratulations to Brother Daryl Larsen, left, who received retirement 'goodies' from Unit 3 Chair Leon Arishenkoff.



Prince George ESC Line Crew, from left to right: Sean Davis, Sean Duncan (holding his new IBEW Lineman Certificate), Josh VanDenBorn, Brian Borden, Ken Brame and Steve Bailey.



A 10 year service pin was awarded to Brother Robert Chisholm, left, at the Queen Charlotte City union meeting by Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft.



Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft, left, awards a 40 year service pin to Brother Mike Ferrier at the Queen Charlotte City union meeting.



Brother Jamie Grosse, right, receives his 10 year service award pin from Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft at the Masset union meeting.



Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft, left, presents Brother Bill Woodworth with a retirement plaque and jacket plus his 35 & 40 year service award pins.



Electrician Apprentice Tyler Ringer, left, gets a welcome from Unit 2 Chair Gerald Pope at the November Prince George union meeting.



Unit 2 Chair Gerald Pope, left, presents Brother Chris Fait with a 15 year service pin at the November Williams Lake union meeting.



Brother Dave Alsop, left, gets a welcome from Unit 2 Chair Gerald Pope at the Hudson's Hope union meeting.



Brother Dave Bjorkman, right, receives his 15 year service pin award from Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft at the Terrace union meeting.



Brother Dan Youngson, left, was recently awarded his 15 year service pin at the Queen Charlotte City union meeting by Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft.





Unit 3 Chair Leon Arisbenkoff, left, congratulates Brother Doug Mayer on his recent retirement.



Brother Len Lanaway, left, receives his 40 year service pin award from Unit 3 Chair Leon Arisbenkoff.



Brother Wayne Inglis, right, receives his retirement goodies from Unit 3 Chair Leon Arisbenkoff, left, and Vice Chair Ray Lapointe.



Congratulations to the Fish family with dad Bill, right, being awarded a 35 year service pin and son Mike receiving his Journeyman Lineman certificate.



Brother Gord Lawson, left, receives his 35 year service pin award from Unit 3 Chair Leon Arisbenkoff.

LOOKING FOR INDEPENDENT MEDIA THAT'S SMART, EDGY, AND FUN TO READ?



Check out **WWW.THE TYEE.CA**

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- Feisty takes on books, film, TV, music, and life in BC
- In-depth coverage of environmental and social issues
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IBEW Local 258 members working at BC Hydro and two of their managers take a moment for a photo opportunity. Front row, from left: Dave Lussier, Peter Grundy (manager), Mike Lukoni, Al Pineau (manager), Rob Jack, Zane Gauthier. Back row, from left: Brock MacLean, Dan Clinaz, Tyler Thompson, Jeremy O'Laney, Trevor Beeson.



THE HOTLINE IS PUBLISHED BY The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 258, 7535 Sixth Street, Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2 **ADDRESSED ADMAIL #3262510**
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Making the effort

Federal, municipal, back to federal, and, in the wings – provincial! We have been immersed in political positioning, grandstanding, maneuvering and elections for the past several months, and we have a few more to go before we get some stability. Most likely, none of us are terribly thrilled with having to hear all the rhetoric, and sort through it for the basic tenets that meet with our values, our beliefs about government and social services. Still, we have to make the effort, because our communities, our province and our country are valuable, and there are national, provincial and global actions affecting us in all aspects of our lives.

On the federal scene, we have a Prime Minister who is so desperate to keep his job, in spite of losing the confidence of Parliament, that he simply shut down government for seven weeks, meaning no action can be taken in this time of economic downturn. Likely, during these weeks, we will be subjected to massive media campaigns aimed at convincing us that our country is on the verge of collapse, and we must rally behind one man to save us. Personally, I favour rallying around our Constitution and our parliamentary system; after all, the MPs sitting in the house are the ones who were elected by the people of Canada just two months ago, and they have been given the job of finding a way to work together to govern our nation. That means they must talk to each other, they must find common ground and they must function as a Parliament. It doesn't mean taking your ball and going home when you unilaterally come out with a proposal so utterly contrary to all economic expertise about solutions in this climate of economic uncertainty that no one can possibly support you.

From the Back Corner

Report from
Michelle Laurie,
President, Local 258 IBEW



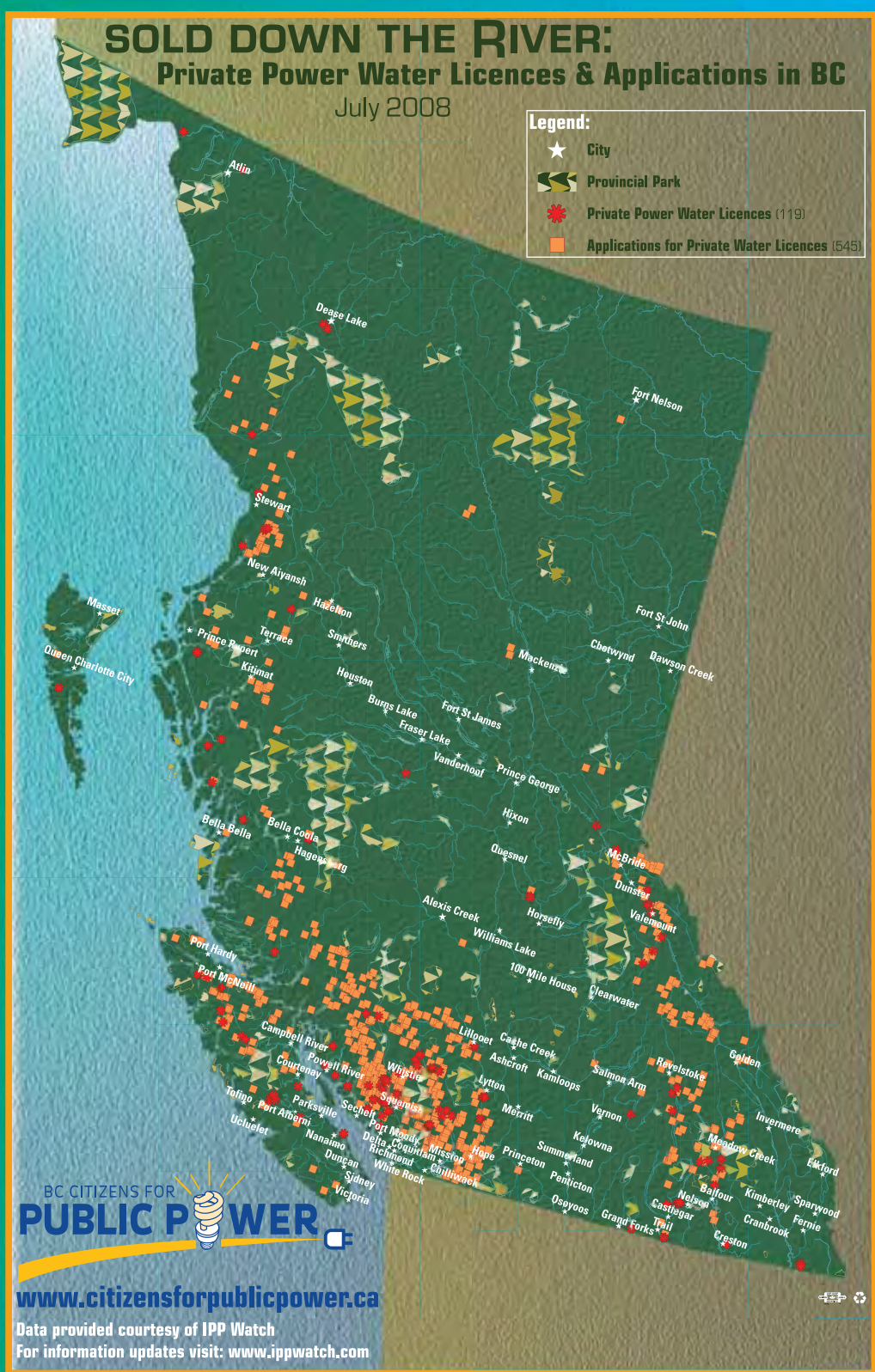
Personally, my biggest fear about the economic policies of the Conservative government is that they want to sell off public assets. There are no economists that can tell you this is rational behaviour when faced with a huge market and economic downturn, but when your defining ideology is that government is a bad thing, you will hide your activities while people are distracted. When we wake up and don't own our country or our services anymore, we might ask "what happened?," as our sisters and brothers south of the border have recently done, but by then, it may be too late.

So, though it can be a very difficult pile through which to sift, be careful of the spin you read and hear, and do your best to get the facts about the decisions being made by people who primarily worry about the next election. You and I and our children and their children will be left with the (too often) long term disastrous outcomes. At the same time, enjoy that family, your friends and your loved ones through the cold season – have yourselves a very happy and warm Christmas, full of the things that make you happiest! 🇨🇦



Find out more about how the BC Liberal government is selling our energy future to private interests — and how you can join with other British Columbians to stop them.

www.citizensforpublicpower.ca



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