



# HOTLINE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
PUBLICATION OF  
LOCAL 258 IBEW  
FALL, 2013

LOCAL 258, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, BRITISH COLUMBIA

## Local 258 IBEW members help build strong communities



Helping a community raise a totem pole



Volunteering to preserve a community jewel so families can enjoy time together



Supporting charity with fundraising events



Contributing to support important medical advances

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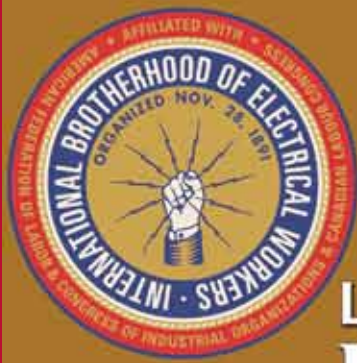


See the photos at [www.ibew258.bc.ca/](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca/)

**Hotline** Fall 2013

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

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President: Tony Brand

Vice-President: vacant

Treasurer: Larry Byhre

Recording Secretary: Dale Haines

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Unit #4 Chair: Tom Greenwell

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Unit #5 Chair: Cathy Tagseth

Unit #3 Chair: Colin Kenney

Unit #6 Chair: Chris Carter

Local 258 IBEW Senior Assistant Business Manager: Jim Greenwell

Local 258 IBEW Assistant Business Managers: Greg Fanning, Dan Giesbrecht, Dan Klassen, Don McNabb, Nicole Biernaczyk

Local 258 IBEW Dispatcher: Jim McKay

Local 258 IBEW Membership Development/Organizing: Rick Gerrard

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

Local 258 IBEW Legal Counsel: Rebecca Murdock

## VIEWPOINT from your Business Manager Doug McKay

As your Business Manager, representing our membership is both an honour and a privilege. It is a very demanding position and I am grateful for the dedication and support from our membership who hold me to account and give me the opportunity to do my best on your behalf to help secure decent wages, safer workplaces, fair treatment and job security for you. Together, we have a lot to be proud of.

This year is simply flying by and I can't believe how much we jam into our days. I know all of you are working hard using your skills and abilities to provide quality and value to your employers. As union members, I have had a number of opportunities to meet with many of you at our Unit Meetings and at your workplaces this year and sincerely appreciate your involvement in our organization and your interest in moving all of us forward.

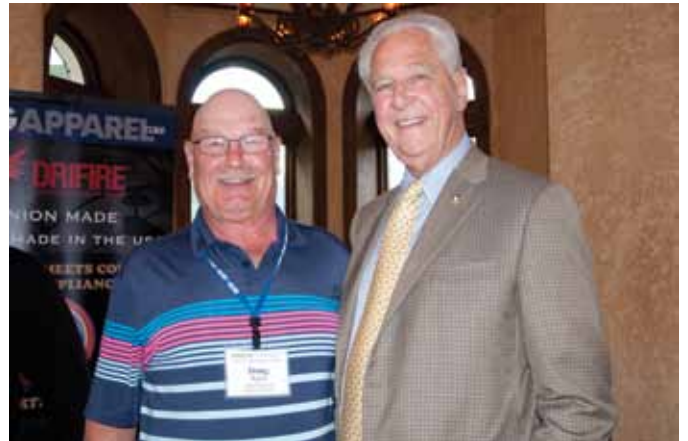
I am very proud of our Local 258 of the IBEW and our members and I also understand that while not everyone agrees with all the things we do as a union, there are a lot of things that our union is doing that we can be damn well proud of.

I want to thank the membership for voting in favour of our Local making another significant donation to the Burn and Wound Healing Research that is underway under the leadership of Dr. Aziz Ghahary at the Vancouver General Hospital. It was with a great sense of pride that, together with our Executive Board, I attended at the Research Lab in October to formally present a cheque in the amount of \$100,000 from our membership to support the ground breaking medical advances being made. At the same time, it was with a heavy heart knowing that these treatments may have to be used to benefit one of us who may be injured on the job and suffer electrical burns one day. It is a serious reminder of the importance to do everything we possibly can to have safe work environments. I know accidents can, and probably will, happen, but we need to remain vigilant to ensure safety in the workplace.

My condolences go out to all our members, and in particular our members working in Traffic Control, on the recent death of a young lady who was killed at work in Duncan on Vancouver Island. We are a close knit community and when a worker is killed on the job, we are reminded of the dangers all of our members face on a daily basis. Our union continues to prioritize safety as a number one priority in Traffic Control, and in all sectors our members work in.

Unfortunately, for our members working at BC Hydro, we have been going through a lot of turmoil this year. In June, serious accusations were made resulting in 18 suspensions and then six of our members were terminated. Grievances have been filed and the union is now heading to arbitration.

In reviewing everything that has transpired to date, one of our biggest concerns, and disappointments, is with how our members have been treated by this employer. Our sense of trust has been



*IBEW International President Ed Hill and Local 258 Business Manager Doug McKay at the IBEW All Canada Progress meeting that took place in Banff, Alberta this summer.*

shaken by this employer's actions and it feels like the whole situation was handled by the keystone cops.

The fallout has been far-reaching and has had a significant and negative impact on many of our members — I've received numerous reports from members who've had disrespectful and accusatory comments directed at them by members of the public, and even though some of the comments may be made with a sense of humour, they've injured our sense of pride in the jobs we do to keep the power flowing. And it's not just our membership being affected, but their families too. Nonetheless, the damage has been done and we are now trying to move forward by supporting our members and making sure this employer knows the ramifications of their actions.

Bargaining proposals have been sent in the mail to members working at BC Hydro and for our private Power Line contractors with contracts set to expire in the near future. Please take advantage of this opportunity to participate by putting forward your ideas for these contract negotiations. Read more about the details on page 8 of this issue of the Hotline.

I'd like to thank the members of Local 258 who helped organize this year's fantastic Safety Rodeo in Nanaimo that showcased the skills of our PLTs and our members trained in First Aid. It was a Class Act all around and we were glad to be a big part of it!

We were also very pleased to support our members who recently travelled to Kansas City to compete in the International Lineman's Rodeo. We've got a story and photos on our website - [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca) - and encourage you to sign up and find out more.

We are looking forward to our 2013 Shop Stewards Conference taking place at the end of this month. We'll have a full report in the next issue of the Hotline and in the meantime, have a safe and happy Christmas. 📧



# We've Got Mail!

Dear Local 258 IBEW,

The crew of POWER Flagging and Traffic Control here in the Cariboo would like to thank all the line crews and line contractors who have supported and used Local 258 IBEW flaggers. After working with our local Hydro line crew for over 7 years we found out just how supportive our brothers were.

In January we had just been bought and came under new management and ownership. Unfortunately, during the process, Power Flagging didn't get on the vendors list even though our new parent company was. Two of our crews here in the Cariboo Region went above and beyond in their help and support and due to that support we still have a great working relationship with our line crews and we are so proud to be Local 258 IBEW members.

Sincerely,

Sue Gunn and the Crew from Power Flagging  
100 Mile House, Williams Lake and Prince George

Dear Mr. Tony Brand and IBEW Local 258 members,

I am writing to thank you and your organization for the kind gift you gave to GP Vanier's music department. It was such a surprise to us, so please know that your generosity and support was greatly appreciated.

We are using the money to ensure that all 106 students participating in our week-long music trip to San Francisco have enough money to purchase food while on the trip. If the students do not end up requiring help with budgeting for food, we will put the funds towards upcoming trips and larger purchase items such as new instruments and equipment.

On behalf of Ms. Jennifer Forsland, our choir teacher, and myself I would like to thank you again for your wonderful support of all the students in the music program at GP Vanier.

Musically yours,

Ms. Lindsay Duncan

Director of Bands, GP Vanier Secondary School, Courtenay, BC

Dear Mr. Brand and members of Local 258 IBEW,



Thanks to you, one or more campers will have the opportunity to attend summer camp at Camp Jubilee.

Thank you for your generous gift of \$569.00 to the 2013 Send A Kid campaign. Your commitment to helping children enjoy a wonderful positive summer camp adventure helps to benefit families and communities. The value of camp – life skills, leadership skills and social skills – are not only included in the experience but also include the value of building positive relationships with fellow campers and leaders.

Thanks to donors like you, the Send A Kid to Camp campaign provided funding for over 399 children just last year and we hope to increase that number to over 450 in 2013.

We couldn't do it without you!

Sincerely,

Tracy Staines

Camp Jubilee Funds Development Coordinator

Dear Brother Dan Klassen and Local 258 IBEW,

On behalf of St. Paul's Hospital Foundation, we would like to thank the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 258 for your generous support of St. Paul's Hospital Foundation's Lights of Hope campaign as a Silver Sponsor.

I am pleased to advise that our 2012 campaign exceeded our \$2 million goal, raising an outstanding \$2.4 million for the hospital. Over the past 15 years, thanks to our donors, our Lights of Hope campaign has raised over \$21 million for St. Paul's.

Thank you again for supporting world-leading care, research and teaching, all of which benefits patients from across British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Dick Vollet

President & CEO

St. Paul's Hospital

Foundation



To the members of IBEW Local 258;  
I would like to express my gratitude to all of the brothers and sisters who have called, written, or spoken with me about my recent medical diagnosis.

The caring and concern that you have shown me and my wife over these very trying months is well appreciated. It is times like this when you really learn to understand the true meaning of our brotherhood.

As I enter into the treatment phase, I know I will be strengthened by the well wishes of all the people at both BC Hydro and the Line Contractors who have reached out.

A special thanks to the members of Unit 3 for the fantastic basket of treats... my wife Arleigh was very pleased, probably because after the surgery I was unable to swallow and it nearly all became hers to enjoy....

Sincerely,

Greg Fanning

Local 258 IBEW Assistant Business Manager

To members of Local 258 IBEW,  
I would like to thank all that contributed to the collection for Presley Westbrook, Trevor & Shelby's daughter who was recently attacked by a Pit Bull. I, as Trevor, were extremely impressed with your generosity.

I was extremely proud to deliver a cheque today to Trevor for \$530.00 dollars on behalf of the Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland FSKs and the staff at MDC. This is over and above the bike that Dave Weiss purchased for Presley, a few days following the incident.

In talking with Trevor today Presley is doing fine, considering what happened. Trevor & Shelby have decided to put this money in a Registered Educational Savings Plan for Presley which they started last week unbeknownst to this coming. In addition I was in discussions with the IBEW Business Manager for the Island, Dan Klassen yesterday and the IBEW is contributing another \$300.00

We have a great team in Material Management, & with our union partners throughout the province and this just shows me how much we all mean to each other and how we pull together in an attempt to ease a fellow team members pain.

I thank you again...

Murray

L. Murray Crampton P.Log

Materials Management,

BC Hydro Regional Operations Manager

Dear Brothers & Sisters,



On behalf of our locked out members, our entire Local, please extend a thank you to your membership for your \$500 contribution to assist our members who have been locked out of work by the Electrical Contractors Association of

New Brunswick. Not only your contribution but your support is greatly appreciated.

Fraternally,

Jean Marc Ringuette

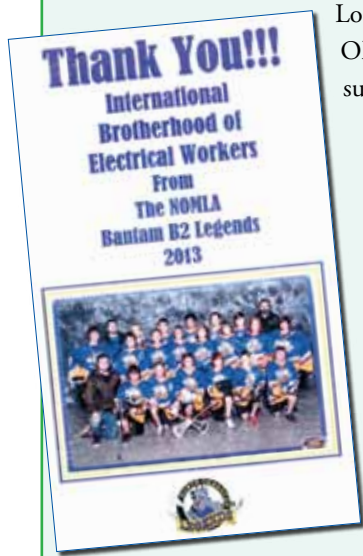
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

IBEW Local 502



### THANK YOU INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS!

Local 258 IBEW was pleased to receive a signed thank you card from the members of the North Okanagan Minor Lacrosse Association Bantam B2 Legends team thanking the union for it's donation to support their team. The card is signed by team members:



#1 Jordan Scherck  
#9 Dakota Campen  
#11 Tyson Reschke  
#14 Troy Main  
#17 Stefan Wells  
#19 Sean Howard  
#24 Seth Waterstreet  
#36 Jake Pelletier  
#47 Tieg Dougherty  
#49 Dalen Kenny

#3 Reese Hawthorne  
#10 Josh Melbourne  
#13 Miles Wohlford  
#16 Cody Webb  
#18 Amy Fox  
#22 Travis Aeichele  
#35 Francois Leroux Jr.  
#43 Rhys Larsen  
#48 Luc Halvorson



# We've Got Mail!

Dear Tony Brand and Local 258 IBEW,  
On behalf of the BC Hydro Power Pioneers Golf Club (Vancouver) members and Executive, I would like to thank you most sincerely for your donation and generosity again this year. The \$300 and the golf shirts will be gratefully used at our annual golf wind-up tournament dinner in September.

We are 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. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Irene Bedard

President, BC Hydro Power Pioneers Golf Club (Vancouver)

Dear Local 258 IBEW,

I wanted to take a moment to thank the Union, IBEW Local 258 for giving me the opportunity to attend the CLC Harrison Hot Springs Winter School. I took, the Union Counselling Level 1 course and I thoroughly enjoyed it and learned a lot of valuable information that I will now be able to bring back to my brothers and sisters and hopefully implement in the workplace.

The Union Counselling Level 1 course focused on creating a happy and healthy workplace and a culture of trust and solidarity for our union brothers and sisters. It gave me the tools necessary to be able to listen to, provide support and provide valuable resources to my fellow union members who may be struggling though a tough time whether it is work related or non-work related. I'm passionate about making a difference in our culture and workplace regarding any issue that may be keeping someone from being truly happy and I think this course will be able to help me achieve this.

I had a great experience at the school and I would highly recommend it to anyone who's interested in learning some new skills or getting more involved in our union. The instructors were all knowledgeable and had a lot of experience and insight to share on the course they taught.

Thanks again.

Russ Vine

Dear Dan (Klassen),

Please convey my warmest thanks to IBEW 258 for the beautiful gift of the wine set. I will always remember my excellent association with the many wonderful IBEW 258 members I worked with while at United Way.

Thank you for attending my surprise retirement party and for keeping it a secret.

All the very best to you and your union.

Jackie Weiler

Labour Participation Department

United Way of the Lower Mainland

Dear IBEW Board,

I would like to thank IBEW Local 258 for the outstanding support of the Vancouver Adaptive Snow Sports (VASS) Challenge Cup fundraising event. It pairs a disabled skier with three able-bodied team mates to compete in a fun race.

It makes me proud to be a member of the Union of Hearts and Minds. The support for the VASS organization allows many people who see ice and snow as a great hazard to get out and enjoy winter on the North Shore mountains.

Thank you again,

Mark Davison

Dear Local 258 IBEW,

On behalf of the Hudson's Hope Rod and Gun Club, we would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$300. Your contribution has helped make our fundraiser a great success. This event has helped rejuvenate the club as a whole and has raised some money to go towards some much needed upgrades.

Once again, thank you for your generous donation.

Sincerely

Members of the Hudson's Hope Rod & Gun Club

Dear Tony Brand & Local 258 IBEW,

Thank you for your generous support of the 2013 Concrete Hero benefitting BC Cancer Foundation. Your contribution greatly impacts the fight to end cancer.

Your gift helps us to carry out the latest research and provide the most relevant care to the cancer patients in greatest need and allow the BC Cancer Agency to continue to be a world-renowned model for cancer research, control and patient care.

Sincerely

Doug Nelson

President and CEO

BC Cancer Foundation

## 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

**Smithers:** November 13 @ 5:00 pm in the Line Room

**Terrace:** December 10 @ 7:00 pm, Best Western Inn

### Unit 2 - Central Interior

**Prince George:** November 14 @ 7:00 pm at the Coast Inn of the North

**Quesnel:** November 21 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room

**Williams Lake:** November 20 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room

**Dawson Creek:** December 12 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room

### Unit 3 - Southern Interior

**Bridge River:** November 12 @ 5:30 pm in Lunch Room B2

**Kamloops:** November 13 @ 7:00 pm at IBEW Local 993 Hall, 873 Desmond Street, Kamloops

**Vernon:** November 14, December 12 @ 7:00 pm at the Army & Navy Club

**Revelstoke:** November 18 @ 4:15 pm at the Hydro Dam Lunch Room

**Mica:** November 19 @ 6:00 pm at the Mica Curling Rink

### Unit 4 -

### Vancouver Island

**Victoria:** November 13 @ 4:00

pm in the BC Hydro Line Room

**Duncan:** December 10 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room

**Nanaimo:** December 11 @ 4:00 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion #256, 1630 Wellington Rd. East

### Unit 5 - Lower Mainland

**Burnaby:** November 14, December 19 (changed from December 12) @ 5:00 pm at the Local 258 IBEW office, 7535 Sixth Street

### Unit 6 - Fraser Valley

**Langley:** November 12, December 10 @ 7:00 pm at the USW Hall, 200th St., Langley

**Chilliwack:** December 11 @ 7:00 pm at the Best Western, 43971 Industrial Way



## 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](mailto: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 voice mail with your name and phone number. 

## *Members working at BC Hydro and at signatory Line Contractors*

# Major agreements set to expire – members sending in bargaining proposals

### How Bargaining (Negotiations) for a New Collective Agreement Generally Works

*All members of Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers work under the protection of a Collective Agreement – also known as a contract – negotiated between your union and the employer. Here is a general guideline of how the process works:*

- Bargaining Proposals are sent out to members when the current contract is nearing expiry, seeking your input and ideas.
- Proposals are received at the union office.
- Your Bargaining Committee, made up of the Union Negotiator, Business Manager and Local 258 members from your workplace, take your Bargaining Proposals into consideration and identifies the priorities to negotiate a new contract.
- Dates are set for negotiations to commence with the employer.
- Your Bargaining Committee presents your priorities and proposals to the employer.
- The employer presents their ideas to your union Bargaining Committee.
- Negotiations take place, usually over a series of meetings.
- Your Bargaining Committee communicates with the membership during negotiations by notices, emails, and through meetings.
- When a tentative agreement is reached, the union will recommend acceptance or rejection of the agreement.
- When the majority of the union members at your workplace vote and accept a tentative agreement, the agreement is then ratified and made enforceable.

*Sometimes, a strike vote is taken. A strike vote can help apply pressure on an employer, but a positive vote does not automatically mean any type of job action will be taken.*

*Sometimes, when both parties have trouble reaching an agreement they can apply for mediation or arbitration to help settle the dispute. Mediation is when both parties return to the bargaining table with a neutral third-party mediator who facilitates face-to-face discussion but doesn't impose a settlement.*

*Arbitration is each party presenting their case to a third-party "arbitrator" who assesses the arguments and makes a legally binding ruling.*

Business Manager Doug McKay reports bargaining proposal forms have been sent to Local 258 IBEW members working at BC Hydro and at signatory Line Contractors seeking suggestions, ideas and input from the membership as collective agreements are set to expire in the near future.


"We are having a really good return on the bargaining proposals from our membership that show they are very aware the contracts are set to expire and we will be entering into negotiations", says Brother McKay.

The two major contracts represent a significant number of Local 258 members working in the electrical utility and in outside construction sectors.

The contract with the signatory Line Contractors, the "Master Line Agreement", expires at the end of January, 2014 and the BC Hydro contract expires at the end of March, 2014.

"We appreciate our members' input in negotiations for new contracts", says McKay. "Our Bargaining Committees will be reviewing the proposals and setting our priorities for these rounds of negotiations."

If you are working at BC Hydro or for one of our signatory Line Contractors and haven't received a Bargaining Proposal in the mail, please contact the Local 258 office at 604-520-3305 in the lower mainland, 1-866-525-3305 toll free or email [info@ibew258.bc.ca](mailto:info@ibew258.bc.ca).

You can also keep up to date on what will be happening with negotiations by signing up to the Local 258 website at [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca). 



## Members working at Hobart ratify new agreement



*Members working at Hobart Food Equipment in Delta, shown above with ABM Nicole Biernaczyk, gathered at the Local 258 office in Burnaby in mid-May as their new contract was ratified in a mail-in ballot. Their contract expired at the end of March, 2013 and Bargaining Committee members, Brother Eric Dzus and Brother Bud Omstead, assisted by ABM Biernaczyk, worked hard to achieve a new agreement featuring wage and benefit improvements. Hobart is the leading worldwide supplier of equipment, systems and service to the world's food industry where workers manufacture equipment that is durable, dependable and sets the quality standard for the food equipment industry.*

## Negotiations slow but steady

**N**egotiations for a new contract for Local 258 members working at LaneTec Traffic Control, based in Richmond, BC, have proved to be challenging this year and have been slow to proceed, reports Assistant Business Manager Nicole Biernaczyk. Your union is hopeful in reaching a tentative agreement with this employer that will be sent forward to members to vote on.

It's pretty much "ditto" for members working at Valley Traffic Services, based in

Langley, where the collective agreement expired in December, 2012. The Bargaining Committee has been faced with a number of obstacles from this employer that bogged down negotiations but Sister Biernaczyk reports they are close to reaching a tentative agreement that will be sent forward to members for voting.

In the "Success" column, congratulations to members working at Western System Controls who ratified a new collective agreement. 📧

## Congratulations to this year's Forkin Scholarship recipients

Congratulations are in order for this year's Forkin Scholarship winners, selected by the union's Executive Board in May.

The Tom Forkin Scholarship is awarded annually to members or dependants of members of Local 258 and is named in honour of the Local's first president, Tom Forkin.

The union is pleased to announce the following recipients were selected on the basis of their essays explaining their educational goals and defining their relationship with the union, their community and their labour activities.

### **Alex Beutle, Kelowna**

Alex will be attending the University of Calgary in the field of Bioinformatics and is the son of Local 258 member Mark Beutle.

### **Alysha Peterson, Chilliwack**

Alysha will be attending the University of the Fraser Valley where she has been accepted into the Faculty of Arts program. She plans on pursuing a Bachelor of Education degree. Her father is 258 member Colin Peterson

### **Matt Pereszlenyi, Campbell River**

Matt, son of Unit 4 Executive Member Mike Pereszlenyi, has been accepted into the Faculty of Engineering at both North Island College and the University of Victoria. Possible fields of study he would like to pursue include chemical, mechanical, or electrical engineering. 📧

**Welcome to our newest members working in Traffic Control at:  
Streetwise Traffic Controllers Ltd.  
West Coast Traffic - Vancouver Island**

# IBEW loses First District Vice President Phil Flemming



*IVP Phil Flemming at the IBEW All Canada Progress Meeting in Charlottetown in 2008.*

It was with great sadness that Local 258 received the news that First District Vice President Phillip Flemming passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on May 25. He was 68 years old.

Brother Flemming served as First District International Vice President (IVP), appointed in 2003 and elected at the 37th International Convention in 2006, and re-elected at the Vancouver convention in 2011.

Phil recently visited British Columbia where he travelled to Bella Coola and attended the Unit 2 membership meeting with Chair Gerry Pope. He has also attended Local 258's Shop Steward's Conferences in 2007 and 2009.

Doug McKay, Local 258 Business Manager, said, "Brother Flemming was a well respected leader in our Brotherhood. He served our membership with skill and strength and represented the IBEW as a strong organization on the national level. His unexpected passing was a shock to everyone."

Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Phil's career began as an apprentice in Prince Edward Island, where he became a licensed electrician. He was initiated into Charlottetown Local 1432 in 1967.

Always involved with his union, Brother Flemming worked as an inside wireman for eight years before being elected Business Manager/Financial Secretary

of his Local in 1975. He was also very active in PEI's labour movement, serving as president of the PEI Federation of Labour.

In 1981 he was appointed as an IBEW International Representative, servicing Locals and their members in Newfoundland, Labrador and then in Ontario. One of his proudest achievements was helping to organize a 600-person plant in Toronto.

In 1999, he transferred to the First District office, serving as an Executive Assistant. In 2003 he was appointed as the International Vice President.

Brother Flemming helped lead the First District through some of Canada's biggest economic and political changes in decades. He presided over an aggressive and successful membership development effort, which grew the IBEW's First District membership, and, under his leadership, grew the union's Political Action Program, building a grassroots network across Canada.

One of his greatest accomplishments was helping to start the First District's NextGen initiative to reach out to younger members.

Brother Flemming also worked closely with contractors and others to boost skilled construction training to meet the demands of Canada's energy boom and anticipated manpower shortage, and was

a founding member of the National Electrical Trade Council.

Nominating Brother Flemming at the 2011 International Convention, Fredericton, New Brunswick Local 37 Business Manager Ross Galbraith said:

"The First District has elected a leader with a passion for our union, a champion for working men and women, a man who has dedicated his life to the labour movement. His record shows a clear path, carefully considered decisions and willingness to tackle the tough issues."

Flemming served as a member of the Canadian Executive Board of the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO, and the Canadian Labour Congress' Executive Committee.

IBEW President Edwin D. Hill said, "Brother Flemming was a powerful voice for working families whose presence and service to the IBEW was felt across borders. The lives of every brother and sister are better because of his efforts. Phil will be greatly missed."

Brother Phil Flemming is survived by his wife Loretta, two sons, two stepdaughters, and two grandchildren. Business Manager Doug McKay travelled to PEI to attend the funeral, where he brought condolences on behalf of Local 258 members to Brother Flemming's family and friends. 📧

## IBEW leadership appointments




Shown above on the left with IBEW President Ed Hill at the recent All Canada Progress Meeting in Banff, Alberta, Brother Bill Daniels was appointed by the International Executive Council as the First District International Vice President (IVP), effective June 3, 2013.

Originally from Local 402 in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Brother Daniels was initiated into the IBEW in 1977 when he completed his journeyman wireman apprenticeship. Becoming active in his union, Bill served on Local 402's Executive Board before being elected as Business Manager in 1990. He also served as President of the IBEW Ontario Provincial Council of Business Managers.

In 2003, Bill was appointed as an IBEW International Representative to serve Ontario construction Locals. More recently, he served as Executive Assistant to the late First District IVP, Brother Phil Flemming.

Brother Daniels is married with two sons and two grandsons and says he looks forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead to grow the IBEW in Canada.


"I want to continue the important work of International Vice President Phil Flemming and develop new and creative ways to grow our market share and membership," he says. 



In January 2013, Local Union 37 Business Manager Ross Galbraith was appointed to the IBEW International Executive Council (IEC) representing the 8th District, Canada. He is shown above speaking with NextGen delegates at the recent All Canada Progress Meeting held in Banff, Alberta.

Brother Galbraith graduated in 1992 from the Chemical Technology Co-op program at the Saint John campus of the New Brunswick Community College. Upon graduation, he started working in the Health Physics department at Point Lepreau nuclear generating station and immediately took a strong interest in the IBEW. He was initiated into Local 2309 in 1993.

In 1994, Brother Galbraith was elected Unit Chairperson and joined the Executive Board of Local 2309. In the fall of 1996 he started working for the Local as Assistant Business Manager. Local 2309 merged with Local 1733 to form Local 37 in 2000 and Brother Galbraith was elected as Business Manager in 2006.


Ross currently lives in Saint John with his wife and two sons. He is very active in his hometown where he has served on several community committees, most recently on various work groups focusing on sustainable communities, workforce development and a long-term vision for the city. 

## IBEW renews on-line training courses for members



The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has renewed the Vubiz e-learning opportunities available free for members of the IBEW.

Prepaid courses are now available on-line covering subjects from Microsoft Office 2007 and 2010 to WHMIS to Back Safety to Basic Finance. A number of these courses are authored in French. Courses are available to you, your friends and families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until May 1, 2016. That means that you have 3 years to take and retake any or all of the courses.

To gain access to the on-line training course, you need to first sign-in to the Local 258 IBEW web page at [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca) and register as a member. After your registration is verified, click on the menu list under Member Resources, "Training & Education". Follow the prompts and note you will have to have your IBEW membership number to be eligible to access the free training courses. 

# United Way Update



Canadian Labour Congress  
Congrès du travail du Canada



United Way

**LOCAL 258**  
**IBEW**  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS



## McKay sees union's contribution to the United Way Labour campaign as another way to help serve our local communities

Doug McKay, Business Manager for Local 258 IBEW has assigned Unit 6 Chris Carter, a Local 258 member who works at BC Hydro, to serve as a "Loaned Rep" for this year's United Way of the Lower Mainland's Labour Campaign.

A "Loaned Rep" is sponsored by their workplace or organization – in this case Local 258 IBEW – to help facilitate workplace campaigns to raise funds for the United Way of the Lower Mainland. It's a great way to be part of the United Way community and take advantage of professional development opportunities, learn about project management, leadership and organizational skills.

"Local 258 has a long standing tradition of participating in the United Way/Labour campaign. As part of the bigger labour community, we've helped raise

much needed funds for the most vulnerable by supporting our Local 258 Loaned Reps and staff who contribute their volunteer time and expertise," said McKay. "It's just another way IBEW helps our local communities."

Serving on this year's Campaign Labour Committee is Brother Dan Klassen, who has served in the past as Campaign Co-Chair of the UWLM's Labour fundraising campaign. Local 258's contributions have also been recognized with the 2012 "Community Spirit Award".

In his capacity as a Loaned Rep, Brother Carter is visiting designated workplaces to help set up the UWLM fundraising campaign. If you would like a campaign presentation in your workplace, please contact Kameka Clarke at the United Way at 604-268-1342.

## Building healthy, strong and respectful communities

The IBEW is a proud supporter of and participant in the United Way–Centraide campaign that is working closely with labour leaders, through the Canadian Labour Congress, to develop an ambitious ten year strategic plan focusing on:

- 1) Investing to Help Kids Be All That They Can Be
- 2) Healthy People, Strong Communities, and
- 3) From Poverty to Possibilities

Bill Daniels, International Vice President of the IBEW First District Can-

ada, is working closely with the United Way Centraide Campaign to identify ways which we can broadly support these initiatives. "It's important that labour's at the table to talk about the kind of jobs we need to raise people out of poverty," said Daniels.

Brother Daniels is encouraging all members and their Locals to work together with this year's United Way campaigns in your communities through your gifts of time, energy and money.



## Local 258 IBEW members recognized for their generous support of ground breaking medical research in burn and wound healing



*Standing, from left: Barb Wilson, CEO, VGH/UBC Hospital Foundation; Dr. Aziz Ghahary, Lead Researcher; Tony Brand, President Local 258 IBEW; Dan Klassen, ABM; Klaus Kraft, Unit 1 Chair; Colin Kenney, Unit 3 Chair; Rick Gerrard, Organizer; Doug McKay, Business Manager; Tom Greenwell, Unit 4 Chair; Gerry Pope, Unit 2 Chair; Dr. Nick Carr, former Head of Plastic Surgery, VGH; Angela Chapman, Senior VP, VGH/UBC Hospital Foundation. Seated are Chris Carter, Unit 6 Chair and Cathy Tagseth, Unit 5 Chair.*

This spring, members of Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers voted to support a significant financial donation to further ground breaking medical research at the BC Professional Fire Fighters Burn and Wound Healing Lab at Vancouver General Hospital.

On October 1st, the union's Executive Board, led by Business Manager Doug McKay and President Tony Brand, attended a reception and tour of the lab facilities as members of Local 258 IBEW were recognized as a major supporter of the important work being carried out by lead researcher Dr. Aziz Ghahary and his team. Brothers McKay and Brand presented the cheque for \$100,000 on behalf of Local 258 IBEW members to the VGH and UBC Hospital Foundation to directly support Dr. Ghahary's ongoing research in burn and wound healing.

"Our members realize the important work being done by Dr. Ghahary and his team here in British Columbia," said Brother McKay. "We are grateful these professionals are making such significant medical breakthroughs in the field of burn wound healing that can ultimately support our members who unfortunately suffer electrical burn injuries."


McKay and the union's Executive Board were welcomed by Barb Wilson and Angela Chapman of the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation to the research lab where they were greeted by Dr. Nick Carr, former Head of the Division of Plastic Surgery at VGH and Dr. Ghahary, Director of the Research Group. A slideshow was presented detailing many of the important lab discoveries that

have been made in the past few years of intense research. Many of the team's findings are being published in a number of prestigious medical journals that include credit to Local 258 of the IBEW as a major sponsor of the research.

Highlights of the slideshow included information about the research team's creation of a biological skin substitute to aid in burn wound healing, new ways to treat scarring and the development of a liquid skin material for use on non-healing wounds. Dr. Ghahary also described additional research discoveries that are contributing to significant advances in other fields, including diabetes, transplantation and arthritis.

"Dr. Ghahary's overview of the research our donation has helped fund has had a profound effect on us – we are very proud to be part of such ground breaking medical advances," said McKay. "The tour of the laboratory and the opportunity to meet the research team members showed us the connection between the importance of adequate funding and real world results."

Local 258 IBEW members have supported almost \$400,000 towards research in burn and wound healing over the past six years and continue to benefit from the ground breaking research being done by Dr. Ghahary and his team here in British Columbia.

The goal of Dr. Ghahary's work is to help patients survive a terrible injury and members of Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers have shown their support of his work with their significant financial contributions. 

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM OTTAWA

*What the Federal government is doing that affects you as a worker and a union member*

## Let's start with some good news, Bill C-201

Hamilton Mountain Member of Parliament Chris Charlton (NDP) has had her Private Member's Bill C-201 reach 2nd reading after being introduced in Parliament in 2011. This Bill is aimed at allowing tradespersons and apprentices to deduct travel and accommodation expenses from their taxable income so they can secure and maintain employment at a construction site that is more than 80 kilometres away from their home.

Currently, out of work tradespeople have to finance their own travel and accommodation should they wish to move to another region for work.

## Bill C-377: Amended... and then Harper prorogues Parliament

Bill C-377, commonly referred to as the "anti-union Bill" put forward as a Private Member's Bill by White Rock MP Russ Hiebert (Conservative) and passed by the Harper Conservative government in Parliament, unfairly seeks to impose rules on unions that are much more detailed and restrictive than any other organization must follow.

Bill C-377 has been described as a deeply flawed piece of legislation that singles out unions to provide detailed and intrusive reports to the Canada Revenue Agency. Constitutional experts, privacy commissioners, provincial ministers of labour and unions have pointed out the Bill's many flaws – and many more are calling for its complete dismissal.

**PROROGUE:** to discontinue a session of Parliament without dissolving it. Bills which have not received Royal Assent before prorogation are "entirely terminated". Private Members Bills continue from session to session, and if they have been read a third time and passed are sent again to the Senate.

to approve amendments to the Bill, with an additional four Conservative Senators abstaining from the vote.

By amending, or making changes to Bill C-377, this piece of legislation was sent back to Parliament where the government

Sent to the Senate in December, 2012, it was anticipated the Conservative majority in the Senate would approve Bill C-377 as it was written. But, after weeks of debates, committee reviews and witness hearings, 16 Conservative Senators joined their Liberal counterparts and voted

could either accept the changes, ignore the changes, send the legislation back to the Senate or drop the matter altogether.

The government chose to send the Bill back to the Senate, virtually nullifying all the previous work that had been done to achieve the amendments and it now sits on the calendar, waiting to be tested again.

## And now... Bill C-525

In June of this year, Wetaskiwin Alberta MP Blaine Calkins (Conservative) introduced Private Member's Bill C-525, erroneously titled "Employees' Voting Rights Act", that is strategically aimed at workers and unions and seeks to make it extremely difficult for workers to organize unions in their workplaces. The Bill also makes it much easier to decertify, or "get rid of the union", in workplaces - efforts that are usually led by the employer.

This Bill, if passed into legislation, would count "non-votes" from employees who don't show up to vote as voting against joining a union, and in a decertification vote, would count "non-votes" from employees who don't show up to vote as supporting a union decertification.

## Harper Government putting workers lives in danger

The lives of almost one million Canadian workers will be placed in danger as a result of cynical amendments that the Conservative government is making to the Canada Labour Code. Buried deep in the government's latest budget bill tabled on October 22 are amendments to the health and safety provisions of the Code that have nothing to do with balancing the budget, and everything to do with putting workers' lives at risk.

With Bill C-4, the government wants to water down the right to refuse dangerous work, end the role of federal Health and Safety Officers in the investigation process and give employers the power to discipline workers when they invoke the right to refuse dangerous work. All together, these changes would make the Canada Labour Code provisions on the right to refuse dangerous work the weakest in the country, and put workers' lives at risk. These proposals have no business being put in a budget bill.

Visit the Local 258 IBEW website TODAY to send an email message to your Member of Parliament urging them to fight to remove the provisions relating to the health and safety of workers from the budget bill! A copy of your email will go to Labour Minister Kellie Leitch and to the Minister of Employment and Social Development Jason Kenney.

[www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca)

## Labour Code changes target collective bargaining: CLC's Georgetti calls it affront to democracy



*Ken Georgetti, president of the Canadian Labour Congress, speaking at the IBEW All Canada Progress meeting in Banff this summer.*



October, 2013 - Amendments that the Conservative government has slipped into a giant budget bill is an attack on the constitutional right to collective bargaining, says Ken Georgetti, president of the Canadian Labour Congress.

“The Conservative government is using a 308 page budget bill to do by stealth what they will not do by the light of day,” says Georgetti. “This government has a habit of using this technique to push things through it knows will be unpopular so that there is no chance for real debate. It’s playing partisan politics with their employees’ livelihoods.”

Georgetti was responding to the government’s tabling the second part of its Economic Action Plan 2013 Act in the House of Commons on October 22. He says, “This Bill proposes big changes to the Public Services Labour Relations Act (PSLRA), especially around essential services, the dispute settlement mode and grievance procedure. There was no consultation on this with any of the parties affected.”

Georgetti says the budget bill would undermine the right to collective bargaining by unilaterally designating services as essential. “There’s been no problem raised with the existing process to disig-

nate essential services, so what is the government trying to fix here?”

The government is also changing the existing arbitration process for the federal public service, and putting the lives of workers in the federal jurisdiction in danger by introducing amendments to change the definition of dangerous work.

“What we’re seeing here are amateurish moves that will disrupt the delicate balance of long-standing labour relations practices in the federal public service, and put the health and safety of federal workers at risk, all for purely ideological reasons,” Georgetti says. “The unintended consequences will likely be more disputes than Canadians have ever seen before and Canadians should ask to what end?”

*The Canadian Labour Congress, the national voice of the labour movement, represents 3.3 million Canadian workers. The CLC brings together Canada’s national and international unions along with the provincial and territorial federations of labour and 130 district labour councils.*

### When workers get together and stand up for fairness, we get results.

Together, working people have won decent wages, safer workplaces, fair treatment and benefits like paid vacation time, job training, and insurance coverage for things like glasses, dental care, and medicine that keep us healthy and productive.

We didn’t stop there.

What we got at work, we got for everybody else by standing together and demanding more from the people we elected to boards, councils and legislatures.

That’s how we all got some of the things most of us take for granted today – minimum wages, statutory holidays, paid vacation time, public health insurance, public pensions, weekends, etc.

Together, working people built Canada’s middle class and created a country with fairness as one of its fundamental values.

**together  
FAIRNESS  
WORKS**

## Local 258 members showcase skills and safe practices at well-attended Nanaimo Safety Rodeo

“That’s one of the best rodeos yet” was a popular refrain at the well-attended Nanaimo Safety Rodeo put on by Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and BC Hydro.

Taking place on a somewhat overcast day in early June, hundreds of visitors, supporters and family members gathered to watch Local 258 Power Line Technicians and Electricians working at BC Hydro showcase their professional skills, techniques and safe work practices as they competed in the popular event, held for the first time in Nanaimo.

Master of Ceremonies for the day was Dale Haines, Local 258’s Recording Secretary and a retired PLT. Brother Haines entertained the crowds with the play-by-play of the numerous competitions that took place. Also participating were members of the Emergency Rescue Team.

Thanks to everyone who competed, participated and cheered on from the sidelines including all of the tremendous volunteers!

*A huge thank you to the IBEW 258, Tony Brand, assistant business managers, the executive and all IBEW members who attended for your support in making this years rodeo in Nanaimo a success.*

*We had a great turnout of competitors with 16 PLT teams and 16 PLT apprentices and 3 first aid teams. As well, the count at the gate was close to 1000! Great family event.*

*The IBEW tent was a hit, as was the competitor and volunteer shirts. Everybody loved the shirts.*

*The rodeo concluded with a fantastic banquet and awards that filled the Grand Hotels’ conference room at 230 people. Great food and a great time. Dan was entertaining and funny as the MC. Good time had by all.*

*We would also like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to represent the union in Kansas City. An unexpected honour and much appreciated! We are very proud to represent the IBEW at the Kansas rodeo.*

*A special thanks to Doug McKay (banquet and organizing), Dan Klassen (banquet MC), Jim Greenwell (IBEW tent), Michelle Boudreau (photographer), and Tom Greenwell (judge).*

*It’s dedicated individuals like these that inspire others.*

*Brian Gueldenstern*

*Scott Toop*

*Zane Gauthier*



PHOTO CREDIT TIM SOMERVILLE



PHOTO CREDIT TIM SOMERVILLE





PHOTO CREDIT TIM SOMERVILLE



PHOTO CREDIT TIM SOMERVILLE



PHOTO CREDIT TIM SOMERVILLE



To view more photos, please visit the website at [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca)



Local 258 IBEW members Steve Lang, Chris Smith and Paul Kramer showcased the trophy for 1st place overall, Journeyman - Municipal, at the 2012 Kansas International Lineman's Rodeo. Due to a computer glitch, their success in the competition was not acknowledged until after the event but it was fun to share in their success at the Nanaimo Safety Rodeo Banquet.

## Local 258 IBEW linemen compete in Kansas City Rodeo

Local 258 IBEW members travelled to Kansas to compete in the 30th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo that took place in Bonner Springs, Kansas on October 19th, 2013.

The Lineman's Rodeo attracts the best linemen from around the world to compete in events based on traditional lineman tasks and skills. The first Lineman's Rodeo was held in September 1984, with twelve participating teams from Kansas and Missouri. Since then the Rodeo has grown to over 200 teams and 250 apprentices.

This year participants from Local 258 IBEW in BC include:

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| James McKeachie  | Colin Cadger       |
| Jeff Campbell    | Darcy Davis        |
| Sheldon Canning  | Jason Slotte       |
| Brian Benjamin   | Blair Murphy       |
| Jeff Stites      | Brad Masse         |
| Dave Wells       | Brian Gueldenstern |
| Scott Toop       | Ryan Lucas         |
| Danny Bruckmann  | Paul Gaudreault    |
| Rob Mitchell Jr. | Brandon Fiscus     |
| Rob Lane         | Dan Kerr           |
| Travis Hall      | Derek Egroff       |

Please visit our website at [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca) to see the photos from this year's Kansas Rodeo. Congratulations to all who competed in Kansas and we're glad you had a safe trip and competition!

## “Rally for Aiden”

Community support was overwhelming for the “Rally for Aiden” campaign that took place in Summerland at the end of the summer in support of Aiden Byrnell.



*Community members, co-workers and family friends gathered at the “Rally for Aiden” fundraiser in Summerland at the end of September.*

Aiden’s dad is Steve Byrnell, a Local 258 member working for Rokstad Power. Steve and his wife Faye were faced with one of the most difficult situations a young family could ever find themselves in when their nine-year old son Aiden was diagnosed with a serious brain cancer this summer. Steve and Faye were staying in Vancouver so they could be at their son’s bedside at Children’s Hospital since they received the diagnosis in July.

Local 258 ABM Dan Klassen, who happened to be visiting family in Summerland, found out about the community event and attended the fundraiser that took place at the Summerland Arena at the end of September.

“The community support for the Byrnelles was amazing”, said Brother Klassen. “So many people attended the fundraiser, donated items for the silent auction and raffles and made donations. All the monies raised went to the Byrnell family to help cover their living costs while in Vancouver with their seriously ill son.”

Organized by family friends and IBEW members from the local community, the event raised about \$20,000.

Local 258 would like to express our condolences to the entire Byrnell family as news of Aiden’s passing on October 6, 2013 reached the union office just as the Hotline was heading to press. 🇺🇸



## Skilled First Aid response showcased at Nanaimo Safety Rodeo



*Trauma Tech helped organize this year’s First Aid Competition at the Safety Rodeo that took place Nanaimo this year. With hundreds of attendees looking on, participants displayed their first aid and life savings skills in a number of scenarios, some including serious fractures, puncture wounds and life threatening injuries.*



# Sign up today on Local 258's website!

Local 258's website continues to feature news and events for our members and has members signing up on a daily basis to receive regular news bulletins via email.

The website features our "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 current, dues paying members of Local 258 IBEW.



By including your personal cell phone number and email address on the registration form, your union will be able to communicate with you directly from the website, notifying you of important news and events via your smart phone and/or 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.



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, current collective agreements and 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.

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 [communications@ibew258.bc.ca](mailto:communications@ibew258.bc.ca).

**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](http://www.healthandsafetybc.ca)

# Local 258 Golf Tourney

*raising funds for the MS Society of Canada*



*As golfers gathered under overcast skies for the 20th Annual IBEW 258/BC Hydro Charity Golf Tournament, volunteers were preparing to take their places to look for winners at the prize holes and helping ABM Dan Klassen with registrations and preparations for the Banquet Awards Dinner. At 1:30 pm the horn sounded for the start of Texas Scramble tournament. The skies eventually cleared at the beautiful Pitt Meadows Golf Club and the golfers had an enjoyable day followed by a steak BBQ with all the fixins! The annual golf tournament raises funds for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada and this year's event was another great success, both for those who participated and for the charity that has a long history with IBEW.*

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



*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!*



## UNIT 5 & 6 MEMBERS ENJOY A LOCAL 258 IBEW

# FAMILY PICNIC



On a beautiful Sunday afternoon in September, members of Units 5 & 6 of Local 258 IBEW and their families gathered at the Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club in south Surrey for a union sponsored Family Picnic.

Cathy Tagseth, Unit 5 Chair and Chris Carter, Unit 6 Chair organized a multitude of events for Local 258 members and their families to enjoy, including pony rides, nature walks with retired Local member Murray MacDonald, a cribbage tournament and games & races for the kids.

Local 258 Recording Secretary Dale Haines led the races for the kids - and the adults - as participants competed in running races, sack races and the popular running with the egg!

Catering was provided and everyone enjoyed hotdogs, ice cream and beverages.

Many thanks to retired Local 258 IBEW member Peter Neufeld for his work and long time commitment to the Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club creating beautiful grounds for the public, including members of Local 258, to enjoy! 🇺🇸



*Retired Local 258 IBEW member Peter Neufeld has been enjoying his retirement by devoting a considerable amount of volunteer time tending to the Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club in south Surrey where Unit 5 & 6 members gathered for a Family Picnic.*




# A great wk'end of camping too at the 2nd Annual Fishing Derby



A number of Local 258 members, including some who brought along their kids, spent the August long weekend enjoying free camping – compliments of retired BC Hydro lineman Ron “Gator” Taylor at his Fraser Cove Campground on the shores of the Fraser River just outside Lillooet, BC – and some serious angling and great camaraderie at Local 258’s 2nd Annual Fishing Derby organized by Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter.

Guests enjoyed catch and release fishing for sturgeon – and fishing in the pool! – and Brother Carter reports IBEW was made to feel extremely welcome in the community and everyone had a ton of fun.

Thanks to all who attended and save the August long weekend next year for the 3rd Annual Al Ross Memorial Fishing Derby! 



# UNION NOTICE BOARD

## 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, toll free at 1-877-520-3305, fax us at 604-522-3371, or e-mail us at [info@ibew258.bc.ca](mailto: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 [communications@ibew258.bc.ca](mailto:communications@ibew258.bc.ca), or mail to:

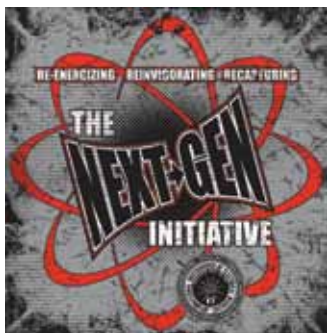
Local 258 IBEW, Attention, The Hotline  
7535 Sixth Street  
Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2

*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



Local 258 IBEW is seeking young members (under 35 years of age) to join the union's Next Gen initiative and be part of creating the future of our union. **Contact Dan Klassen, L258 ABM at [dklassen@ibew258.bc.ca](mailto:dklassen@ibew258.bc.ca) or by phone at 604-520-3305, toll free 1-877-520-3305.**

## PROBLEMS AT

## HOME OR

## AT WORK?

## NEED TO TALK

## WITH SOMEONE?

*To arrange a completely confidential phone call with a trained union counsellor to talk with someone who can help, call Local 258 IBEW at 604-520-3305, or toll free at 1-877-520-3305, during regular business hours. Or call Dan at 604-312-5929 anytime.*



# RUMINATIONS OF A RETIREE

By Ken McEwen  
Retired Local 258 member

Things are semi-hectic at our place right now. We are getting everything in order for the annual trek to our winter abode in sunny southern California. Most of the hectic stuff falls on Catherine Dear who does all of the organizing and packing. I do some fetch-and-carry stuff and take responsibility to ensure that all camper systems, mechanical and otherwise, are ready to go. There are a lot of things that absolutely can't be done until the last minute so the morning of our departure is always a bit of a scurry. I consider the first day a success if we get on the road somewhere around 10 AM. We still haven't decided on a route yet. That usually happens after we pull out of the driveway and get to the first intersection. One of the major determinative factors of route selection is weather.

The coast route through Washington and Oregon is a nice way to go but if it's socked in rainy or foggy the benefits of a scenic drive are lost. The I-5 corridor is the quickest way south but who's in a hurry? Also, if the rain is falling it usually takes us about three days to find sunshine. Driving to the Okanagan and crossing the border at Osoyoos allows us to travel most of the way through the desert and pretty much guarantees sunshine for a big chunk of the trip. On that route the nights can be cold, even freezing, but we have winter jackets and Indio the dog has fur so we're OK. A plus in choosing the desert route is that a good portion of the drive is through Nevada and provides Catherine Dear opportunities to contribute to the welfare of its citizens through their casinos. Our estimated departure date, dependent on weather and readiness, is Friday, October 25 and a final decision will be made at that time.

This summer I took a sabbatical from heavy duty ruminating and spent time monitoring the river and the neighbourhood visible from my balcony. River monitoring has led to the conclusion the economy is good. The ships delivering cars to Annacis Island have been arriving two and three a week. That's a lot of cars. If car sales and imports are any kind of a marker for a healthy economy then we must be doing alright. Certainly the oil industry profiteers are doing well with their inflated gasoline prices.

Another occurrence I noted during my neighbourhood watch has to do with birds. Not all birds, just some birds. Every evening, about an hour or so before sunset, crows begin to gather on a nearby building. As they gather, from all points of the compass, they hop about shuffling position and socializing. It's almost like an after work bar scene where acquaintances are renewed and questions asked like, "How was your day?" or "Did you score some good food today?" Then after the social niceties have been observed and half an hour before sunset they take off in their hun-

dreds flying to the west, presumably to wherever home is. The timing of their exodus is always one half hour before the sun goes down whether that time is 9:30 PM in summer or 5:30 PM in the fall. I wonder if one crow is charged with the responsibility of time keeping or if it's a communal decision to leave.

Still with the birds, there is a flock of pigeons that flutter about our neighbourhood. I'm not sure whether it is an at large flock or a domesticated flock. At any rate this flock flutters about changing direction without any sense of purpose, and sometimes in ever diminishing circles, until it descends on the roof of some building where the individual members strut about as if on parade. Then the flock takes to the air and the whole process is repeated. Observing this has caused me to wonder who, in the flock, decides when and where to land and does the same bird make the decision to fly again. Or do they talk about it beforehand and arrive at a consensus to land and strut?

While on sabbatical recent events have caused me to engage in some semi-rumination. Like the unfortunate impasse that the USAmerican government leaders found themselves in of late. I thought how much more fortunate are the Canadian government leaders, both federal and provincial. If issues start to look somewhat nasty our leaders can just play the "prorogue" card and stay away from work until things cool down. There is no need to subject themselves to debate or embarrassing questions from members in the houses of government. It's almost like being retired except with a bigger pay cheque. Then there are the pipeline debates. A lot of people are saying pipelines are not the way to go, find alternative transport. One alternative, rail transport, has recently suffered disastrous, and in one case tragic, accidents while transporting petroleum products. Conspiracy theorists could make a lot of mileage out of the timing of these events. And, it seems, even if the product gets here on the west coast, it can't go anywhere because a lot of people don't want ships floating in our waters. Maybe if our governments weren't on their own version of a sabbatical some of these issues could receive discussion and debate. I've even had cause to mini-ruminate about the publicity BC Hydro has received in the local press. I haven't done any in-depth study but it seems to me if the politicians allowed BC Hydro to operate as a utility instead of a political game piece we would all be better off. Well, it looks like I did get some ruminating done after all.

Anyway, that's it for now. Please continue to work and play safely because retirement is worth waiting for. 📧



**PHOTO  
OPPORTUNITY  
LU 258**

**60 year member Brother Norm “Ike” Eidsness will be missed**



*Brother Norm “Ike” Eidsness, shown above (center) was awarded his 60 year IBEW member certificate at the March 2013 Unit 3 meeting in Cranbrook by Chair Colin Kenny. “Ike” started line work with Manitoba Power Commission, then to Victoria with Hume & Rumble Construction. In 1964 he started with BC Hydro in Golden and in 1970 moved to Cranbrook. A long-time member of the Cranbrook Golf Club, the Canadian Legion, the Cranbrook Curling Club and the BC Hydro Power Pioneers, Brother Eidsness passed away on April 15 with his family by his side after a successful retirement from BC Hydro.*



*Congratulations to Brother Marvin Uphill on 55 years of IBEW membership.*



*55 years of membership with the IBEW for Brother James Reinhart is recognized by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.*



*Congratulations on 40 years of IBEW membership to Brother Gary LaFrance, shown here with Unit 3 Vice Chair Trevor Williams.*



*Unit 3 Vice Chair Trevor Williams congratulates Brother Fred Fowler on 40 years of IBEW membership and his recent retirement.*



*Congratulations on 40 years of IBEW membership to Brother Ron Waller.*



*Congratulations to Brother Cal Petersen on 40 years of IBEW membership and his recent retirement.*



*Brother Mike Callaghan was awarded his 35 year IBEW membership pin by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.*



*Brother Al Cross was recently awarded his 25 year IBEW membership pin by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.*



*Local 258 IBEW ABM Greg Fanning with Cache Creek - Lillooet MVA repair crew.*



*Brother Dave Berard is recognized for 35 years of IBEW membership by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.*



*Colin Kenney, Unit 3 Chair, congratulates Brother Bruce Tooze on 20 years of IBEW membership.*



*Brother Jeremy O'Laney was awarded his 15 year IBEW membership pin by Unit 3 Vice Chair Trevor Williams.*



*Trevor Williams, Unit 3 Vice Chair awards Brother Bruce Neale his 10 year IBEW membership pin.*



*Brother Mitch Thielen was awarded his 5 year IBEW membership pin by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.*



*Unit 3 Vice Chair Trevor Williams congratulates Brother Dave Wells on 10 years of membership with the IBEW.*



*Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney awards Brother Dave Thomas with his 5 year IBEW membership pin.*



# PHOTO OPPORTUNITY LU 258



*The whole crew around 'Fernie Ernie' on his retirement this past spring.*



*Brother "Fernie" Ernie Lawton is awarded a service pin on 105 (45!) years of IBEW membership and congratulated by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney on his retirement.*



*Congratulations to Brother Ron (Doc) Taylor on 40 years of IBEW membership and your retirement.*



*Brother Steve Jens, right, is recognized by Local 258 on 40 years of membership in the IBEW, with Unit 3 Vice Chair Trevor Williams.*



*Congratulations to Brother Bill Smith 15 years of IBEW membership, with Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.*



*Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney awards Brother Stan McMaster with a long term membership certificate.*



*Colin Kenney awards Brother Tom Thompson with his 35 year IBEW membership pin.*



*Brother Leon Arishenkoff won the March 2013 Unit 3 watch draw.*



*Congratulations to Brother Tom Murphy on your retirement!*



*Colin Kenney, Unit 3 Chair, awards Brother Tyler Pigin his 5 year IBEW membership pin*



Brother Dan Combs was initiated into the union at the October Unit 6 meeting and is shown here with long time IBEW member and now retired, Brother Floyd Combs, his grandfather.



IBEW member Davin Zobel, who works at Mica, awards Brother Wayne Tung with the coveted IBEW watch, won in the regular draw.



Congratulations to Brother Jeff Hepner on 5 years of IBEW membership.



Congratulations to new members Tyler Wynsouw and Jim Erikson, shown here with Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter at the June meeting in Chilliwack.



33 year member Tom Hockin, left, presents his son Ian, a 10 year Local 258 member, with an IBEW certificate upon completion of his apprenticeship as a journeyman electrician at ViT.



Welcome to new member Robert Hamilton, being sworn in by Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter at the July, 2013 meeting in Langley.



Sister Cathy Tagseth awards retiree Brother John Sherry with a 55 year membership certificate at the Units 5 & 6 Family Picnic.



Congratulations to Sister Shannon Isaac on being awarded her 5 year service pin by Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter at the October Chilliwack meeting.

Thanks to Darla at Rokstad for sending forward the photos below:



Congratulations to PLT Topped Out Apprentice Tyler Erickson, presented with an IBEW Certificate by Mark Beutle at Rokstad Power.



Congratulations to PLT Topped Out Apprentice Danny Crawford, presented with an IBEW Certificate by Mark Beutle at Rokstad Power.



Congratulations to PLT Topped Out Apprentice Dana Watkins, shown here with Mark Beutle at Rokstad Power.



# IBEW members at BC Hydro help northern community of Kispiox raise another totem pole

The small community of Kispiox in BC's northern interior, located north of Smithers where the Skeena and Kispiox rivers meet, saw a new totem pole erected this summer with the help of IBEW members working at BC Hydro.

Brother Shawn Pozzo, Sub-Foreman Lineman and Brother Blake Shearing helped move the huge totem pole to it's permanent spot near the confluence of the two rivers where it joined the historic collection of poles Kispiox is known for.

Helping to build a sense of community, Local 258 members made an important contribution to this unique local community event.



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It's been awhile since I've had the opportunity to write a column for the Hotline and it's hard to believe the fall season is here already. One thing I like about the fall and heading into the end of the year is that we have a stat holiday in every month from September to February!

Labour Day, the stat holiday that falls on the first Monday of September, often signals the end of the summer with kids going back to school and the days getting shorter. We've just gone through the Thanksgiving long weekend, Remembrance Day and before you know it, the Christmas and New Year's stat holidays will be here.

Many of us take these stat holidays for granted — I've heard people thanking the government for giving them a holiday and others are grateful to their employer because they get paid for getting a day off work. As union members, we have had the benefit of negotiating and gaining significant overtime rates for working on stat holidays.

The truth is, stat holidays came about because unions and their members fought hard for them. Unions members also fought hard to achieve a number of other benefits that have been turned into legislation that many workers take for granted — like the 40 hour work week, overtime rates, pensions, paid maternity leave, vacation time and employment insurance benefits, to name a few.

Take, for instance, the "Family Day" stat holiday, coming up for the second time next February. Many unions had already negotiated a paid day off in February for their members and had been lobbying for this day to become an official "holiday" for all workers for quite some time. Don't for a minute think the idea for a holiday in February came from employers or from the government — although the government, experts at playing the political game, would like to make you think it was their idea and they, alone, gave it to you!

As a member of Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and now as President of our Local, I am very grateful for the skills and expertise of those members who became active in their union, including those who participated on negotiating committees over the years, and who worked hard to achieve the gains that we currently enjoy — good pay, decent benefits and the right to fair treatment in our workplaces. What I have learned with my involvement in our union is that none of this can ever be taken for granted as there are forces constantly at work trying to take away what we have secured for our working lives.

Have you ever thought for a moment what would happen if those forces were successful? What would happen if we just rolled over, believed all the rhetoric and bias being spewed out there on a daily basis on the radio, on the TV, in newspapers and on the internet and did nothing about it? What if some of us actually agreed with some of the very persuasive anti-union commentary that's out there?

The very fact we get a decent paycheque, pension or retirement funds and workplace protections has helped many of us build the healthy communities we live in. We can "buy things"



to keep the economy going, we can plan for our futures, we can help with our kids education, we can visit the dentist or get a new pair of eyeglasses, we can devote time to volunteer efforts to help strengthen our communities and we can afford to make donations to charities if we choose.

I'm sure there are some members of our union who believe they shouldn't have to do things like pay union dues, or attend their union meetings or give a crap about anything our union does. But it is because of our union that we have the things we have in our workplaces. Are the critics going to be happy when their "stat holidays" disappear, or when they start losing some of the gains and benefits we've achieved because of our legal right to negotiate?

It is obvious now our labour movement is under attack — and organized labour in Canada is fighting back. The gains we have achieved and the enjoyment of our success is under serious threat with the escalating attack on working people in this country. From more and more temporary foreign workers being brought into this country to replace Canadian workers to the fights on Parliament Hill and in the Senate with legislation like Bill C-377, Bill C-525 and now Bill C-4, the writing is on the wall. The right wing forces have captured our federal government and they are determined to take away as many of our rights and benefits as they possibly can.

I support the Canadian Labour Congress's fight back initiative "Fairness Works" and invite you to find out more in this issue of the Hotline and by visiting [www.fairnessworks.ca](http://www.fairnessworks.ca).

Enjoy your stat holidays while you still have them!



*Local 258 President Tony Brand was sworn in by IBEW International Rep Laird Cronk at the June E-Board meeting.*

*Defining*

# OUR FUTURE



*Shop Stewards Conference 2013*

**LOCAL 258**

**IBEW**



5250 000 000 007

Local 258 IBEW Shop Stewards from across the province will be gathering in Burnaby on November 22nd to November 24th 2013 at the Hilton Vancouver Metrotown Hotel for the 2013 Shop Stewards Conference.

A full report will be featured in the next issue of The Hotline.

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