



HOTLINE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
PUBLICATION OF
LOCAL 258 IBEW
FALL, 2012

LOCAL 258, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, BRITISH COLUMBIA



After 21 years, BC Hydro ends contract with Local 258's Electrical Industry Training Institute

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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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Letters to the editor are welcome but may be edited for brevity and clarity. Articles may be reprinted with credit included. Please contact editor for permission to reprint graphics or photographs. Contact the editor at hotline@shaw.ca.

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.

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Recording Secretary: Dale Haines

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Local 258 IBEW Legal Counsel: Rebecca Murdock

VIEWPOINT from your Business Manager Doug McKay

We're heading back to the bargaining table for negotiations with BC Hydro at the beginning of October. We left the table in June after discussions with our members indicated they weren't willing to consider the employer's proposal of a 4/10 work week. As a result, we told BCH to 'park that, our members aren't interested at this time'. We're looking forward to returning to the table and fighting for our proposals to achieve a fair and balanced collective agreement.

Remember to attend your Unit Meetings to find out the latest information on negotiations – you can confirm the dates, times and locations by signing up to our new, updated website and visiting the Member Resources section featuring a Unit Meeting calendar, as well as other important information for LU 258 members only.

Sometimes it seems my column in the Hotline is just a repetition of the same thing, over and over. But I can't stress enough the importance of SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE – and yes, I'm yelling about it.

As your Business Manager, there's not a day that goes by that I am not defending the professional working skills and 150% commitment to safety of each and every member of this local union. Some days it is very challenging when the phone call comes and I hear another member has been injured, or worse, killed on the job.

IBEW Constitution

Article XXV: Misconduct, Offenses and Penalties

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

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

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

It's hard to believe that ANY member of this union would intentionally violate any safety rules when it comes to dealing with electricity. We are all trained professionals and understand working with electricity is a life threatening job. As we've always said, if there are rules we don't think are right, we'll challenge them through the proper channels, but we don't intentionally violate them! 99.9% of the time, those rules are there because some-

thing happened – and most of those rules have been written in blood.

I know there may be times when there could be a lapse in attention or a legitimate distraction and an accident happens. But when you deal with electricity, there is no rational reason to take a



Doug McKay, Business Manager at LU 258 IBEW, speaking with members at the Unit 5 meeting in Burnaby.

shortcut – the result can be death, dismemberment or disability. And not just for you, but for those you work with. So if you want to gamble, go to the casino – but don't gamble on the job. Just ask any one of those who are no longer on the job as the result of a workplace injury, or the families of those who are no longer with us.

Onto other matters. I would like to congratulate Sister Karen Porter on attending the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Program in June. Karen has a record of stepping forward to represent her union brothers and sisters on the shop floor, as a Unit Chair, as an officer with the Fraser Valley Labour Council and now as a delegate to the Victoria Labour Council. Together with Sister Cathy Tagseth, Unit 5 Chair and Sister Carolyn Lawrence, LU 258 is proud to have them represent our union at the recent IBEW Women's Conference in Washington. On behalf of our membership, I thank you for your participation and contributions to our union.

And finally, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Sister Michelle Laurie for almost two decades at the LU 258 office. I have watched her leadership skills grow, starting as an organizer, becoming an elected member and stepping up to run for president. She has been at my side since 2002 when I was elected Business Manager. I am both dismayed and excited that she has announced she is seeking a new leadership role and is running for president of the BC Federation of Labour, along with Brother Trevor Davies from CUPE who is seeking the office of Secretary-Treasurer - the leadership positions at the Fed. Our movement needs strong, committed and effective leadership in this province, and there is no doubt Michelle Laurie has both the skills and abilities to take this on. With a new government on the horizon, now is the time to effect change and renewal at the BC Fed that will benefit all workers in this province. Sister Laurie has served us well and we strongly support her in this move and look forward to her becoming the new president of the BC Federation of Labour. 🇺🇸



We've Got Mail!

Dear Local 258 IBEW,
On behalf of myself and Euro FC soccer club we would like to thank you for the \$300 donation. It helped us purchase new soccer equipment.
Thank you,
Sal Calandra



Thank you Michelle Laurie, Doug McKay and IBEW Executive Board,
Thanks for the generous support of \$1000 for tuition at UBC. I appreciate this very much. I have enclosed a financial summary and letter of enrollment.
Sincerely,
Sarah Hillsdon

Dear Local 258,
I just wanted to say thank you to all of my brothers and sisters at 258!
Cheri Spagnol

Dear Michelle & Local 258,
On behalf of the BC Hydro Power Pioneers Golf Club (Vancouver) members, I would like to thank you most sincerely for your donation and generosity again this year. The \$500 and 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

Dear IBEW and Brother Chris Carter, Chair, Unit 6,
I would like to thank you for the recognition you gave me for my 70th year membership. My wife and I were very pleased to have had lunch with you, Chris, and your wife. I will certainly enjoy wearing the watch and pin. They will bring back good memories.
Thanks again,
Bob Kolosoff (see photo page 20)

Doug & IBEW,



I again would like to sincerely thank you for supporting the Canadian National Amputee hockey team! It is people like you which gives amputees across

Canada a dream to compete for their country. Not only does this program compete nationally but it also starts at the junior level, giving young disabled children the opportunity to play the sport we love.

There was no greater feeling in the world than to wear the maple leaf and win a World Championship for our country! I have attached some pictures to capture the excitement from the 2012 ISIH World Championships.

I hope you have a great summer and thank you again for your donation!

Sincerely,
Curt Minard (see story page 18)

Dear Michelle and Local 258,
Thanks again for the help! It was much appreciated, I had a great time and ended up 56th overall out of 140. It was a tough race, as most of these guys are professional and ride for a living around the world. I hope to keep getting better in the future and I'll try to send some pictures soon. Thanks.

Patrick Paquette

Local 258 member working at BC Hydro
(Editor's Note: Brother Paquette made a request for financial assistance to attend the 9-day Canadian Road National Championship cycle race in Lac Megantic in Quebec. The Executive Board approved a \$300 donation to support Brother Paquette's pursuit to become a professional road cyclist.)

Dear Michelle Laurie and the Executive Board of Local 258,
Thank you so much for selecting my application for the Tom Forkin Scholarship. With the rising cost of post-secondary education, the \$1000 scholarship you have provided me with is greatly appreciated and will be put to good use during the upcoming school semester. My family and I are proud to support IBEW and all that they do for unionized workers. Thank you for providing myself and future students with the financial aid to further our educational goals.

Meagan Blake

Dear IBEW,

The Falcons hockey club has finished it's spring season for another year and are now moving on to other activities like soccer, baseball and fishing. The spring schedule consisted of 20 practices, four exhibition games and two tournaments (Kamloops and Edmonton) and although we didn't put in a pile of Ws in the win column the team played very well and were in every game till the final buzzer.

In the spring season the kids get the opportunity to play with a group of kids that are of a bit higher skill than the kids that they play against in the regular season. This gives the kids a challenge and tests their skills. Most of the games were close right to the end and this gave the kids an opportunity to feel the pressure of competition and to rise to the occasion. All of the Falcons did very well coping with the added pressure and some stepped up and took leadership roles on the team. Getting this opportunity to work hard as a team towards a common goal will help these young men in their future endeavours.



We would like to present you with a photo of the 2012 Falcons hockey club as a token of our appreciation for your help in making this spring season a success.

Thanks again,
The Falcons

To members of IBEW 258,

Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Thank you for the donation in support of Steps for Life 5K Walk I did. I think it is a great cause.

In solidarity,
Cathy Tagseth



Executive Board, Staff and members of IBEW 258,

Thank you so much for the lovely arrangement, it was much appreciated at this difficult time.

Sincerely,
Cathy Tagseth

Dear Local 258,

A world of thanks for the lovely watch, pin and 50 year pin, but mostly for great years of working with great people. Keep watching out for one another.

Cheers,
Gord Reid, Unit 4, Victoria

Dear Local 258,

Thank you so much for your support of the Canadian Women's Foundation and the Women Moving Women campaign. You've helped spark one more woman's journey out of poverty and helped to create better lives for her and her family. If you'd like to know more or learn about our work in women in trades, I'd love to chat.

Thank you,
Leigh Naturkach
Canadian Women's Foundation
(Editor's Note: For more information on this organization, please visit www.canadianwomen.org)

Dear Michelle Laurie and Local 258,

On behalf of Metro Vancouver Alliance, I am writing to let you know that your letter and cheque from IBEW 258 of \$500.00 has been received, with gratitude.

We greatly appreciate your belief in broad-based community organizing and your willingness to invest in the model. IBEW's support is critical to the building of an effective "people's organization" to improve the lives of citizens in Vancouver, environs and throughout British Columbia.

In solidarity,
Deborah Littman



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

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

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

Attend your upcoming union meetings:

Unit 1 - North Coast

Terrace: October 16 & December 11 @ 7:00 pm, Best Western Inn
 Prince Rupert: October 17 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room
 Masset: October 18 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room
 Smithers: November 13 @ 5:00 pm in the Line Room

Unit 2 - Central Interior

Bella Coola: October 4 @ 7:00 pm, BC Hydro Line Room
 Prince George: Oct. 9 & Nov. 20 @ 7:00 pm, location TBA
 Fort St. John: October 10 @ 7:00 pm in the Line Room
 Fort Nelson: October 11 @ 7:00 pm at Woodland's Inn
 Williams Lake: November 21 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room
 Quesnel: November 22 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room
 Dawson Creek: Dec. 13 @ 7:00 pm at the George Dawson Inn

Unit 3 - Southern Interior

Castlegar: October 9 @ 7:00 pm at the Fireside Inn
 Cranbrook: October 10 @ 4:30 pm at the Labour Temple
 Invermere: October 11 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Kamloops: November 14 @ 7:00 pm at IBEW Local 993 Hall
 873 Desmond Street, Kamloops
 Revelstoke: Nov. 19 @ 4:15 pm, Hydro Dam Conference Room
 Vernon: Nov. 15 & Dec. 13 @ 7:00 pm at the Army & Navy Club
 Mica: November 20 @ 6:00 pm at the Mica Curling Rink

Unit 4 - Vancouver Island

Duncan: October 9 @ 7:00 pm at the Best Western Cowichan Valley
 Ganges: October 9 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Qualicum Beach: October 10 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Port Alberni: November 13 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Victoria: November 14 @ 7:00 pm at the Howard Johnson Hotel,
 4670 Elk Lake Drive, Victoria
 Campbell River: Dec. 11 @ 7:00 pm, Maritime Heritage Center
 Courtenay: December 11 @ 4:00 pm in the Line Room
 Nanaimo: December 12 @ 7:00 pm at RCL #256

Unit 5 - Lower Mainland

Burnaby: October 11, November 15, December 13 @ 5:00 pm at the Local 258 IBEW office
 Powell River: October 23 @ 4:30 pm at the Coast Hotel
 Sechelt: October 24 @ 5:00 pm at Seaside Centre

Unit 6 - Fraser Valley

Langley: October 9, November 13, December 11 @ 7:00 pm @ USW Hall, 200th St.
 Chilliwack: October 10, Dec. 12 @ 7:00 pm at the Best Western



STRIKES, LOCKOUTS & BOYCOTTS

Please respect the union's picket line and **do not patronize** these businesses until the dispute is settled.

STRIKES & LOCKOUTS

CUPE BC VS. University of British Columbia

Major Issues: Concessions
 STRIKE Commenced: June 9, 2012

CUPE BC VS. University of Victoria

Major Issues: Concessions
 STRIKE Commenced: September 4, 2012

BCGEU VS. Government of the Province of British Columbia

Major Issues: Benefits, Job Security, Wage
 STRIKE Commenced: July 2, 2012

COPE 378 VS. ICBC

Major Issues: Benefits, Wages
 STRIKE Commenced: June 28, 2012

Steelworkers Local 2009 VS. Gillwood Manufacturing (Chilliwack)

Major Issues: Concessions, Job Security, Wages, Work Hours
 LOCK OUT Commenced: March, 2012

Construction & Specialized Workers Union, Local 1611 VS. Wescon Enterprises (Trivern), Armstrong

Major Issues: Seniority, Benefits, Concessions
 STRIKE ACTION Commenced: July 25, 2001

BOYCOTTS

USW VS. Sklar Pepler, Alan White branded furniture and its manufacturer, AW Manufacturing

BOYCOTT Commenced: March 17, 2010
 The boycott is in support of approximately 100 workers who lost their jobs and severance pay when Sklar Pepler file bankruptcy in August 2008. In late 2008, Sklar Pepler bought the company's assets out of bankruptcy, closed the facility and bought AW Manufacturing Inc. and now uses product from that plant to sell to Sklar customers.

USW Local 7812 VS. Philips Electronic Products, Quebec


Late Breaking News!
 Tentative Agreement
 reached on September 28!

News from Around Local 258

LU 258 IBEW Shop Stewards gather for training seminar in Prince George



Local 258 Business Manager Doug McKay travelled to Prince George in June to join ABMs Dan Klassen, Don McNabb and Nicole Biernaczyk with Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft as they led a Training Seminar for the union's Shop Stewards working at BC Hydro and at Power Flagging in northern British Columbia.

Thank you to everyone who participated. 

Collective Bargaining and the Shop Steward

Unions in Canada and the United States have concentrated on collective bargaining as a means of raising the standard of living of their members. The simple phrase, collective bargaining, covers a variety of subjects and involves hundreds of thousands of union members in the process.

What does the term mean?

Representatives of labour and management negotiate the wages, hours of work, and numerous other working conditions, which when agreed to and settled is reduced to writing to form a collective agreement. The written collective agreement normally contains a grievance procedure to settle disputes arising out of a violation, application, administration, or interpretation of this agreement. It is the job of the steward to enforce the agreement on behalf of the members they represent.

From the IBEW Shop Steward Handbook

Many thanks to the following Local 258 members working at BC Hydro for participating in Local 258's Shop Steward Training Seminar:

Robert Gunn

100 MILE HOUSE (Power Flagging)

Andy Anderson

MASSET

Blair Boese

FORT NELSON

Peter Cozza

PRINCE GEORGE

Dan Fladmark

HUDSONS HOPE

Kevin Griffiths

PRINCE RUPERT

Sheldon Grose

HUDSONS HOPE

Cam King

PRINCE GEORGE

Ed McEwen

PRINCE GEORGE

Kevin McNabb

FORT ST. JOHN

Paul Russell

100 MILE HOUSE

Robin Stuber

PEACE CANYON

Timothy Zerr

PRINCE GEORGE

Kelly Hambleton

PRINCE GEORGE

Gerald Fricker

QUESNEL

LOCAL 258
IBEW



United Way kicks off annual campaign



Local 258 IBEW president Michelle Laurie at the United Way of the Lower Mainland kickoff event in Vancouver with Brad Davis, Kwantlen Faculty Association and Merv Van Stynberg, Director of Labour Participation at UWLM.

Watch your workplaces for the 2012 United Way campaign fundraising events to raise money for important community programs that target the critical needs of young children, middle years children and seniors.

Labour's partnership with the United Way goes back more than 30 years and is based on shared values regarding the importance of high quality, universally accessible social services.

The United Way and the Canadian Labour Congress work together to support important programs like the Union Counselling Program that trains union members to assist co-workers in crisis, and to engage in broader community activism.

This year, Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter is being sponsored by IBEW 258 and BC Hydro as a 'loaned rep' to the United Way, helping to organize and promote workplace campaigns in the lower mainland during the 16-week fall campaign.

BC Hydro has shifted to a United Way Campaign, supported by leadership at IBEW and COPE 378, as they are the only charitable organization that is partnered with the entire labour movement in Canada. With their focus on community health, your donation will support agencies and services in your area. Local 258 urges members working at BC Hydro to show your commitment to community by participating in this year's inaugural United Way campaign. 📧

Local 258 sends delegation to IBEW Womens Conference

Sister Carolyn Lawrence from Clinton, BC, together with Sister Cathy Tagseth, Unit 5 Chair and Sister Karen Porter, former Unit 6 Chair and Victoria Labour Council delegate, attended the IBEW Women's Conference in August in Washington. Carolyn wrote to the union thanking LU 258 and describing her experience. An edited for space version of her letter is included below.

To begin, I need to tell you how grateful and honoured I feel, being asked to attend this conference in Washington, DC. The brothers and sisters that I met and their strength, commitment and involvement inspired me in ways that I never expected to experience.

The workshops I attended included Bullying in the Workplace, Effective Mentoring, and Leadership that included leadership styles, women in leadership, leadership roles in the union, in politics and in education. While a lot of the information was geared towards the American districts, there was a significant portion (highly appreciated) of Canadian content that made all information highly relevant.

I was very interested in the mentoring programs and came away with some excellent information which I look forward to passing along. Discussions were intense and relevant and a lot of good issues were brought up. It seems that a successful mentoring program includes having a formal structure with defined goals, commitments, boundaries and time frames, and accountability outcomes that allow objective evaluations in meeting those goals.

This is not everything that the program would include by any means, but these were the points that both surprised and intrigued me.

I now understand far more of the issues facing the American people right now and how these same things are happening in Canada, perhaps not as blatantly. I have a whole new appreciation for my own country and the protection that I am afforded by our laws, although many of these are being eroded and we have to be aware so we can fight these intelligently (as an aside, I was not aware that the Conservatives struck down our Fair Wage and Hours of Work legislation in their omnibus bill).

While we face many of the same issues as our sisters to the south, I feel strongly that District 1 would benefit from a Women's Committee/Council unless there is already one in existence that I am not aware of. I would like to see an IBEW Canadian Women's Conference held to discuss specifically Canadian issues such as harassment, bullying and discrimination as it relates to Canadian law; mobilization and education of Local unions, at the membership level in regards to Canadian political action at the federal, provincial and municipal levels; recruiting and education; community outreach; mentoring programs; leadership training programs; and, dealing with isolated locations (this seems to be a bigger issue in Canada).

To be honest, with absolutely no offence meant to the brothers and sisters who have come before us, for years unions have been seen to be closed and very insular, very difficult to join or even to learn about. At this conference I saw a group of women dedicated to organizing, educating and welcoming new members with open arms. I am not aware if Local 258 sponsors community outreach programs like some of the Locals advertised at the conference, but if not, I would like to see our Local involved in helping seniors, single moms, the handicapped and others in need, with repairs that they can't afford, but are necessary for their families' safety. I would like us to have a stronger presence at job fairs, high schools, even elementary schools, showcasing the fact that our members make a good wage, and that for young people, especially women, skilled trades is very definitely a viable career option.

I would like to see us assisting at the food banks, missions and homeless shelters, wearing our union insignia. I am aware that many of our members already serve the community in these areas, but to have union sponsorship would go far in raising our profile in the communities in which we live.

I would like to see our membership as leaders in their communities, examples of excellence in work and home, proud of a job well done and a life richer for it.

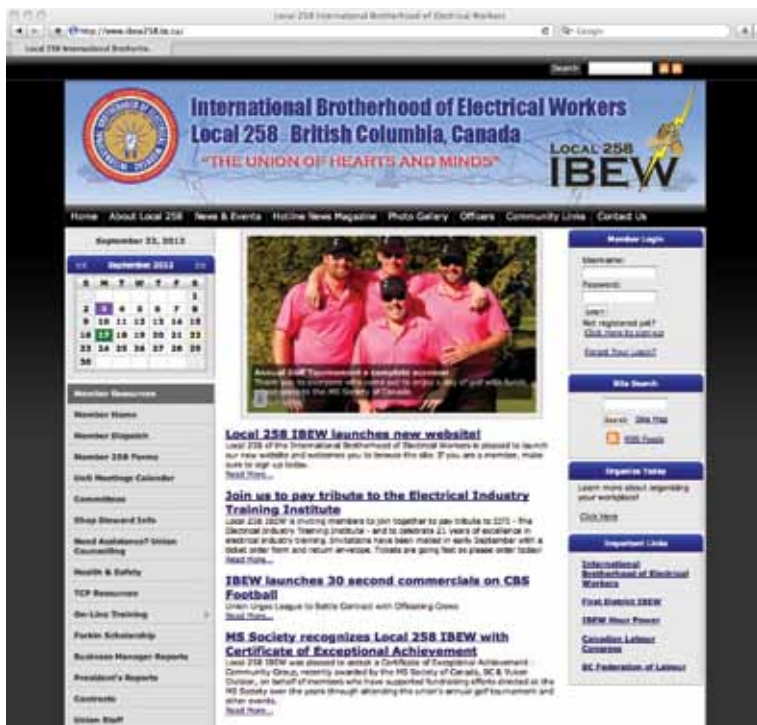
In closing, thank you again for this incredible opportunity. I will try to ensure that I will use what I have learned in the service of Local 258 and my community, hoping to make the lives of those around me a little more rewarding, or, perhaps, a little more interesting as the case may be. 📧

Sign up today on Local 258's new & updated website!

The updated website for Local Union 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers was formally launched on September 17 - a few months later than planned as the design and structure elements were finalized and the site was reviewed and approved by Local 258 officers, executive members, staff and support staff. Now, we are looking forward to your feedback!

The updated, new-look website is located at the same URL: www.ibew258.bc.ca. If you have any problems viewing the site from a bookmark or favourite, simply refresh your page and the new site will appear.

The updated website features a new look and includes significantly more options available on the front page so users can quickly find information about Local 258. There is a rotating carousel of photos and graphics highlighting the front page as well as headlines linking directly to current news and events from Local 258 and IBEW. A calendar highlighting dates of important events is located on the left hand column and the site also features a search capability.



Scrolling down the front page, the Action Center features important information about issues and campaigns directed at union members, also sharing this information with the visiting general public about important labour issues. News headlines from Labour Start are fed directly to the website and appear beneath the Action Centre as links to current daily news stories from the world of labour in Canada.

There are two sections to the website – one directed at members and the general public and another section exclusively for members of Local 258 IBEW only, the “Member Resources” section.



To view the “Member Resources”, you have to be a current member in good standing of Local 258 and complete the sign-up process, linked from the home page, by completing the Member Registration form. You will need your union member number, available on your IBEW union card, to confirm your membership as this part of the website is exclusive for members of Local 258 IBEW.

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

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

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

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

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

We hope you find the updated website a source of information that you can use as a member of Local 258 of IBEW. We look forward to your feedback and suggestions - please contact us by email at hotline@shaw.ca.

*Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference***Growing Canada's future leaders**

Local 258 sponsored Sister Karen Porter to attend the 2012 Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference, first initiated in 1956 as the Commonwealth Study Conference by His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Karen shares her experiences with Local 258 members in this feature article for the Hotline.

The Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference is an original and unique gathering of Canadians selected from across the nation that is so unlike a traditional "conference", it's somewhat difficult to describe, but one thing I know for sure — it has a profound impact on those who attend.



Together with the other members of my study group, we experienced First Nations Culture throughout the province of Alberta, including spending a night in a tipi on traditional Blackfoot Nation territory.

I was approached by leadership at Local 258 to participate, and I am very appreciative of, and thankful for, this incredible opportunity. I am humbled at joining the list of alumni from our labour movement who have attended this Conference, including our own Michelle Laurie, who took part in 2000.

The Conference happens every four years and coalesces around a theme, this year's being "Building Sustainable Communities". Applicants go through an interview process and are selected from one of four groups — government, business, labour and non-profit organizations. The underlying focus is about learning how to communicate and work together with the goal of gaining a greater understanding of how to approach and communicate with leaders

from other sectors. No matter what sector you come from, I learned that everyone has something to bring to the table.

This year's Conference was laid out in three parts. The opening plenary sessions take took place in Halifax over three days and featured an impressive list of speakers, all of them describing and reinforcing the theme

of building sustainable communities. We then gathered into 16 different study groups and were assigned to travel to parts of Canada we were unfamiliar with to visit with heads of business, speak with government officials, meet with union leaders and spend time with non-profit organizations. We learned what they do, how they see their roles

and the impact they hope to have in their communities. We then regrouped and returned to Ottawa and made presentations about our experiences to the Governor General of Canada.

At our opening plenary sessions we listened to speakers such as Monique Leroux, President and CEO of Desjardins Group; Linda Silas, President of Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions; and, Naheed Nenshi, the Mayor of Calgary and an Alumni of the Conference. I was very



impressed by both Sergio Marchionne, CEO of Fiat and the Chrysler Group and Leo Gerard, International President of the United Steel Workers. Each of these men are powerful and interesting speakers, who responded to questions from the floor, sharing their individual opinions with the audience and, at times, engaging in vigorous debate. I was extremely impressed with a mine worker from Sudbury Ontario, who came from the shop floor, and his ability to hold his own and often overshadow the well educated 'king of international business' from Fiat and Chrysler. It made me proud as a union member to know we have such impressive people in our labour movement.

My study group travelled to the province of Alberta. Although I previously had spent a short time living in Alberta, my parents and brother currently live there, and at first I was kind of disappointed, preferring to have travelled to one of the Maritime Provinces or Northern Territories. But I was pleasantly surprised with how much more I learned about this province.

(cont'd on next page)



Our visit to northern Alberta included a trip to Suncor's oil sands north of Fort McMurray and featured a visit to the Oil Sands Discovery Centre.

(cont'd from previous page)

We spent nine days traveling across Alberta, meeting with many different groups. We visited Edmonton where we spoke with civic leaders, toured City Hall and learned about 'speed-networking'. We met with the Deputy Premier and the Lieutenant Governor, toured the Alberta Legislature and visited the Edmonton Waste Management Centre, learning about innovative approaches and sustainable solutions. We travelled to Fort McMurray where we met with community, government, business and aboriginal leaders and visited the Suncor Energy oil sands site.

We experienced First Nations culture and hospitality throughout the province with our visits to Fort McKay and to the Blackfoot Crossing Memorial Site where we were hosted by members of the Siksika Nation and camped overnight in tipis. The Tsuu T'ina Nation invited us to experience a traditional aboriginal pow wow celebrating the achievements of their youth.

In Calgary we did so much in just a few days! We were honoured with a White Hat ceremony, a traditional welcoming gesture of hospitality presented by the very inspirational Mayor, Naheed Nenshi. We met with non-profit groups like the Red Cross, the YWCA, the Calgary Urban Project Society, the Calgary Homeless Foundation and the

Mustard Seed. We visited WinSport Canada where we learned about this non-profit that manages the 1988 Winter Olympic legacy facilities, and attended a roundtable featuring leaders from Calgary's Arts Community. We listened about educational reforms being contemplated at a symposium at the University of Calgary, had breakfast at the prestigious Petroleum Club of Alberta with the Director of the Calgary Stampede and had a meeting with the CEO of First Energy, the leading underwriter of oil and gas ventures in Canada.

We rounded out our trip to Alberta with a visit to a Hutterite community showcasing their traditional sustainability practices; attended at an Islamic Mosque; toured Calgary's China Town; enjoyed the hospitality of the Alberta Beef Producers with a fabulous BBQ and saddled up on horseback at the Anchor D Ranch in the Black Diamond region.

If you're interested in reading further details, our study group captured our experiences through a blog we posted each day that can be read at <http://leadership-canada.ca/blogs/category/ab/>.

When we travelled to Ottawa to regroup for the closing plenary, each study group made a presentation on their experiences. Influenced by our Alberta Conference Alumni we met at a social event at the Crossing at Ghost River, a corporate and personal retreat facility, our presentation was highlighted with a modified version of the recounting of the Robert W. Service poem, the "Cremation of Sam Magee", an



At the welcoming White Hat ceremony, a tradition at Calgary City Hall, where Mayor Naheed Nenshi bestowed a white Smithbilt hat to each member of our GGCLC group.

experience our group originally shared as we stood around a camp fire the night we stayed in tipis at on the traditional lands of the Blackfoot Nation. All of the presentations were well thought out and received indicating that everyone had an impactful Conference.

Looking back after a few months, I know I have learned many things from this Leadership Conference. I have learned that leaders come in many forms – motivational leaders, supportive leaders and active leaders. I don't see myself as a motivational lead-



Saddling up for some horseback riding at the Anchor D Ranch in the Blackfoot Region southwest of Calgary.

er, but with my experiences in my union – being a shop steward, a Unit Chair, serving with the Fraser Valley Labour Council and now a delegate with the Victoria Labour Council - I would like to think I am an active leader. I also see myself as being very supportive of my union brothers and sisters with Local 258.

If I had to choose one word that describes my experience in this Conference, it would have to be passion. Each person I met, whether they were in my own or another study group, whether they were a leader in business, their union, or their community, has passion - passion for whatever it is they are involved with.

I believe that passion is an integral part of what has made them leaders in their chosen fields. It is a huge motivator, makes you strive to be the best you can be and has a positive impact on achieving your goals. What does that mean to me today, a few months after this great Conference experience? All I can say is that I hope my passion for my union and the labour movement guides me in whatever role I play in my union in the future.

I would like to thank Local 258 IBEW for sponsoring me to attend this Conference. It has had an extreme impact for me personally and my hope is that I will find a way in the future to explore what I have learned, to the benefit of our union. 🇨🇦

All 258 members invited to attend a celebration tribute dinner

21 years of excellence in electrical industry training comes to a close as EITI 'powers down' and shuts its doors

After severe downsizing and the cancellation of its apprenticeship and journeyman training in the early 1980s, BC Hydro was soon faced with a shortage of skilled workers that put the safe and efficient operation of delivering power to the province by the crown corporation in jeopardy.



At the signing of the BC Hydro/Electrical Industry Training Institute Agreement, September 19, 1991. Seated front row: Brother John E. McGraw, President, IBEW Local 258; Doug Bryson, Acting VP, Customer Service, BC Hydro. Back row, standing, from left: Ross Fitzgerald, Manager, Corporate Safety & Health, BC Hydro; Don Swoboda, VP Production, BC Hydro; Gerry Bramhill, Business Manager, IBEW Local 258; Earl Lockhart, Trades Training Development Manager; Ed Higginbottom, Coordinator, EITI.

By the latter part of the decade, the shortage of skilled electrical trades workers had grown. Seeking a way to best serve its membership, Local 258 IBEW, with much foresight, sought to create a new model of how labour, industry and government could work together and tackle the mutual challenges they were facing — union members needing skills upgrading and BC Hydro needing skilled workers but unable to provide the training.

With support and attention from various government agencies and ministries, a combination of factors eventually resulted in a supportive partnership agreement between Local Union 258 IBEW with BC Hydro that, in 1991, established the Electrical Industry Training Institute — a wholly union-owned, independent, business delivering highly skilled trades training for workers in the electrical utility industry.

Local 258's commitment to training was not something new. After BCH's downsizing that left apprentices unable to complete their training and journeymen without any skills upgrading opportunities, the union became actively involved in establishing training courses for its members. They created a temporary trades training school in Nanaimo and also brought together private line contractors to form the Joint Line Apprenticeship & Trades Training Committee (JLATTC), a joint union and management organization committed to their mission "to provide a comprehensive training program to support the Line Contractors Association & the IBEW 258 in their quest to develop a skilled workforce of a very high standard".

From the beginning, EITI successfully met every challenge placed before it. Armed with a business plan when it opened its doors in 1991, EITI focused on "getting the job done" training for electrical utility skilled trades workers at their leased property on Kitchener Street in Vancouver.

Over the next five years, Local 258 ensured EITI's continued growth as the school hired staff and pursued successful relationships with clients like the Electrical Contractors Association of BC. A mission, objectives, a plan for resource allocation and revenue targets were established and in 1996, Gerry Bramhill, the union's Business Manager, made a presentation to the Conference Board of Canada promoting labour's role in the training and development of skilled workers.

The school continued to evolve and grow, eventually taking up residence at BC Hydro's Surrey compound with a bigger and better training yard and improved classroom facilities.

At the turn of the century, BC Hydro still accounted for the major percentage of the school's business — fee for service training of electrical utility workers. The school recognized the need for additional opportunities and sought outreach opportunities to expand its programs base.

(cont'd on next page)


EITI's Mission
Provide people with education, technical knowledge and safety training that enhances their skills, value and employability, thereby ensuring the long term success of the electrical industry.

In addition to expanding their skilled trades training outside of British Columbia, EITI also pursued, developed and delivered safety programs for non-electrical workers who needed to learn safe work practices when working in proximity to high voltage conductors. They took on remote-site training in the Middle East and South Asia. And they reached out to non-traditional groups of workers and created unique training opportunities to open up the world of electrical industry work to women and aboriginal groups.


Recently, the school expanded its focus on training opportunities in the United States and were successful in generating a number of short term contracts. Their team of seasoned instructors and superb support staff continued to work hard to provide practical, real-world electrical training and customized programs for companies employing workers in the electrical utility industries and beyond.

But the bad news for EITI came early this year when BC Hydro announced it was taking its training "in-house" and would no longer require the services of the private, union-owned training school that had, over the past 21 years, built an international reputation as a world leader in electrical utility training and has trained thousands of electrical utility workers in BC and around the world.

Recognizing they were losing their biggest client, the Board of EITI engaged the financial firm of Price Waterhouse Coopers to review the market viability of the Institute. Based on that report, the Board realized that there was too great a financial risk involved in trying to continue, and therefore made the difficult decision to close the school.

In honour of the contributions made over the years by the dozens of trainers, management personnel, support staff and all the students who benefitted from the excellent skilled training they received at EITI, the union is holding a Tribute Dinner and is inviting all Local 258 members to join them in celebrating 21 years of excellence in electrical utility training. 





ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY TRAINING INSTITUTE

Join us to pay tribute
to 21 years of
EXCELLENCE
in electrical industry training



When: Friday, October 19, 2012
Reception at 6:00 pm
Dinner at 7:00 pm

Where: Hilton Vancouver Metrotown Hotel
6083 McKay Avenue, Burnaby, BC

Featuring Dinner, Dessert & Live Entertainment

Tickets: \$10 each - available at the Local 258 IBEW office
Call 604-520-3305 or email eitidinner@gmail.com

WWW.IBEW258.BC.CA

LOCAL 258
IBEW
"THE UNION OF HEARTS & MINDS"

UNION NOTICE BOARD

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

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

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

Attention all Local 258 IBEW *A* members

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

Have you moved?

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

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

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




Send your items via e-mail to hotline@shaw.ca, or mail to:
Local 258 IBEW, Attention, The Hotline
7535 Sixth Street
Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2

Seeking Adventure?
Leaving Town?
Looking elsewhere for work?

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

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

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

RUMINATIONS OF A RETIREE

By Ken McEwen
Retired Local 258 member

Once again the summer has flown by. It doesn't seem that long ago that we returned home from sunny southern California to the prospect of an endless summer. Well, the endless summer is just about ended. In another few days it will be officially autumn and time to prepare for our return to sunny southern California. That fact has caused me to ruminate somewhat on the passage of time. Those deliberations have led nowhere except to repeat the often used phrase and lamentation of many Retirees, "Where has the time gone?" There appears to be no definitive answer to that question.


Speaking of time, the editor of this publication requested that submissions be tendered "by the end of the week". That caused me to spend considerable rumination time trying to determine exactly when the end of the week occurred. I appreciate that a lot of people consider Friday to be the end of the week. But then those same people usually call the next two days the weekend. Does the expression "weekend" move the end of the week to Sunday? Most calendars place Sunday at the extreme left hand side of the page. This positioning would indicate that Sunday is in fact the beginning of the week. If that is the case how then can Sunday be included when people wish that you "enjoy your weekend"? (When I was a worker and was told "Enjoy your weekend" or, "Have a good weekend" I usually responded, "Thank you but my wife has other plans.") Let's now consider shift workers. I worked shifts for many years and the end of my week could be a Tuesday, Thursday or any other day depending on what the schedule dictated. Did that make the following two days the weekend and what did that do to the concept of "the end of the week"? To Retirees the notion of weekend has little meaning. There are no weekends and therefore there cannot be any ends of the week. One of the sacrifices Retirees must endure is the loss of Statutory Holidays and thus the loss of the long weekend as well. So, that leaves me without a weekend and consequently no end of the week and finally no clear idea of when to submit this column to the editor.

While Retirees may not have weekends they generally have time for rumination. Let me give you an example. The other day as I was driving on the freeway a car pulled in front of me that had a sign in the back window that said, "Baby On Board". Now I know those signs have been around for a lot of years and during that time have elicited no particular reaction from me. However, on this day being somewhat weary of ruminating about pipelines and tankers and bridge tolls, my mind was kind of wandering around and took special notice of the Baby On Board sign. What possible significance could a baby in that car have for me? Did the driver of that car expect I would somehow modify my driving habits because of the sign? Perhaps the sign just indicated pride of ownership like having a sign stating "New Sound System Installed" or "Backup Camera

in Use". On the other hand, if it is imperative that fellow motorists know who or what is in the car perhaps there should also be signs saying "Dog in The Back" or "Mature Spouse in The Passenger Seat". I guess the only way to know why the drivers of vehicles with the "Baby On Board" sign feel the information is relevant to others is to ask them. Perhaps I will do that some day.

The endless has summer I was talking about earlier, before I got sidetracked by weekends and car signs, has been totally unremarkable. One of our summer activities has been travelling throughout the district to explore new and different dog parks. While we have not yet found the perfect dog park Indio, the dog, has benefitted from experiencing new environments and meeting new friends. As well, there are two buildings being constructed within view of our balcony that have required frequent supervision. Days that we are out on our dog park review one of our neighbours takes over supervisory duties and reports on the progress when we return. Of course there has been almost constant rumination on such issues as gasoline prices, transit difficulties, new bridges, and the escalating attack by the right wing on unionized labour forces. So, while the summer has been unremarkable it has not been spent in total idleness.

Just before I leave I should clean up a little unfinished business. Last time we spoke I reported on the results of a DNA test we conducted on Indio, the dog. I also said that as the results were questionable we were commissioning another test. Well, we received a lovely signed certificate indicating the results. Regular readers of this space may recall that the initial test showed a mix of Siberian Husky, Alaskan Malamute, English Coon Hound and Chihuahua. The new test again could not determine a breed in the first two levels but indicated level three to be Newfoundland and West Highland White Terrier; level four is listed as Boxer and Lhasa Apso and level five Siberian Husky. With the only accord in the two tests being Siberian Husky, and certificates to verify, when people ask, "What kind of dog is that?" I now answer, "Siberian Husky". The incredulous looks in response are not transformed by showing the certificates. Indio, the dog, just plain doesn't look like any Siberian Husky. Needless to say the CSI guys on TV and their DNA know-how have lost all credibility with me. Maybe I need a sign for the car that says "Siberian Husky On Board".

Please continue to work and play safely because whether it begins at the end of a week or not, retirement is worth getting to. 

**Siberian
Husky
On Board**



1st Annual Fishing Derby a load of fun for IBEW members!

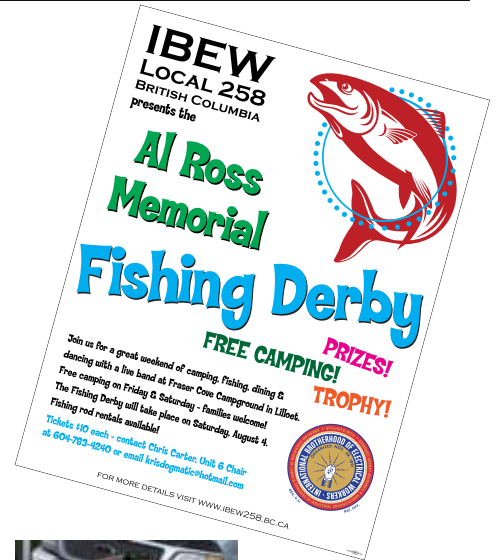
On one of the hottest weekends of the summer, LU 258 IBEW members and their families and friends travelled to Gator's Campground outside Lillooet, BC and enjoyed a few days of camaraderie and fishing as the 1st Annual Al Ross Memorial Fishing Derby took place.

Thanks to Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter for generating the idea and doing all the work to get this fun event organized. Free camping and entertainment was provided by retired BC Hydro lineman Ron "Gator" Taylor at his Fraser Cove Campground where guests enjoyed catch and release fishing for sturgeon with Brother Al Stiedel coming up as the winner of the Al Ross Memorial Trophy for the biggest fish!

The feedback has been so positive Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter is already planning for next year's event.

"IBEW was welcomed with open arms in the community of Lillooet and we can't thank Gator enough for his generosity and hospitality on the weekend. The food was great and the entertainment was so enjoyable, the fishing derby can't be described as anything other than a complete success," said Brother Carter.

Thanks to all who attended and save the August long weekend next year for the 2nd Annual Al Ross Memorial Fishing Derby! 🇺🇸



Thanks to Brother Chris Carter, Unit 6 Chair, and his wife Michelle, for all the work in putting on the 1st Annual Al Ross Fishing Derby.





Each year the Mechanic Apprentice and Trades Training Sub Committee sponsors a welding course that takes place at Mica Creek townsite. The course is a partnership with Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops and is two weeks in duration for three consecutive years. Upon completion, students attain a Level C log book and can begin logging welding hours to attain a red seal in the welding trade.

Attending training this year are, from left: Ken Kainth, Joe Poirier, Troy Van Loon, Tom Benzinger, Justin Matchett, Richard Jess, Bryan Buratto, Cody Harris, Andrew Rutherford, Kevin Jarratt and Instructor John Sutton. Thanks to brother Dave Mengerger for sending in this photo.

Electrical Workers Minority Caucus




For those members who are seeking to join with other union members for a dialogue about human rights and other issues like duty to accommodate, harassment and respect, the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus is the place to be.

Meetings take place the 4th Tuesday of every month and are now alternating between Local 258's office in Burnaby and at the IBEW Local 213 office in Port Coquitlam.

The EWMC had a booth at the IBEW 213 summer picnic in July this year where Sister Michelle Laurie, president of Local 258, staffed the booth for the afternoon with Brother William Maarsman, ABM Local 213 and his daughter Kathryn Maarsman (see photo above).

Information brochures were distributed to members and their families who were in attendance enjoying an afternoon of brotherhood and an opportunity to socialize.

The October meeting of the EWMC will take place in Port Coquitlam at Local 213's offices on Tuesday, October 23, starting at 7:00 pm. The November meeting will take place at Local 258's office.

If you are interested in finding out more about the EWMC, please contact Michelle Laurie at 604-520-3305 or email to mlaurie@ibew258.bc.ca. 



Local 258 is seeking young members (under 35 years of age) to join the union's Youth Committee and be part of creating the future of our union.

By taking an active role in the International Brotherhood

of Electrical Worker's campaign to engage young members in our union, we invite you to step forward to have your voices heard and to work with your ideas for shaping our union to meet the challenges of the future.

While continuing to provide valued services for all members of our union, looking forward is essential. By engaging our younger members we hope to build upon ideas and suggestions for organizing and for meeting the needs of the next generation. This is your opportunity to get involved!

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

Injured in workplace accident in 2008

Brother Curt Minard wins gold for Canada at ISHF World Championships!

Brother Curt Minard was severely injured on the job while working in Invermere as a Power Line Technician for BC Hydro in 2008 resulting in the loss of his left hand, severe nerve damage and full thickness 3rd degree burns to his right hand and burns to his back and right leg.



With his wife and young kids at home and now facing an uncertain future, Curt was hospitalized for three months in Calgary and spent another four months in the Alberta city doing intensive rehab. Curt has endured a dozen surgeries since 2008 including skin grafts to treat the damage done by having 14,400 volts of electricity run through his body.

That workplace accident changed Curt's life forever. Besides the obvious changes for himself and his family, Curt was certain his days of playing recreational hockey were over. An enthusiastic player since he was young, growing up in Saskatchewan, Curt continued to play in local leagues as an adult. Now that he was missing a hand and had severe nerve damage in the other, he figured it was time to put the hockey sticks and skates away for good.

But with the support and encouragement of his family, friends, health care specialists and his union, Local 258 IBEW, Curt has recently returned to playing hockey and has made achievements beyond his wildest dreams.

Encouraged by his kids, Curt took baby steps returning to the ice and started out by playing some pickup hockey about a year ago after moving to Vernon. He was encouraged by the reception he received and his team mates' determination in trying to help him improve on the ice. His confidence grew and he started looking around for opportunities to play with other disabled hockey players and found the CASA - the Canadian Amputees Sports Association. That find led to tryouts with the Canadian National Amputee Team.

Curt was given the opportunity to train with Dean McAmmond, a former NHL player who spent over 15 years competing on a variety of NHL teams. Dean offered to help Curt improve his on ice performance, given his limitations, and assisted even more in helping grow his confidence as a player.

Working with his prosthetist, a specially designed attachment was crafted for Curt that allows a swivel action for his left hand as he is a right handed shooter. Curt carried on to the tryout camps for the National Team and was one of 20 players selected to represent Canada at the World Championships in Finland last spring, where the team won gold!

Curt contacted the union seeking a donation to help finance the team, and recently sent a thank you letter for that donation, noting his appreciation for the ongoing support he's received since the accident from Business Manager Doug McKay. In a phone interview with the Hotline, Brother Minard also acknowledges the work of Michelle Laurie, president and Rebecca Murdock, legal counsel, who have been instrumental with their support and hard work in making sure Curt has been supported since his life changing injury.



Currently, Curt is studying for a Certificate in Occupational Health & Safety, and although he finds the courses intense, he looks forward to completing them and returning to meaningful work.

The Canadian Amputee Hockey Committee (CAHC) is a committee of the non-profit Canadian Amputee Sports Association (CASA), and a member of the Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC).

Photos: Curt sent forward these photos and letter of appreciation to thank the union for their support since his workplace accident. Clockwise from left: Brother Curt Minard with his wife Danielle and his gold medal; Celebrating after the win; On the ice; With team mates after the win! 🇨🇦

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



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

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

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



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

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.

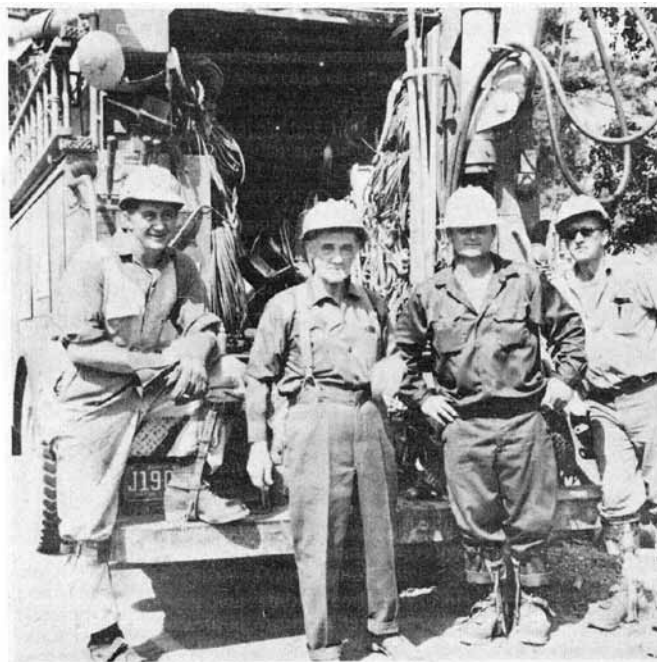
By doing so, you will be connected with a WCB representative who completes an injury report on your behalf.

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.

From the Archives

Congratulations to Brother Brad Lister who correctly identified the caption for the photo featured in the last issue of The Hotline. He wrote indicating his dad Al is in the photo and that his mom Dorothy had kept the original Abbotsford newspaper article from 1968. Brother Al Lister worked for BC Electric and Hydro for 42 years and retired at the age of 59. He passed away in 2000 and this clipping was displayed at his memorial service. Thanks for sending your story forward Brad.



"Tailgate Talk for the Hotliners" Line Crew has a tailgate session before starting a hotline job in the Abbotsford area. From left are Al Masse, Fred Cummings, Sub Foreman Al Lister and Fred Darling. Published in The Hotline, October, 1969.



PHOTO OPPORTUNITY LU 258

Brother Bob Kolossoff recognized for 70 years as a member of IBEW!



Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter, right, recently awarded Brother Bob Kolossoff, center, with a framed service award plaque recognizing his 70 years as a member of IBEW. Mrs. Kolossoff is shown with Bob and Chris in the photo above. Congratulations Bob!



Congratulations to Brother Dave Leier, Clearwater, on your retirement earlier this year!



Congratulations to Brother Randy Williams on being awarded his 35 year IBEW service pin by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.



Congratulations to Brother Tyler Orme on being awarded his 5 year IBEW service pin by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.



Congratulations to Brother John Wassing on your retirement. Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney is shown here giving John his retirement gifts from the union.



Brother Tom Solosby was awarded retirement gifts from Local 258 by ABM Don McNabb at his retirement luncheon in Chetwynd. Happy trapping Tom!



Congratulations to Brother Sean Baylis on being awarded his 5 year IBEW service pin by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.



Congratulations to Brother Gord Lawson on being awarded his 40 year long term service pin by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney and winning the watch draw at the Unit 3 meeting in June.



Congratulations Brother Tom Flensburg on your 50 year IBEW membership certificate presented by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.



Local 258 Executive Board members joined their BCGEU and PEA brothers and sisters on the picket line at the Ministry of Transportation offices in Burnaby on their Day of Action, September 5, 2012. BCGEU members reached a tentative agreement as this issue of the Hotline was going to press.



Brother Kim Black, CBU Electrician and Brother Dwain Galbraith, CBU Foreman Electrician were presented with 35 year IBEW long-time service pins by Brother Trevor Williams, Vice Chair of Unit 3 at Bridge River May 8, 2012.



Congratulations Brother Frank Nassachuk, center, and Brother Calvin Reiss, right on being awarded their 35 year long term service pins by Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter.



Congratulations Brother Tom Kelly on your 35 year IBEW service pin awarded by Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney.



Congratulations to new member Brother Sam Montgomery with Unit 5 Chair Cathy Tagseth at the June meeting in Powell River.



Brother Steve Robson and Brother Mike Myers with Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter at the June 2012 meeting in Langley.



Congratulations Brother Christian Bridges on winning the watch draw at the Local 5 meeting in Burnaby in June. He is shown here with Unit 5 Chair Cathy Tagseth.



Unit 1 Chair Klaus Kraft welcomes new member Brother Brady Posenikoff, Smithers.



Welcoming new members to the IBEW being sworn in by Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter at the Unit 6 meeting in Langley in September.



Congratulations to new IBEW member Brother Chris Goodwin on being sworn in at the Unit 5 meeting in Sechelt in June.



LU 258 Business Manager Doug McKay congratulates recently retired member Gene Rose, a lineman with Henkels McCoy PEI, on his retirement and presented him with his 45 year service pin from IBEW.



Unit 5 Vice Chair Lloyd Smith, right, congratulates Brother George Harvey on being awarded his 40 year service pin from IBEW.



Brother Jack Bennett was congratulated on his recent retirement from BC Hydro by Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter at the August meeting in Chilliwack.



Longtime member Glen Welsh (L) receives his IBEW 40 year service pin from ABM Don McNabb in Dawson Creek in August.



Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney congratulates Brother Tom Thompson and awards him his 35 year union service pin.



Unit 3 Chair Colin Kenney congratulates Brother Kurt Hilger and awards him his 35 year union service pin.



Unit 3 member Leroy Anderson won the watch draw at the recent Unit 3 meeting.



Congratulations to Brother James Carmichael of Valley Powerline and Brother Youri Taburiaux of Glenn Power who were awarded Line Apprentices of the Year by the Joint Line Apprenticeship & Trades Training Committee.

HOTLINE



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For those of you who I have not reached through union meetings and minutes, I want to take this space one last time to thank all of my brothers and sisters at Local 258 IBEW for your support, your confidence, and your trust in me over the past many years that I have had the honour of serving as your President.

As you will surely have heard by now, after much discussion with our leadership and with the leadership of other unions and labour activists across the province, I have made the decision to stand for election for President of the BC Federation of Labour.

This was not a decision I reached easily, or quickly. In 2010, while serving as a Vice President of the BC Fed, I became concerned about the lack of clear strategy, direction and focus at the leadership level. Compounding these difficulties were poor management practices at the BC Fed offices that were creating a difficult workplace and interfering with productivity. Unable to make significant progress or change ineffective practices, I chose to step aside, re-evaluate the circumstances and work towards a solution.

Since then, I have not seen any positive change forthcoming and together with many other labour leaders, have realized the contentious divisions that exist at the leadership level within the Federation are not conducive to real progress. In discussions with many union activists and some union leaders, I have also heard about discontent and a real sense of disconnect with the Federation as a central body for organized labour in BC.

I believe the Federation needs to play an important role in our province as the voice of organized labour with strong leadership and clear direction, and, most importantly, this organization needs to be relevant to the affiliate unions and their members. I believe the delegates to this year's Fed convention can validate its important role as a central labour body by choosing new leadership - leadership that can work together with the affiliates to develop a clear and cohesive strategic plan supported by an appropriate budget and complete with measurable outcomes and goals. By identifying and focusing on achievable priorities guided by a well defined strategic plan, organized labour *can become a relevant force* in effecting real change that not only engages, but directly benefits union members in BC.

If I am honoured with success in the election on November 29th, it is my intention to begin work immediately with the affiliate unions to confirm both immediate and long range priorities and create a clearly defined strategic plan for our important work going forward. In that process, we will need to create messaging that will change the negative public discourse about unions and their members that has taken over the conversation. Instead of being apologists for good wages and pensions, organized labour needs to engage and communicate with the broader public about the *importance* of good wages, benefits and pensions in helping families, strengthening local economies and creating strong communities. I can't imagine any worker who believes having a good wage, benefits and a pension is a bad thing, but when do we hear or read about that?




Today, when you think about the BC Federation of Labour, you probably think about rallies, demonstrations, picket lines and rousing speakers at the microphone. I believe we need to change that image, so that when you think about the BC Federation of Labour, you think about skilled workers and the positive impact they have on your life - like the Power Line Technician fixing an outage in a storm, or the trained paramedic saving lives after a car accident, or the well-educated respiratory technician keeping a patient alive through surgery, or the professional educator who teaches your child the excitement of reading, or the apprentice learning the intricacies of process and control electronics.

The image we have of organized labour should be a positive image of the contributions we make to community and workplaces - not just a voice of protest.

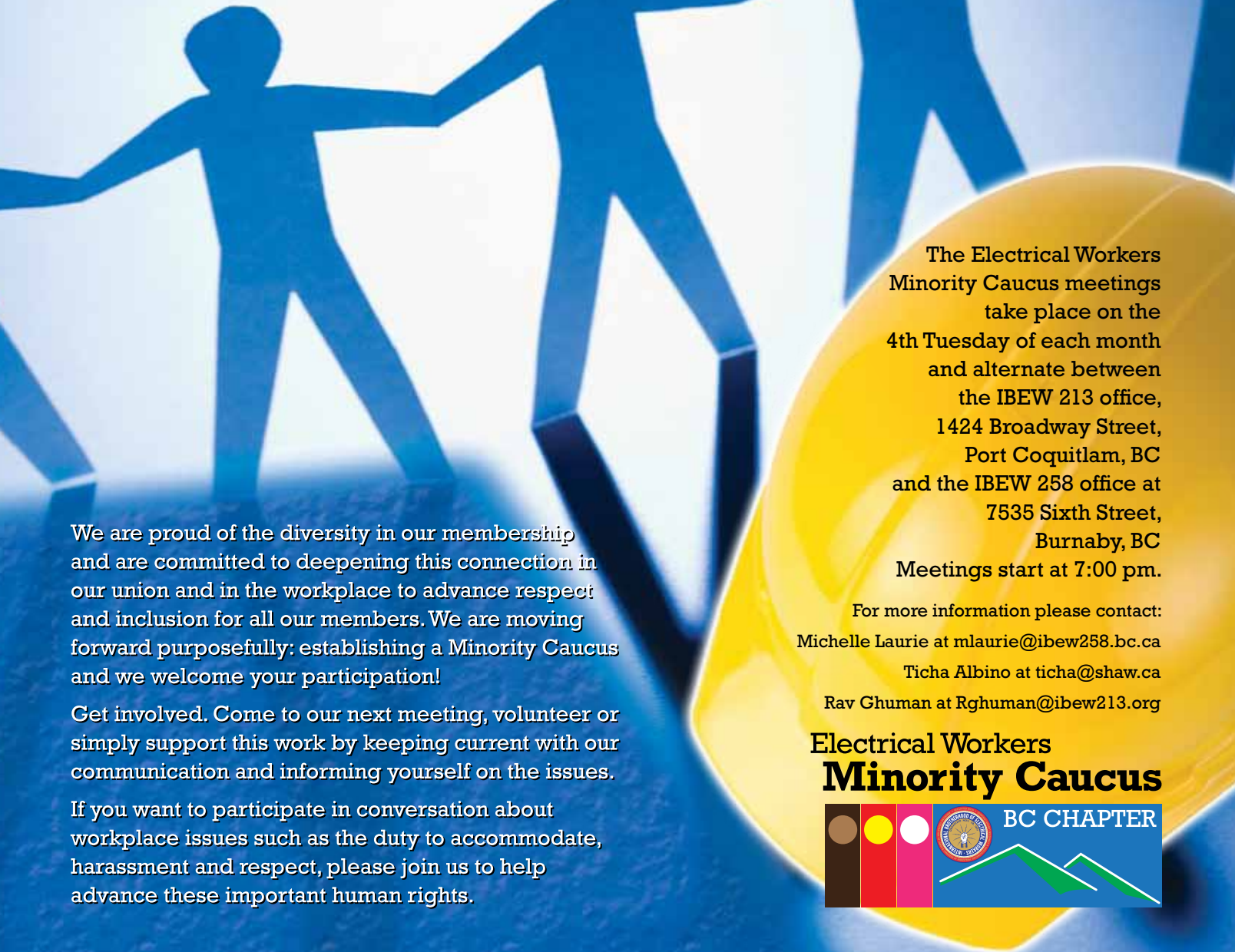
It seems almost certain that the BC NDP will form government next May. While labour's relationship with the NDP is important, we must also be very clear about OUR agenda and OUR priorities. We need to formulate and follow through with a specific legislative agenda that includes effectively researched policies if we want government to make the changes we desire. As the central body for organized labour in BC, the Fed must do the work - with dedicated funds for research and policy development - not just protest campaigning.

So, you don't really need to read my complete stump speech, but I do want you to understand that I am seeking the office of President of the BC Federation of Labour because I believe that it is critical that we renew our movement by making pro-active change to ensure that the Federation is relevant and progressive.

Joining me in this election, seeking the office of Secretary-Treasurer on the same slate, is Trevor Davies, a young leader from the Canadian Union of Public Employees. Trevor and I agree on the need for renewal at the Federation, and he firmly believes that we need to structure the finances of the Federation so that they are linked to the strategic direction, and are transparent to the affiliates and their members. Together, Trevor and I hope to make positive change for the labour movement in British Columbia.

If you want to follow our progress, you can "like" us on Facebook at [facebook.com/RenewTheFed](https://www.facebook.com/RenewTheFed), follow us on Twitter @renewthefed and visit our website at www.renewthefed.ca. 

The IBEW represents workers from many communities.



We are proud of the diversity in our membership and are committed to deepening this connection in our union and in the workplace to advance respect and inclusion for all our members. We are moving forward purposefully: establishing a Minority Caucus and we welcome your participation!

Get involved. Come to our next meeting, volunteer or simply support this work by keeping current with our communication and informing yourself on the issues.

If you want to participate in conversation about workplace issues such as the duty to accommodate, harassment and respect, please join us to help advance these important human rights.

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

For more information please contact:
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Electrical Workers Minority Caucus



WE WELCOME ALL TO OUR EQUITY CAUCUS.

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