



# HOTLINE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
PUBLICATION OF  
LOCAL 258 IBEW  
MARCH, 2014

LOCAL 258, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, BRITISH COLUMBIA



## Local 258 IBEW Shop Stewards “Defining Our Future” at 2013 Conference



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

-  **NEW AGREEMENT FOR MEMBERS WORKING AT LINE CONTRACTORS!**
-  **BROTHER DAN KLASSEN RECOGNIZED BY UNITED WAY**
-  **LINEMEN TRAVEL TO KANSAS FOR INTERNATIONAL RODEO**
-  **2014 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULES**
-  **GENERATOR REPAIR WORK AT GM SHRUM**
-  **CALL FOR TOM FORKIN SCHOLARSHIPS!**



**HOTLINE** March 2014

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Viewpoint from your Business Manager Doug McKay ..... p. 3**

**We've Got Mail ..... p. 4-5**

**Unit Meetings; Dispatch .... p. 6**

**2014 gets underway with major bargaining ..... p. 7**

**Brother Klassen recognized by United Way ..... p. 8**

**PLTs at Kansas Rodeo .... p. 8-9**

**"Defining Our Future" Shop Stewards Conference ..... p. 10-11**

**Legislative Update from Ottawa ..... p. 12-13**

**2014 Unit Meeting Schedules ..... p. 14-19**

**Union Notice Board..... p. 20**

**Ruminations of a Retiree. p. 21**

**Generator 6 Rotor Repair at GM Shrum..... p. 22**

**Call for 2014 Tom Forkin Scholarships ..... p. 23**

**Local 258 IBEW Members "In Memoriam" ..... p. 24-25**

**Notice of Union Election.. p. 27**

**Photo Op ..... p. 28-30**

**From the Back Corner by President Tony Brand..... p. 31**



## *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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UNION MADE

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

Local 258, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers:

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Doug McKay

Executive Board Members:

President: Tony Brand

Vice-President: vacant

Treasurer: Larry Byhre

Recording Secretary: Dale Haines

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Unit #2 Chair: Gerry Pope

Unit #3 Chair: Trevor Williams

Unit #4 Chair: Tom Greenwell

Unit #5 Chair: Cathy Tagseth

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 Membership Development and Organizing: Rick Gerrard

Local 258 IBEW Dispatcher: Jim McKay

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

Local 258 IBEW Legal Counsel: Rebecca Murdock

Cover Photo:

Shop Stewards gathered for a successful weekend Conference in Burnaby in November, 2013, that featured Guest Speaker Brother Bill Daniels (left), International Vice President First District IBEW and Doug McKay (right), Local 258 IBEW Business Manager/Financial Secretary.

## VIEWPOINT from your Business Manager Doug McKay

With our Local 258 IBEW members working across British Columbia (and elsewhere!) in Electric Utility, Power Line, Traffic Control, Utility Arborist, and Electrical Manufacturing, it's good when we can get together and talk about our union, the issues we face in the workplace and about those circumstances that affect us as working people.

That was the case in November when almost 100 Shop Stewards gathered in Burnaby, BC for our union's "Defining Our Future" Conference. It was a jam packed agenda that also provided an opportunity to meet and get to know one another. Many members travelled from the North, the Interior, the Kootenays and the Island to listen to a wide variety of speakers and enjoy some good IBEW hospitality. It was a pleasure, and an honour, to co-MC the proceedings with Brother Tony Brand and I thank all of you who participated in this important event. I'd also like to thank our guest speakers for taking the time to share their expertise with our membership.

Sometimes in this job, one is called upon to talk with the media about something that has come to their attention. I always speak openly and freely with anyone who calls me – including every one of our members who can, at any time, pick up the phone and call me directly. It's unfortunate when media reporters take things out of context, don't understand unions and don't gain an understanding about the industries we work in. Recently, that very situation came home to roost. There was an article printed in a local community newspaper that twisted and ignored some of the important facts I discussed with a reporter and ultimately the article may have presented the wrong impression and offended some of our members. Please be assured this was never my intent and I take my role as your Business Manager very seriously and will always defend our members to the best of my ability, no matter who their employer is. Our union and our members always come first and it is my job to do everything in my power to make sure you have good representation in the workplace, decent wages, safe and fair working conditions and as much job security that is possible.

As we start 2014, contract negotiations are filling the calendar. Many thanks to our members working at our signatory Line Contractor companies - Brother Paul Davis and Brother Jim Leckie from Allteck and Brother Henry Bender from Arctic Arrow - along with ABMs Dan Giesbrecht and Don McNabb - who reached a new agreement ratified by a margin of 75% of members voting at the end of February.

Bargaining for our members working at BC Hydro gets underway in mid-March and I'd like to thank our members who have stepped forward for this round of negotiations. We have reviewed the contract proposals our members at BC Hydro have



*Brother Doug McKay at the podium at the 2013 Local 258 IBEW Shop Stewards Conference.*

put forward and I'd like to thank everyone who participated with sending in your suggestions and (sometimes very creative) ideas.

We continue to organize members working in the Traffic Control sector and welcome them to Local 258 IBEW. We are also dealing with all the changes that this industry undergoes, and how it affects our members, in what seems like a weekly, if not daily, basis. Local 258 has been a proud participant since it's inception of the "The Cone Zone" safety initiative being put forward by the Workers Compensation Board that encourages drivers to slow down in areas where Traffic Control personnel are working. We are glad to be able to share our experiences with this working group.

I'd like to take this opportunity to encourage all of you to consider getting more involved with your union. With our union elections on the horizon, we are always open to members stepping forward to participate at a different level with our Unit Executive and Table Officers positions. You should have received a letter in the mail last month outlining the dates for nominations and procedures for our 2014 union election and I encourage you to attend your union meeting to find out more information.

Given that we still do communicate by mail – at least for as long as Canada Post is willing to provide mail service to Canadians – please make sure your mailing address and contact information is current with Local 258 IBEW. It is your responsibility to let us know if you have an address change as we do send important information to you in the mail, such as your receipts for union dues for income tax purposes. You can update your address by signing up as a member on our website at [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca) or call the office directly at 604-520-3305 or toll free 1-877-520-3305 during regular business hours.

In closing, stay safe and always look up. 🚧



# We've Got Mail!

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of the IBEW Locals 258, 213 and Rokstad Power Corporation for their generous support given to me and my family during a difficult time. Without that support we would have not been able to spend precious time with our son while he was sick and would have surely been in financial distress during that time.

Our son Aiden unfortunately passed away on October 6th, 2013 at the age of nine. He fought a courageous battle with a rare form of brainstem cancer called Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma and passed away one month after his diagnosis.

If I can take anything positive from this experience I would have to say that the love and support shown to me and my family has been exceptional.

We thank-you for the baked goods and meals, financial support, cards and letters, and even had a crew of 20+ IBEW and COPE 378 members who were locked out by FortisBC participate in a home and yard makeover while we were caring for our son at BC Children's Hospital and Canuck Place Children's Hospice last fall.

I would also like to thank my family and friends who have a long history within the IBEW for your love and support.

Sincerely,  
Steven Byrnell

Dear Dan Klassen and IBEW Local 258,  
THANK YOU!! On behalf of the BC Building Trades Council, I am very pleased to announce our 15th Annual Charity Golf Tournament held Wednesday, July 17 at the Hazelmere Golf Course was a wonderful success!

Together with Dollars Against Diabetes (DAD's) Day fundraiser held around the province in June, we raised over \$30,000 for our two charities - the University of British Columbia's Centre for Research in Childhood Diabetes, the leading centre in Canada for research in pediatric diabetes and Variety - The Children's Charity, a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to raising funds to benefit children who have special needs.

Through your continued support we hope to be able to continue hosting an event like this in the years to come.

Fraternally,  
Tom Sigurdson  
Executive Director  
BC Building Trades Council

Dear Local 258 IBEW,

I just wanted to send out a big THANKS to all those who supported our golf tournament again this year.

As you are likely aware, our tournament took on a very special meaning in 2008. The event is now held in honour and memory of Dirk Rozenboom and Rob Lehmann. Dirk's charity of choice was the East Kootenay SPCA and Rob's charity of choice was the East Kootenay Regional Hospital Foundation for Health. This year we managed to raise over \$3,100.00 (to be split between these two very admirable East Kootenay charities). Thank you to everyone who supported the tournament through attending, providing prizes and making monetary donations. Thanks!

Ian Kozicky  
BC Hydro  
Cranbrook Transmission: Field Operations

Dear Brother Tony,

I'm sorry for the late response as my injuries have prevented me from sending a timely thank you, my apologies.

I would sincerely like to thank you guys for the cheque as it helped with the financial crisis. EI is being very picky and I'm having a bitch of a time with them. Money is tight and my bills are adding up, in regards I would like to thank you for the money again. Stay in touch!

Regards,  
Anthony Morgan

Dear Local 258 IBEW,

Good afternoon brothers, I just realized I haven't sent a thank you note for the generous donation made to the BC Cancer Foundation so that I can participate in the event.

Thanks and I want to say that I think it is wonderful to be part of a brotherhood that actually supports and cares for their members.

Wesley Parsons  
BC Hydro  
Project Materials

Hello Tony and Local 258 IBEW;  
On behalf of Port Coquitlam Bantam C3 hockey,  
I would like to thank you for your generous  
donation. Your contribution makes it possible to  
acquire more ice time which helps us stay com-  
petitive.

Our team came in third at a tournament on  
Vancouver Island last weekend. The kids had a  
great time playing hockey and hanging out with  
their friends. At a parent/player get-together  
on the island, the coach told everyone what the  
IBEW has done for them and a loud three cheers  
for the IBEW was called out.

Once again, thank you for your generous  
donation.

Brother Dave Herrington  
Local 258 IBEW



Dear Local 258 IBEW,  
I want to thank the members of the Local 258 Executive  
Board and all my brothers and sisters for allowing me to  
attend the CLC Harrison Winter School.

As a new Shop Steward, I found the  
course I took - Shop Steward Training  
Level 1 - very informative and enlight-  
ening. I not only got to meet mem-  
bers of our own Local, but brothers  
and sisters of many other trades. Our  
class had teachers, engineers, firemen,  
longshoremen, etc. The class was very  
engaging. We role played real live scen-  
arios that students in our class were facing in  
their own workplace.



With such a diverse group of brothers and sisters it was  
interesting to see and hear other people's points of view. My  
instructors were fantastic and very passionate, but in the end it  
was my peers that helped me gain and learn the new skills  
I will be putting forward. For those of you who have never  
attended the Winter School, I strongly recommend it.

Remember this is OUR union, not the union. We've had  
members pave the way for us year after year. It's time for us  
to be proactive and take an already great Local and build it  
stronger.

Play safe brothers and sisters.  
Brother Roger Dawson

Dear Local 258 IBEW staff and members;  
"Your thoughtfulness was special and very timely too.  
How good it is to know people such as you."

Thank you all brothers and sisters of Local 258 IBEW for  
your kindness in my time of need.

Your fellow Brother,  
Lloyd Smith

Dear Local 258 IBEW,  
The Fort St. John, Fort Nelson and Dawson Creek Locals  
would like to thank you for your donation to the BC Trappers  
Association 68th Convention.

Jim Vince  
President, Ft. St. John Local

Dear Nicole & IBEW Local 258,  
I would like to thank you, Doug McKay, and the IBEW for  
giving me the wonderful opportunity of partaking in this  
year's Winter School at Harrison.

I learned so much and I know gained more confidence in  
dealing with management over handling grievances. It was so  
much fun and enjoyable meeting other Shop Stewards from all  
over the province. I know a few friends have been made from  
this experience.

Thanks again,  
Sincerely,  
Arlene Runka



## 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:** March 11, May 13 @ 5 pm at Hudson Bay Lodge  
\*The March 11 meeting is an official nomination meeting.\*

### Unit 2 - Central Interior

**Prince George:** March 12, April 9, May 14 @ 7 pm at the Coast Inn

\*The March 12 meeting is an official nomination meeting.\*

**Fort St. John:** May 21 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room

**Hudson's Hope:** April 10 @ 6 pm at Pearkes Centre

**Fort Nelson:** May 22 @ 7 pm at the Woodlands Inn

**Williams Lake:** May 15 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room

**Bella Coola:** May 8 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room

**Williams Lake:** March 13 @ 4:30 pm in the Line Room

### Unit 3 - Southern Interior

**Bridge River:** March 11, May 13 @ 5:30 pm in Lunch Room B2

**Kamloops:** March 12, May 14 @ 7 pm at IBEW Local 993 Hall, 873 Desmond Street \*The March 12 meeting is an official nomination meeting.\*

**Vernon:** March 13, May 15 @ 7 pm at the Army & Navy Club

**Revelstoke:** March 18, May 20 @ 4:30 pm at the Hydro Dam Lunch Room

**Mica:** March 17 @ 6 pm at the Mica Curling Rink

**Castlegar:** April 8 @ 7 pm in the Fireside Inn

### Unit 4 - Vancouver Island

**Ganges:** May 13 @ 4 pm in the Line Room

**Duncan:** March 11 @ 4 pm in the Line Room

**Qualicum Beach:** April 9 @ 4 pm in the Line Room

**Nanaimo:** March 12 @ 4 pm in the Line Room \*The March 12 meeting is an official nomination meeting.\*

**Port Hardy:** April 8 @ 4 pm in the Line Room

### Unit 5 - Lower Mainland

**Burnaby:** March 13, April 10, May 15 @ 5 pm at the Local 258 IBEW office, 7535 Sixth Street \*The March 13 meeting is an official nomination meeting.\*

**Sechelt:** March 19 @ 5 pm in the Seaside Centre

**Powell River:** March 18 @ 4:30 pm at the Coast Hotel

### Unit 6 - Fraser Valley

**Langley:** March 11, April 8, May 13 @ 7 pm at the

USW Hall, 200th St., Langley \*The March 11 meeting is an official nomination meeting.\*

**Chilliwack:** April 9 @ 7 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 \$62.50 - 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 voicemail with your name and phone number. ☎

## 2014 gets underway with major bargaining



*Members of the Local 258 IBEW BC Hydro Bargaining Committee, standing, from left: Brother Dave Herrington, Brother Dave Rathlef, Brother Rick Gerrard, Brother Frank Nassachuk, Brother Dan Payne, Brother Rupinder Dhillon, Brother Dave Mengerling. Seated, from left, Brother Tony Brand, President Local 258 IBEW; Garnet Zimmerman, GMZ Mediation; Brother Jim Greenwell, Local 258 IBEW Senior Assistant Business Manager. Missing from this photo is Brother Doug McKay, Local 258 IBEW Business Manager/Financial Secretary and Rebecca Murdock, Local 258 IBEW Legal Counsel.*

Starting off a busy year of bargaining, Local 258 IBEW members working for Line Contractor companies have ratified a new collective agreement by a margin of 75% after a mail ballot vote was counted at the end of February.

“Thanks to the Bargaining Committee members representing Local 258 members working at our signatory Line Contractor companies who worked very hard to reach this new agreement,” said Local 258 IBEW Business Manager Doug McKay.

The new four-year agreement features increases in wages and living out allowances, as well as 100% employer paid costs for personal protective equipment required on-the job.


Members of the Line Contractors Bargaining Committee were Brother Dan Giesbrecht and Brother Don McNabb, Local 258 IBEW ABMs; Brother Paul Davis and Brother Jim Leckie from Allteck and Brother Henry Bender from Arctic Arrow.

Contract negotiations for members work-

ing at BC Hydro, one of the largest sectors of members in Local 258, are now getting underway. The union Bargaining Committee has already met and reviewed the contract proposals from the membership and the first set of talks are scheduled for mid-March.

Leading negotiations is Business Manager McKay, who has put together a team from across the province to work with Garnet Zimmerman of GZ Mediation, a successful professional negotiator who has previously worked with Local 258. Bargaining for a new contract with BC Hydro is negotiated through the Public Sector Employers Council (PSEC).

The current BC Hydro agreement expires at the end of March. “As BC Hydro is a Crown Corporation, and with the current Minister of Energy Bill Bennett undertaking a “core review”, we are preparing for any surprise that may be coming our way,” says McKay.

Other contracts set to expire this year are in the union’s Utility Arborist, Traffic Control and Manufacturing sectors. 

The Public Sector Employers’ Council (PSEC) supports government in setting and coordinating strategic directions in human resource management and labour relations for the broad public sector. PSEC is also active in the area of public sector pension plan management. PSEC’s authority related to labour relations is contained in the Public Sector Employers Act. This authority includes administering and managing the development and implementation of labour relations policies and practices in the B.C. public sector.

From <http://www.fin.gov.bc.ca/psec/>

*Volunteering is at the core of his commitment to our community*

## Brother Dan Klassen recognized with United Way Labour Appreciation Award

Local 258 IBEW's Dan Klassen, who works in the Burnaby office as an Assistant Business Manager, was the recipient of the 2013 Joe Morris Community Service Award, presented by the United Way of the Lower Mainland at the Labour Appreciation Dinner that took place in Burnaby at the Hilton Vancouver Metrotown Hotel on December 5.


Brother Klassen's long time volunteer activities, both in the community and with the United Way, were recognized as his co-workers, fellow union members and family looked on. Dan has been a member of the UWLM Campaign Cabinet and has served as Campaign Co-Chair as well as being heavily involved in participating and supporting the Union Counselling program.

"I am very honoured by this award", said Brother Klassen. "There are so many people to thank, including, of course, my wife Yvonne, my family and to those members of IBEW who helped kick start me when I was recovering from a workplace injury, specifically Brother Murray McDonald. I'd also like to thank Ken

Isomura, who's now retired from the United Way and Brother Doug McKay who has been very generous in supporting my volunteer work with the United Way."

The annual event also recognized Seth Klein of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives with the Vancouver & District Labour Council's Syd Thompson Community Service Award and Mae Burrows, long time environmental activist and Environmental Health Educator received the New Westminster & District Labour Council's Community Service Award.

Klassen joins what is beginning to look like a long line of community and labour activists from Local 258 who have been recognized for their volunteer service with the United Way including Brother Stan Goodman, Brother Murray MacDonald and Sister Michelle Laurie. Local 258 IBEW was also the recipient of the UWLM 2009 Community Spirit Award.

Sponsored by Pacific Blue Cross, the well-attended evening highlighted the 20 year working partnership between the United Way and Canada's labour movement. 



*Brother Dan Klassen, Local 258 ABM, with the Joe Morris Community Service Award presented by the United Way of the Lower Mainland.*



*Local 258's Dan Klassen, shown here with his family and friends, was awarded the United Way's Joe Morris Community Service Award at the Labour Appreciation Dinner that took place in Burnaby in December 2013.*



*Local 258 IBEW President Tony Brand, left, and Brother Murray MacDonald, retired member, at the United Way of the Lower Mainland's Labour Appreciation Dinner to celebrate Brother Dan Klassen's award.*



# BC Linemen compete at Kansas International Linemans Rodeo

Following the successful Nanaimo Safety Rodeo – a competition showcasing the skills and abilities of our members working as Linemen (Power Line Technicians) at BC Hydro that took place in June of 2013 and sponsored by IBEW Local 258, BC Hydro and COPE 378 – the winning teams headed south last October to participate in the 30th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo in the city of Bonner Springs, just outside of Kansas City, Kansas.

Linemen working in the electrical utility industry from around the world attend this annual competition event that also features a Safety & Training Conference. The Rodeo is sponsored by Kansas City Power & Light and Westar Energy.

Local 258 IBEW members who competed in the team demonstration events showcased their Line Trade skills and the latest safe work methods. They were well prepared and accompanied by a contingent of volunteer judges and a support team from BC. Competition events included Pole Climb, Hurtman Rescue and Mystery Events, as well as Division events.

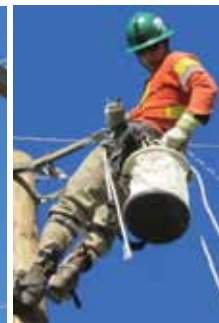
The Rodeo was part of a weekend long exposition focusing on safety in the difficult and often dangerous work done by professional Linemen.

Thanks to Brother Brian Gueldenstern who sent forward the photos and congratulations to all the team members who competed and the supporters who helped make it all happen.

Local 258 IBEW members who competed in the Kansas International Linemans Rodeo:

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

*It was reported Zane Gauthier was also spotted at various events!*



# "Defining Our Future"

## Local 258 IBEW holds successful Shop Stewards Conference

Local 258 IBEW Shop Stewards travelled from across British Columbia to attend the "Defining Our Future" Conference, and, from all reports, the weekend event that took place in November 2013 can only be described as a complete success!

Doug McKay, Business Manager of Local 258 IBEW, co-emceed the event with union president Tony Brand and was impressed with the turnout of almost 100 Shop Stewards.

"We had a good turnout and it was an honour to share the weekend with our front line activists," says McKay. "Their dedication and commitment to their brothers and sisters in the workplace is commendable and we appreciate the efforts they put forth on a daily basis."

The Conference featured an impressive line up of speakers and topics, including Brother Bill Daniels, International Vice President of the First District IBEW (representing Canada) and IBEW Political Action and Media Strategist Brother Matt Wayland, who both travelled to Burnaby from Toronto.

Conference Keynote Speaker was Brother Allan McDougall, a member of the United Steelworkers, who gave a very inspirational talk about his personal challenges with alcoholism and how he succeeded in overcoming that addiction. His thought provoking and educational

talk was very well received, and stimulated lots of discussion during the remainder of the weekend Conference. Allan is the author of "Breaking Through Discovering the Riches Within" and conference delegates each received a complimentary copy of his book.

Delegates also heard an enlightening speech about "Social Media & Discipline" from Charles Gordon, a partner in the law firm Koskie Glavin Gordon in Vancouver.

Welcoming the delegates and their families to Burnaby was City Councillor Paul McDonell. Jim Sinclair, President of the BC Federation of Labour also gave a welcoming address.

"We hope our Shop Stewards enjoyed themselves at our Conference and had an opportunity to meet one another and learn about the important things that are going on in our political world," said Brother Doug McKay, "We thank everyone who took the time to participate".

Members can log-in to [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca) to view all of the Conference photos.



Brother Allan McDougall left an impression with delegates as he told the story of his personal journey with alcoholism and his success in overcoming his addiction.



Brother Bill Daniels, IBEW First District Vice President spoke to delegates about the importance of staying strong against challenges Canada's labour movement is facing.



Brother Matt Wayland, IBEW Canada's Political Action & Media Strategist, delivered an exciting and motivating talk about political issues facing Canada's workers.



International Rep Brother Laird Cronk provided delegates with an interesting and comprehensive outline of the history of our Local 258 and IBEW in British Columbia and Canada.



Mark McDermott roused delegates with a fantastic speech focusing on the history of major labour struggles in the US and what is at risk in Canada. Videos of his work are available on his website at [www.markmcdermott.com](http://www.markmcdermott.com).



Sister Amber Hockin of the Canadian Labour Congress described details of the important "Together Fairness Works" initiative directed at encouraging support for Canada's labour movement.



Garnet Zimmerman had an opportunity to speak with Shop Stewards working at BC Hydro about contract negotiations.



Many thanks to professional union photographer Josh Berson and his assistant Angelina Cantada for a great job taking photos of our delegates and speakers!



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM OTTAWA

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

## Bill to help tradespeople defeated by majority Conservatives

Bill C-201, a Private Member's Bill that would allow tradespersons and apprentices to deduct travel and accommodation expenses from their taxable income so they could secure and maintain employment at a construction site that is more than 80 kilometres away from their home was defeated by the Harper majority Conservative government by a vote of 149 to 126 on February 5, 2014, when Parliament resumed after the Christmas break.

Introduced by NDP MP Chris Charlton (Hamilton Mountain), the Bill was supported by labour organizations across Canada and by thousands who signed petitions favouring this important legislation. IBEW Local 568 Business Manager Laurent Talbot (Quebec) was quoted as saying "The math is simple. More tradespeople working equals a lower unemployment rate".

Conservative MP Dave Van Kesteren (Chatham-Kent-Essex) said, "It is a costly and flawed piece of legislation that could expose Canada's tax system to a high likelihood of abuse."

In other words, tradespeople can't be trusted.

As a result, out-of-work tradespeople will have to continue to finance their own travel and accommodation should they wish to move to another region for work.

For the full list of how each Member of Parliament voted, visit your union website at [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca).

## "Attack on Workers" Bill C-525 makes it's way through Parliament

With the majority of Members of Parliament belonging to the Conservative Party, another Private Member's Bill, C-525, introduced by Alberta Conservative MP Blaine Calkins, passed First Reading and headed to the Standing Committee on Human Resources where a number of amendments were put forward.

This Bill, first reported on in the last issue of the Hotline, is erroneously titled the "Employees' Voting Rights Act", and is strategically aimed at making changes to the Federal Labour Code that include making it extremely difficult for workers to organize unions in their workplaces and easier for unionized workers to decertify from their union.

Seen as "destabilizing labour relations" and "yet another way to erode the civilized power relationship between employers and unions", Bill C-525 was amended by the Committee after witness appearances that featured Hassan Yussuff, Secretary-Treasurer of

the Canadian Labour Congress, and pointed questions from NDP MP Jinny Sims (Newton-North Delta).

Lise St. Denis, a Liberal MP from Saint Maurice-Champlain, Quebec said: The Conservatives are redefining labour relations using a restrictive vision of the freedom of association as recognized by the charter.

Committee member Elizabeth May, the Green Party MP from Saanich-Gulf Islands, said, "There is the old adage, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". This is one of a number of Private Members' Bills, and some government bills, that aim directly at collective bargaining, as they have to other sectors, and say, "We're going to keep fixing it 'til it's broken".


## Canadian Labour Congress says government abandoning the middle class

Ken Georgetti, the President of the Canadian Labour Congress, says the federal budget lacks any vision about how to stop growing inequality and the economic slide of middle class Canadians.

Ken Georgetti was commenting on the 2014-15 budget tabled in the House of Commons on Tuesday, February 11. "Canadians wanted a budget that speaks to their real needs, but the Finance Minister is more interested in continuing with austerity and balancing the budget. If now is not the time to act, when will it be?"

Georgetti says the budget makes noises about protecting consumers and their pocketbooks, and it devotes some money to job training. "The Minister is just tinkering around the edges. We have almost three million Canadians who are either unemployed, stuck in part-time jobs, or who have given up looking for work altogether. This budget does little to deal with that great waste of talent and skill."

Georgetti says that Ottawa has chosen to slash public services in order to pay for the deep corporate tax cuts it had made over the years. "In return for tax breaks business was supposed to invest in the economy, but the evidence shows that they are instead hoarding mountains of cash and paying their CEOs fat salaries."

He adds, "People are having trouble making ends meet and they fear especially for the future of their children and grandchildren. Good, family-supporting jobs are the key to Canada's economic success and we cannot get there with corporate tax cuts and government austerity. Canadians want a government that is committed to fairness and that is not what they are getting in the budget. It's time for a new vision." 

## “Anti-union” Bill C-377: In the Senate... again

Private Members’ Bill C-377 (Conservative MP Russ Hiebert, South Surrey-White Rock-Cloverdale), commonly referred to as the “anti-union Bill” that unfairly seeks to impose rules on unions that are much more detailed and restrictive than any other organization must follow and 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, has been adjourned to the next sitting of the Senate.

The Senate calendar shows debate on Bill C-377 was set for February 25, 2014 and at that time, further debate was “adjourned” until the next sitting. Please watch your union website at [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca) for updates as they happen.

In the meantime, we encourage you to correspond by letter (postage free) or by email or by phone with any of BC’s Senators to let them know you support the IBEW’s **opposition** to Bill C-377. Please find contact information below:

All Senators can be contacted by mail at the following address:

Name of Senator  
The Senate of Canada  
140 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A4

British Columbia Senators:

The Honourable Senator Larry Campbell  
Phone Toll Free: 1-800-267-7362;  
Direct Phone: 613-995-4050  
email: [larry.campbell@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:larry.campbell@sen.parl.gc.ca) or [info@larrycampbell.ca](mailto:info@larrycampbell.ca)  
*(Appointed to the Senate on August 2, 2005 by Liberal Prime Minister Jean Chretien)*

The Honourable Senator Mobina Jaffer  
Phone Toll Free: 1-800-267-7362;  
Direct Phone: 613-992-0189  
email: [mjaffer@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:mjaffer@sen.parl.gc.ca)  
*(Appointed to the Senate on June 13, 2001 by Liberal Prime Minister Jean Chretien)*

The Honourable Senator Yonah Martin  
Phone Toll Free: 1-800-267-7362;  
Direct Phone: 1-613-947-4078  
email: [martin@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:martin@sen.parl.gc.ca)  
*(Appointed to the Senate on January 2, 2009 by Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper)*

The Honourable Senator Richard Neufeld  
Phone Toll Free: 1-800-267-7362;  
Direct Phone: 1-613-947-4055  
email: [richard.neufeld@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:richard.neufeld@sen.parl.gc.ca)  
*(Appointed to the Senate in December 2008 by Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper)*

The Honourable Senator Nancy Greene Raine  
Phone Toll Free: 1-800-267-7362;  
Direct Phone: 613-947-4052  
email: [nancy.raine@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:nancy.raine@sen.parl.gc.ca)  
*(Appointed to the Senate on January 2, 2009 by Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper)*

## 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**



# Unit 1 Meeting Schedule 2014

## UNIT 1 MEETING SCHEDULE

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>MASSET</b> Where: Line Room/Plant When: 4:30 pm		<i>Thurs</i> FEB 13th								<i>Thurs</i> OCT 9th		
<b>PRINCE RUPERT</b> Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm		<i>Wed</i> FEB 12th				<i>Wed</i> JUN 11th				<i>Wed</i> OCT 8th		
<b>QUEEN CHARLOTTE CITY</b> Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm						<i>Thurs</i> JUN 12th						
<b>SMITHERS</b> Where: Hudson Bay Lodge When: 5:00 pm	<i>*Tues</i> JAN 14th		<i>*Tues</i> MAR 11th		<i>*Tues</i> MAY 13th		<i>*Thurs</i> JUL 17th		<i>*Tues</i> SEP 9th		<i>*Wed</i> NOV 12th	
<b>TERRACE</b> Where: Best Western Inn When: 7:00 pm		<i>*Tues</i> FEB 11th		<i>*Tues</i> APR 8th		<i>*Tues</i> JUN 10th		<i>*Tues</i> AUG 12th		<i>*Tues</i> OCT 7th		<i>*Tues</i> DEC 9th



### Your Local 258 IBEW

#### Executive Board Members:

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Doug McKay  
 President: Tony Brand  
 Vice-President: vacant  
 Treasurer: Larry Byhre  
 Recording Secretary: Dale Haines  
 Unit #1 Chair: Klaus Kraft  
 Unit #2 Chair: Gerry Pope  
 Unit #3 Chair: Trevor Williams  
 Unit #4 Chair: Tom Greenwell  
 Unit #5 Chair: Cathy Tagseth  
 Unit #6 Chair: Chris Carter

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 Dan Giesbrecht, Dan Klassen, Don McNabb,  
 Nicole Biernaczyk  
 Local 258 IBEW Dispatcher: Jim McKay

### LOCAL 258, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

7535 Sixth Street,  
 Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2  
 phone: 604-520-3305 fax: 604-522-3371 toll free: 1-877-520-3305



# Unit 2 Meeting Schedule 2014

## UNIT 2 MEETING SCHEDULE

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>PRINCE GEORGE</b> Where: Coast Inn When: 7:00 pm	<i>*Wed</i> <b>JAN</b> 15th	<i>*Tues</i> <b>FEB</b> 18th	<i>*Wed</i> <b>MAR</b> 12th	<i>*Wed</i> <b>APR</b> 9th	<i>*Wed</i> <b>MAY</b> 14th	<i>*Tues</i> <b>JUN</b> 17th			<i>*Wed</i> <b>SEP</b> 10th	<i>*Tues</i> <b>OCT</b> 14th	<i>Thurs</i> NOV 13th	
<b>DAWSON CREEK</b> Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm		<i>Thurs</i> FEB 20th				<i>Thurs</i> JUN 19th						<i>*Thurs</i> <b>DEC</b> 11th
<b>FORT ST. JOHN</b> Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm		<i>Wed</i> FEB 19th			<i>Thurs</i> MAY 21st		<i>*Thurs</i> <b>JUL</b> 15th		<i>Wed</i> SEP 17th			
<b>HUDSON'S HOPE</b> Where: Parkes Centre When: 4:30 pm				<i>Thurs</i> APR 10th				<i>*Thurs</i> <b>AUG</b> 14th				
<b>FORT NELSON</b> Where: Woodland's Inn When: 7:00 pm					<i>Wed</i> MAY 22nd				<i>Thurs</i> SEP 18th			
<b>QUESNEL</b> Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm						<i>Wed</i> JUN 18th					<i>Wed</i> NOV 19th	
<b>WILLIAMS LAKE</b> Where: Line Room When: 4:30 pm	<i>Thurs</i> JAN 16th				<i>Thurs</i> MAY 15th						<i>*Thurs</i> <b>NOV</b> 20th	
<b>100 MILE HOUSE</b> Where: BC Hydro Line Room When: 4:30 pm			<i>Thurs</i> MAR 13th						<i>Thurs</i> SEP 11th			
<b>BELLA COOLA</b> Where: TBA When: 4:30 pm					<i>Thurs</i> MAY 8th					<i>Thurs</i> OCT 2nd		

*\* denotes Official Meeting where members vote on union business*

LOCAL 258  
**IBEW**



### Your Local 258 IBEW

#### Executive Board Members:

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Doug McKay

President: Tony Brand

Vice-President: vacant

Treasurer: Larry Byhre

Recording Secretary: Dale Haines

Unit #1 Chair: Klaus Kraft

Unit #2 Chair: Gerry Pope

Unit #3 Chair: Trevor Williams

Unit #4 Chair: Tom Greenwell

Unit #5 Chair: Cathy Tagseth

Unit #6 Chair: Chris Carter

### Your Local 258 IBEW Representatives:

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Nicole Biernaczyk

Local 258 IBEW Dispatcher: Jim McKay

### LOCAL 258, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

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Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2

phone: 604-520-3305 fax: 604-522-3371 toll free: 1-877-520-3305



# Unit 3 Meeting Schedule 2014

## UNIT 3 MEETING SCHEDULE

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

*\* denotes Official Meeting where members vote on union business*



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Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Doug McKay  
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 Vice-President: vacant  
 Treasurer: Larry Byhre  
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# Unit 4 Meeting Schedule 2014

## UNIT 4 MEETING SCHEDULE

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

\* denotes Official Meeting where members vote on union business

LOCAL 258  
**IBEW**



### Your Local 258 IBEW

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Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Doug McKay

President: Tony Brand

Vice-President: vacant

Treasurer: Larry Byhre

Recording Secretary: Dale Haines

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Nicole Biernaczyk

Local 258 IBEW Dispatcher: Jim McKay

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Burnaby, BC V3N 3M2

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



# Unit 5 Meeting Schedule 2014

## UNIT 5 MEETING SCHEDULE

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>BURNABY</b> Where: Union Hall, 7535 Sixth St., Burnaby When: 5:00 PM	<i>*Thur</i> <b>JAN</b> 16th	<i>*Thur</i> <b>FEB</b> 13th	<i>Thur</i> MAR 13th	<i>*Thur</i> <b>APR</b> 10th	<i>*Thur</i> <b>MAY</b> 15th	<i>Thur</i> JUN 12th	<i>*Thur</i> <b>JUL</b> 17th	<i>*Thur</i> <b>AUG</b> 14th	<i>*Thur</i> <b>SEP</b> 11th	<i>Thur</i> OCT 9th	<i>*Thur</i> <b>NOV</b> 13th	<i>*Thur</i> <b>DEC</b> 11th
<b>SECHLT</b> Where: Seaside Centre, Sechelt When: 5:00 pm			<i>*Wed</i> <b>MAR</b> 19th			<i>*Wed</i> <b>JUN</b> 25th				<i>*Wed</i> <b>OCT</b> 22nd		
<b>POWELL RIVER</b> Where: Town Centre Hotel When: 4:30 pm			<i>Tues</i> MAR 18th			<i>Tues</i> JUN 24th				<i>Tues</i> OCT 21st		

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 Vice-President: vacant  
 Treasurer: Larry Byhre  
 Recording Secretary: Dale Haines  
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# Unit 6 Meeting Schedule 2014

## UNIT 6 MEETING SCHEDULE

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

*\* denotes Official Meeting where members vote on union business*



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# 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?**

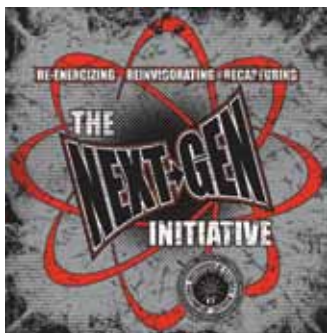
Before you leave, call the Local 258 Union Hall and get your Travel Card and/or paid up dues receipt. If you live close by, just drop in and see us to get your Travel Card.

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.

**Phone Direct:**  
**604-515-3530**  
**Phone Toll Free:**  
**1-877-520-3305**

**LOCAL 258 IBEW**

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

Good morning to you all. While it may not be morning when you read this, it is morning as I am writing. It was my intention to wait for a rainy day to spend time at the keyboard but, according to weather forecasts, that is not going to happen anytime soon.


I have known about the weather forecast for some time now and I intended to make a start on this column yesterday. I believe I have mentioned before that I subscribe to the “Never do today what you can put off until tomorrow” code of conduct. Invariably, tomorrow happens at some point in time and yesterday’s tomorrow required that I wash the camper. That job had already been deferred to several previous tomorrows and so took precedence over this task. If I ever purchase another vehicle it will be one that I can reach the roof of with both feet firmly on the ground and not have to swing precariously from the top of an 8 foot step ladder. But I digress. Actually, I digress a lot but I am entitled to because of age and seniority. Let’s see, where was I? Oh yeah, we were talking about tomorrows. So, as it happens, today is the tomorrow that I deferred the writing of this column to. I always try to accomplish one productive task per day. I am quite dutiful about limiting the production to one per day. To do any more would just raise expectations with Catherine Dear and put the aforementioned code in jeopardy. Now I grant that this writing may not be deemed by all as productive but I will still feel righteous upon its completion and will record it as my productive task for the day.

Yesterday, while perched on the top of the 8 foot step ladder, washing the camper, I felt a twinge or two of guilt. See, Jerry Brown, the governor of California, has been on the TV exhorting Californians to reduce water usage by 20% to alleviate the effects of the drought. Apparently it is the worst drought that current Californians can remember. To assuage somewhat my feelings of guilt, and to make up for the water used in camper washing, I resolved to forgo showering and shaving for several days and to flush the toilet less often. Anyway, while balancing on the ladder and being miserly with the water, I got to ruminating about water usage in this particular area.

The Coachella Valley is a desert. Deserts by definition have a dearth of water. People flock to the desert for the sunshine. The first thing developers do when developing in the desert is construct lakes. There is a housing development near to us where the developer dug a great hole in the desert and filled it with water so that residents could water ski. Another development started by digging an even larger hole, filling it with water and selling waterfront lots complete with little boats to float around in. There is a

local major hotel that conducts tours of it’s facility by little boats on a manmade lake. A shopping mall in the Valley, “The River” by name, has constructed a (you probably guessed it) river so that shoppers can enjoy their lattes and other coffee drinks in proximity to a rippling body of water. Almost every development in the Valley (ours included) has water features of some kind. So, what is it with the human psyche? We come to a desert environment and the first thing we do is terra-form it so that it isn’t a desert anymore. At some future time we can discuss the water usage of the more than 100 golf courses in the area. It is evident that further rumination is required.

Another subject of recent rumination has to do with the service industry and tipping. We went out for dinner a few evenings ago with another couple from our community. After a pleasant meal in nice surroundings and good service I got to ruminating about the custom of tipping servers. At this time I would like to state that I am not a cheapskate and generally leave a gratuity calculated at the traditional rate. If you ask anyone in the service industry the conventional rate of gratuity is 20% of the total bill. I seem to remember away back when tips were considered to be 10% of the bill but I guess inflation has taken hold. I also remember when gasoline was 35 cents a gallon. But I digress again. Now back to the dinner table. If there are four people at the table and one person has the \$9.95 fish and chips dinner with water to drink while another has the \$27.50 filet mignon with a glass of wine and coffee afterwards the filet mignon eater will pay a disproportionate amount of gratuity, calculated at 20%, compared to the fish and chips eater for exactly the same service. So, given that, the tip seems not to be based on service but instead based on the price of the meal. Perhaps a flat rate gratuity for a seat at the table would be a more fair method of assessing reward to the server. It’s kind of like the discussion of collective bargaining for wage rates. Which method is better, an across-the-board increase where everybody receives the same amount or a percentage increase where those at higher wage rates receive more than those at lower wage rates? Maybe we’ll leave that discussion for another day and get back to tipping. I personally think that the custom of tipping has been distorted from acknowledging good service to providing a subsidy that allows payment of sub-standard wage rates. One also has to be careful and read the bill when presented. I was at one restaurant where, in small print at the bottom of the bill, it announced that an 18% gratuity had already been included. And how about some of those coffee places where there is a goldfish bowl on the counter with a sign that reads “Tip Jar”? What’s that all about? How much do you need to tip a guy for handing you a paper cup of coffee across a counter? Oops, look at that. I am right out of space. We can talk more about tipping later. I also wanted to talk about stray dogs, oil pipelines, tankers and job creation. Perhaps we can do that next time.


Please continue to work and play safely because retirement is a goal worth achieving. 

## Local 258 IBEW members replace Generator 6 rotor at GM Shrum Generating Station

Highly skilled electrical utility professionals, members of Local 258 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, working at BC Hydro's GM Shrum Generating Station near Hudson's Hope recently took part in the removal, repair and replacement of one of the gigantic rotors that are an integral part of generating electricity for tens of thousands of British Columbians.

Thanks to Brother Dave Mengerling for sending forward the photos that show, from top left, the Generator 6 rotor, weighing over 600 tons being lifted and moved over to G6 for installation. The rotor underwent a stator repair caused by a fault. The move required the coupling of two powerhouse cranes to do a tandem lift. The job, completed in December, featured a complement of crews of Electricians, GT's and Mechanics working safely together.

The top right photo shows the rotor being moved into position and the bottom photo shows the rotor just coming to rest in position.

Featured in the photos (some with their backs to the photographer) are: Carol Poulin, Mechanic; Tom Benzinger, Mechanic; Darrell Cross, Maintenance Engineer; Bleu Rowe, GT Foreman; Davin Mayrhofer, Mechanic; and, Dave Mengerling, Maintenance and Operations Mechanical Foreman. 



## Save the Dates!

**3rd Annual**  
**Al Ross Memorial**  
**Fishing Derby**

PRIZES!  
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AUGUST  
 LONG WEEKEND

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**IBEW - BC Hydro**  
**GOLF**  
**TOURNAMENT**

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

LOCAL 258  
**IBEW**



## Call for submissions

# Local 258 IBEW Tom Forkin Student Scholarship

Once again, it is time for Local 258 IBEW's annual Tom Forkin Memorial Scholarship. This Scholarship was created in 1991, in memory of our first Local President - Brother Tom Forkin, and is open to members, or dependants of members, of Local 258. Up to three (3) individual Scholarships of \$1,000.00 will be awarded.

We are asking participants to write an essay on the following topic:  
**“Are unions still relevant and what would life be like without them?”**


Applicants must also complete the Scholarship Application Form, available on the union's website at [www.ibew258.bc.ca](http://www.ibew258.bc.ca). Please include the application form with your essay and additional documentation (as requested on the Application Form) and send by mail to the address below. Applications can also be sent via email to [info@ibew258.bc.ca](mailto:info@ibew258.bc.ca) and must include “Tom Forkin Scholarship” in the subject bar of the e-mail.

To be eligible, applicants must be registered, or plan to register in a full-time post-secondary program in 2014/2015 at a BC educational institution. Special consideration may be given to applicants who are attending or planning to attend a post-secondary institution outside of BC, if the program they will be attending is not available in BC. Applicants must have a letter-grade standing of C or better, and copies of the letter-grade standing must be included with the application letter. Mature students may have this requirement waived if approved by the Executive Board.

Completed applications and essays can be mailed to:

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



**All submissions must be received by 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2014.** The Executive Board shall assess all submissions, and will make a final and unalterable decision by **May 6, 2014**. Successful applicants will be notified. Scholarship funds will not be released until proof of enrollment is provided. 



# In Memoriam


**KENNETH AULD***Retired BC Hydro, Electrician; Died: May 19, 2013***HAROLD BAKKE***Retired BC Hydro, Fitter/Welder; Died: August 31, 2013***ROBERT BAXTER***Retired BC Hydro, Driver/Helper; Died: November 1, 2013***KENNETH BELL***Retired BC Hydro, Dam Caretaker; Died: May 4, 2013***W. DAVID BENNETT***BC Hydro employee, G/T Foreman; Died: August 10, 2013***WILLIAM BICKNELL***Retired BC Hydro, Mechanic Instructor; Died: September 1, 2010***RICHARD BOGLE***Retired BC Hydro, Lineman; Died: March 2, 2013***HANS BRACH***Retired BC Hydro, Custodian; Died: June 1, 2013***JOHN CALLIN***Retired BC Hydro, Electrician; Died: September 1, 2013***FRANCIS CASHIN***Retired BC Hydro, G/T, Fitter Welder 1; Died: July 28, 2013***WILLIAM CHAMPION***Retired BC Hydro, Mechanic; Died: March 24, 2013***JAMES CHAPMAN***Retired BC Hydro, Electrician (Wireman); Died: November 21, 2013***CAMILLE CHEVRETTE***Retired BC Hydro, GT; Died: November 15, 2013***RAY A. COTE***Lineman (previously worked for various Line Contractors);  
Died: August 31, 2013***JAMES CREELMAN***Retired BC Hydro, Winder; Died: January 22, 2013***MARK P. CROWE***Jaco Power Lines, Lineman***FRANCIS T. DEXTER***Retired; Notified via IBEW International Office***GARY DIELEMAN***BC Hydro employee, Electrician; Died: March 2, 2013***BASIL DODGSON***Retired BC Hydro, General Tradesman; Died: April 30, 2013***FRED DUNN***Retired BC Hydro, Mechanic Diesel Station; Died: February 27, 2013***ABE DYCK***Pensioner, Lineman; Died: March 10, 2013***NORMAN L. EIDSNESS***Retired BC Hydro, Lineman; Died: April 15, 2013***DAVID W. ELLIS***BC Hydro Employee, Mechanic; Died: December 15, 2013***LESTER R. ERICKSON***Previously worked at BC Hydro, on Honourary Withdrawal;  
Died: October 25, 2013***BAXTER FULTON***Retired BC Hydro, Lineman; Died: May 30, 2013***DONALD J. GAMMIE***Retired BC Hydro, Lineman; Died: July 18, 2013***BENJAMIN GIESBRECHT***Retired BC Hydro, Utilization Technician; Died: November 14, 2013***PAUL HARDING***Retired BC Hydro, Electrician Subforeman; Died: April 23, 2013***THOMAS HARRIS***Retired BC Hydro, Lineman; Died: August 27, 2013***FRANK J. HOGAN***Electrician (previously worked at BC Hydro); Died: June 29, 2013***DANIEL HOLLAND***Retired BC Hydro, Mechanic Subforeman; Died: February 7, 2013***JOHN HOPKINS***Retired BC Hydro, Driver/Helper; Died: August 30, 2013***ALLISTER JACK***Retired BC Hydro, Lineman; Died: November 1, 2013***ORRIE JENKINS***Jaco Power Lines Ltd., Owner; Died: August 15, 2013*





# *In Memoriam*



**ROBERT ALEXANDER KOLOSOFF**

*Retired BC Hydro, Operator Area Dispatcher, Burnaby Mtn. Site;  
Died: April 14, 2013*

**TIMOTHY S. LEEL**

*Employed with various Line Contractors, Lineman*

**ROGER LEWIS**

*Retired BC Hydro, Mechanic Subforeman; Died: July 14, 2013*

**PETER LINDY**

*Retired BC Hydro, Electrician; Died: May 7, 2013*

**WILFRID MCALLISTER**

*Retired BC Hydro, System Control Microwave Foreman;  
Died: July 19, 2013*

**DONALD A. MCINNES**

*Lineman; Died: March 6, 2013*

**TERRY MELNYCHUK**

*Employed with various Line Contractors, Driver/Helper; Died: July 6, 2013*

**ALLAN MURCHIE**

*Retired BC Hydro, Patrolman; Died: August 19, 2013*

**AARON M. NICKERSON**

*Allteck Line Contractors employee; Died: August 13, 2013*

**BRIAN G. NIEMI**

*Worked for various Line Contractors; Died: March 31, 2013*

**KENNETH A. OLYCHICK**

*Former BC Hydro & Line Contractors employee, Lineman;  
Died: April 25, 2013*

**SYDNEY PALMER**

*Retired; Notified via IBEW International Office*

**ROY PETERSEN**

*Retired BC Hydro, Driver/Helper; Died: February 7, 2013*

**FRANK POHL**

*Retired BC Hydro; Died: December 29, 2013*

**CARL PRACHNAU**

*Retired BC Hydro; Died: August 26, 2013*

**WILLIAM REEVES**

*Retired BC Hydro, General Tradesman; Died: August 12, 2013*

**ALAN ALEXANDER RENWICK**

*Retired BC Hydro, Lineman, on Honourary Withdrawal;  
Died: October 22, 2013*

**MICHAEL E. RICHARD**

*BC Hydro employee, Power Engineer*

**DONALD ROGERS**

*Retired BC Hydro, Storekeeper; Died: September 5, 2013*

**GUY SAVARD**

*Retired BC Hydro; Died: April 16, 2013*

**WILLIAM D. SCOPIE**

*Davey Tree employee, Sawman Slasher 2; Died: July 20, 2013*

**HARRY SJOBERG**

*Retired BC Hydro, Dispatcher Group 3; Died: November 4, 2013*

**EDWARD SOBCHAK**

*Retired BC Hydro, Electrician Subforeman; Died: March 10, 2013*

**ALLAN SOUTHALL**

*Retired BC Hydro, Floorman; Died: May 5, 2013*

**HAROLD STEFANO**

*Retired BC Hydro, General Tradesman; Died: March 21, 2013*

**JAMES STORDAHL**

*Retired BC Hydro, GT/Carpenter; Died: October 23, 2013*

**GLEN EARLE STRICKER**

*Retired BC Hydro, Lineman; Died: September 27, 2012*

**JOSEPH WILLARD SWANSON**

*Former BC Hydro Employee; Died: December 17, 2013*

**ALBERT TAIT**

*Retired BC Hydro, Patrolman, Lineman; Died: March 18, 2013*

**KEISHIROH TANIGUCHI**

*Allteck Line Contractors, Cableman; Died: November 17, 2013*

**JOHAN VAN ARDENE**

*Retired BC Hydro, Distribution Mechanic; Died: March 9, 2013*

**RUPERT WHITE**

*Retired BC Hydro, Dam Caretaker; Died: December 31, 2013*

**KEITH WOODFIELD**

*Retired BC Hydro, Lineman; Died: November 7, 2013*



# 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.



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

# Notice of Nomination for Election of Officers

In accordance with the IBEW Constitution and Local 258 Bylaws, the nominations for Officers and Unit Officers will be held at the regular meetings around the province during the month of March, 2014.

At these meetings, the Unit Chair will suspend the regular order of business to declare a "Special Order of Business" to accept nominations for the 2014 Union Elections. No member shall be nominated for more than one office. If a member is nominated for more than one office, he/she will immediately declare for which office he/she will be a candidate.

Article III, Section 4(b) of our bylaws outlines that the person being nominated does not have to be present at the meeting when he/she is nominated, but **MUST** have provided the Unit Recorder written evidence that he/she is willing to stand for a specific position.

No member shall be eligible for Local Union Office unless he/she has been a member in good standing of Local Union 258 for at least two years immediately prior to the nomination. To be eligible to run for Unit Office, one must have been a member in continuous good standing for at least six months in that Unit. Members from one Unit may nominate members of another Unit for Local Union Office.

Any member nominated can withdraw his/her name at any time prior to election by announcement at the nomination meeting or by notification in writing to the Local Union President. Nominated candidates may prepare a summary of their history as per the IBEW Constitution. This summary must be in the hands of the Election Board no later than April 16, 2014.

All voting shall be by mail ballot. The ballots shall be mailed to each member eligible to vote on April 28, 2014. The ballots shall be counted on June 2, 2014 in the Union Office in Burnaby starting at 8:30 am. Candidates for Union Offices (except Local Union Executive Board) must receive a majority of votes cast. If a majority of votes is not received by a candidate then a run-off election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the most votes. This run-off election shall be counted on June 30, 2014 at the Union Office in Burnaby starting at 8:30 am. Candidates for Unit Offices shall be decided by the candidate receiving the most votes.

## **Union Officers:**

President (and delegate to the International Convention), Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Business Manager/Financial Secretary (and delegate to the International Convention), Treasurer.

## **Unit Officers:**

Unit Chair (Executive Board Member), Unit Vice Chair, Unit Recorder, Unit Executive Member (two).

## **Date, Time and Place of Meetings where nominations will be accepted are as follows:**

Unit 1 - March 11, 2014	Smithers Hudson Bay Lodge	5:00 pm
Unit 2 - March 12, 2014	Prince George Coast Inn	7:00 pm
Unit 3 - March 12, 2014	Kamloops IBEW 993 Hall	7:00 pm
Unit 4 - March 12, 2014	Nanaimo Lineroom	4:00 pm
Unit 5 - March 13, 2014	Burnaby Union Office	5:00 pm
Unit 6 - March 11, 2014	Langley USW Hall, 9292 200th Street	7:00 pm

In Solidarity

Tony Brand  
President, Local 258 IBEW



# PHOTO OPPORTUNITY LU 258



*Congratulations to Sister Sue Gunn and Brother Bob Gunn on receipt of their 5 year service pins awards presented by Local 258 IBEW Business Manager Doug McKay and Organizer Rick Gerrard.*



*Thanks to Charlie Kopola, Field Manager, BC Hydro Construction Services in Vernon, BC, who sent in the above photo for publication in the Hotline and wrote: Our Civil 2 group for the Southern Interior here in Vernon led by Asa Lishman. I took the picture January 9 during our annual training sessions. Six of the 10 pictured have less than 2 years experience with IBEW and BC Hydro. Our new members have brought a fresh perspective and work ethic to the group and they are appreciative and proactive following BC Hydro's and IBEW's safety values. From left are Scott Lenton, Murray Anderson, George Starling, Jason Kilmartin, Atley Tonnelier, Rusty Kammerer, Kevin Stanek, Mike Yanciu, Nate Hobbs, Asha Lishman. Missing from the photo are Terry Burrows, Keith Casper, Brad Lorinczi, Brook Mahon and Vern Wong.*



*Congratulations to Sister Iris Grieve who was recently awarded her IBEW service pin on her retirement from working at Valley Traffic by Local 258 ABM Nicole Biernacyzk. Iris has been a member for 14 years and also received a retirement pin and an IBEW watch at a Christmas luncheon arranged by fellow Local 258 members.*



*Brother Michael Potter (center), was recently presented with his Mechanic graduation certificate by Brother Dave Mengerling, IBEW Rep (left) and Rob Gill, BC Hydro Management Rep on the Mechanical Apprentice and Trades Training Sub-Committee. Brother Potter is currently a graduate in holding on the Mechanical Maintenance and Operations crew at Gordon M. Shrum G.S..*



*A belated congratulations to Brother Kevin Jarratt on his graduation. From left: Rob Gill, BC Hydro Management Rep; Graduate Kevin Jarratt; Brother Dave Mengerling, IBEW Rep. Brother Jarratt was presented at John Hart G.S. where he has successfully gained a Full Time Regular position on the Mechanical Maintenance and Operations crew.*



*Congratulations to Brother R. Wayne Bagnall, left, on being awarded his 50 Year membership pin from Brother Dan Klassen, Local 258 ABM.*



*Welcome to new member Brother Justin Kallusky, being initiated at the Fort St. John Unit meeting by Unit Chair Gerald Pope.*



*Congratulations to Sister Kira Daley, an Apprentice who recently graduated as a Mechanic and is working at BC Hydro Fleet Services. She is shown above with IBEW Local 258 ABM Dan Klassen.*



*Congratulations to Brother Walter Goodwin on receipt of your 5 year service pin awarded by Brother Chris Carter, Unit 6 Chair.*



*Welcome to the IBEW - Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter swears in and welcomes Sister Aleena McLean at the November meeting in Langley.*



*The above photo was taken at Bridge River Generating Station on October 22, 2013. Brother Dave Mengerling (left), Mechanic Apprentice & Trades Training Committee member representing IBEW 258, with Brother Richard Jess, who recently completed the Machinist program within BC Hydro and has been successful getting a full time regular Mechanic's posting at Mica Creek Generating Station. Thanks to Brother Mengerling for sending in the photo.*



*Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter, center, was joined by Merv Van Steinberg, left, and Dileep Athaide from the United Way of the Lower Mainland at an event recognizing the successful efforts of the Loaned Reps during the 2013 United Way Campaign.*



*Brother Travis Atleo (15 years), left, and Brother Jim Patno (25 years) received service pin awards at the Unit 6 meeting in Chilliwack in December. Congratulations!*



*Brother Greg Lachmanec, GT-3 and Brother Matt Martens, Field Storekeeper, are being sworn in at the Unit 4 meeting by Vice Chair Fred Ruttan.*



*Congratulations on long service awards to Local 258 IBEW members Brother Walter Greeley (25 years); Brother Harold Wooton (25 years); Brother Len Androsky (40 years); and, Brother Brian Bergen (10 years), at the Unit 6 December meeting in Chilliwack.*





*Congratulations to the graduates of the Welding Course held at Mica Creek townsite last summer. The course is held in partnership with the Apprentice Mechanic and Trades Training Sub Committee (BC Hydro and Local 258 IBEW) and Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops. The course takes place for two weeks every year for three years with successful graduates obtaining a Level C welding log book, and can begin logging hours to attain a Red Seal in the welding trade. From left to right are: Jock Simpson (Journeyman), John Sutton (Instructor), Steve White (Journeyman), William Tham (Apprentice), Justin Matchett (Apprentice), Andrew Rutherford (Apprentice), Brian Buratto (Apprentice), Cody Harris (Apprentice), Felix Pietila (Apprentice), and Troy Van Loon (back row, centre).  
Inset photo is of Journeyman Jock Simpson performing an overhead weld test coupon at the training course.*



*Congratulations to Brother Peter Grabowski (right) on your retirement! Brother Dan Giesbrecht, Local 258 ABM, presented the coveted IBEW Retirement Watch at the Union Hall in Burnaby in December.*



*Lynn Hodgins and Diony Inoferio, who work at Valley Traffic, are shown here being sworn in by Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter in Langley in December, 2013.*



*Welcome and congratulations to Brother Bob Abernethy, former Unit 6 Chair, being awarded his 35 year service pin by Unit 6 Chair Chris Carter.*



THE HOTLINE IS PUBLISHED BY:  
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It's been a while since I have written, so I thought I would start the year with a view of some highlights of last year and a look forward to Local 258's busy year ahead.

Last June I had the honour of being sworn in as president by International Representative Liard Cronk. Liard comes from a strong union family, his father Doug was Business Manager of our local back in the 70's. The support of the ABM's, board members, and staff that day really meant a lot.

There is travel involved as president. I attended two major events, the first a utility conference in the US that brought together about 2000 members for 4 days. I also attended the All Canada Progress Meeting in Banff. Both of these events confirmed to me the attacks on our unions know no borders.

I was honoured to attend a reception at Vancouver General Hospital where Local 258 executive board members presented a cheque to support research into ground breaking burn and wound healing. This ongoing research has helped some of our member's recover from injuries in the past.

I also attended The United Way Labour Appreciation Dinner. A contingent from Local 258 watched as Assistant Business Manager Dan Klassen received the Joe Morris Community Award for his dedication and service to the community and United Way. Congratulations Dan!

The biggest highlight of 2013 was our Shop Stewards Conference. With an attendance of over 100, there was no shortage of opinions and interesting views. Being one of the MCs of the event put me in the middle of the action. I met some remarkable guests and reconnected with past co-workers. Once again I thank Michelle Boudreau for the flawless organization of this event.

This year will also keep myself and our staff busy. Even though Local 258's election is not until June, the preparation and planning is starting now. It is my job to see the rules of the constitution and our own bylaws are followed. Nominations are in March so please get involved, we need more participation by our members.

There is travel planned not only for myself but some of



## From the Back Corner

Report from Tony Brand,  
President, Local 258 IBEW

our members. The Canadian Labour Congress has their Winter School at Harrison Hot Springs and we signed up 10 members who attended courses such as Shop Stewards training or Facing Management. This is a good investment for our Local and from my past experience attending, I am certain they enjoyed their week of training.

In May, I will also be attending the tri-annual Canadian Labour Congress convention taking place in Montreal.

Once again the Tom Forkin Scholarship is now open for applications. In memory of Local 258's first President Tom Forkin, there will be up to 3 scholarships awarded. See our website and this edition of the Hotline for details.

There are negotiations to be done this year also. Work has already started to make sure we are prepared before hitting the table. Thanks to all the members who responded with suggestions.

As I mentioned above, Local 258's elections are here again. I hate to harp on the obvious but as the famous poster exclaimed, "WE NEED YOU". This isn't "the" union it's "our" union! Talk to your Unit Chair at the next meeting if you are interested.

I do wonder what the year will bring to us, our families and the local. One thing for sure, it will not be boring. Local 258 and our members are a diverse bunch and that is what keeps things interesting. Until next time! 🇺🇸



*Local 258 IBEW President Tony Brand was co-Emcee for the 2013 Shop Stewards Conference with Business Manager Doug McKay.*



# THANK YOU!

Local 258 IBEW is proud to represent over 4,000 members working in British Columbia's electrical utility, private power line, utility arborist, traffic control and electrical manufacturing industries.

We are especially grateful for our Shop Stewards who work hard every day to represent our Brothers and Sisters in their workplaces to ensure your rights are protected and enforced and the benefits gained through collective bargaining are maintained and strengthened.

We thank those members who step forward to serve on Bargaining Committees, to sit as Executive members and to actively participate in our union.

And, we appreciate the efforts of our union staff who strive every day who provide quality representation and service for our members.

## Together we are stronger.



LOCAL 258  
**IBEW**



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