



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Vancouver Island

Quarterly Newsletter

Since 1902

Federal Government Action Plan Employs Temporary Foreign Workers

With unemployment growing over eight percent in the south Island, and many construction workers sitting at home wondering how they will pay their mortgages and feed their families. The Federal Government's Economic Action Plan intended to put Canadians to work has failed miserably with the purchase of a new 30 ton crane for the shipyards Graving Dock in Esquimalt.

The crane was built in China, and now being erected in Esquimalt by 25 Chinese temporary foreign construction workers brought in under the "Business Visitor" category, which is essentially used to oversee work in Canada, perhaps discuss work happening in Canada, but not actually do any work in Canada. We've written Immigration and Citizenship Minister Kenney looking for answers to this troubling (de) evolution.

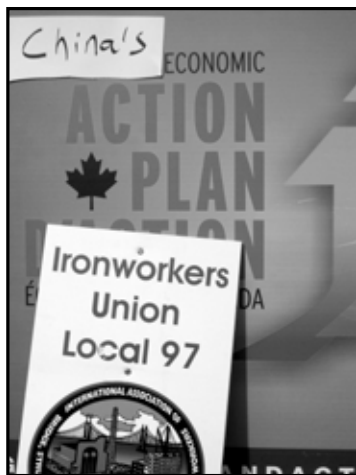
Most Canadians realize this sort of Free Trade thinking, is not Free. It typically comes at the expense of middle class working



families jobs. And for our children, what future are we leaving them, if we continue buying into the multinational corporate "free" trade vision of a global labor-pool that leaves our middle-class unemployed?

Our governments have to understand

when they take our tax dollars, and turn them into jobs they should be thinking about employing Canadians first, the very same people who continue to pay their taxes so government's can turn around and continue to invest in our nations infrastructure and our people.



FIGHT FOR BC FIGHT AGAINST HST

Letter to Premier Campbell on the HST

Spring 2010

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www.ibew230.org

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News/Notes:

Port Alberni Information Meeting May 18th - 8:00 PM
Tyee Village Motel

Call the Office to reserve your Harley ticket

New Member Orientation Course every 4th Monday call the office to sign up.

Business Manager's Report



Philip M. Venoit
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

In construction, the British Columbia Bargaining Council of Building Trades Unions held a two day Wage and Policy Conference to determine what key items we will be putting forward at the main table. We scheduled April 20th as the initial day to exchange and explain proposed changes to our construction

with a letter to Minister Coell recommending changes to the policies on how the Act is interpreted, and how that would create better worker representation, a more open business environment and stronger revenues for government. We must be diligent in elevating the non-union construction worker as this is the market we have to compete against every day, and there are only two ways to stay competitive raise the non-union workers wages and benefits or lower ours.

The Western Canadian Construction Business Managers met in Victoria to discuss upcoming work in our Local Unions, from the oil patch with a large number of shut-downs coming through Alberta this Spring, we thank Local 424 for employing Local 230 travelers at this time, refinery work in Regina which will likely be looking for travelers this summer, potash mining in Saskatoon and we thank Local 529 for employing Local 230 travelers at this time as well. Manitoba has been hit by the slowing economy.

collective agreements.

We also met with BC Labour Relations Board Vice-Chair Mike Flemming who has been appointed by the Board to oversee 2010 construction negotiations in BC. Our meeting was intended to outline what we believed to be pressing and difficult issues to overcome prior to this round of bargaining, and what could be accomplished to provide better legal structure for future rounds of bargaining.

With bleached softwood kraft pulp moving up from \$480/tonne last year to \$960/tonne, and the recent earthquake in Chile taking out approximately 7.5% of the world's pulp production some of the Island Mills are ramping up production and recalling laid-off workers. Hopefully this comes with further employment for our members as well.

We met with the BC Minister of Labour Murray Coell to discuss the negative effect the addition of the employee "Self-Help Kit" on the ability of non-union workers to get rightful representation by the Employment Standards Branch Industrial Relations Officers. We followed up that meeting

We were briefed on the upcoming marine work with the Halifax Class Modernization FELEX mid-life work schedule beginning mid 2011 with the Calgary, all the way through 2016 with HMCS Winnipeg, Vancouver, Ottawa and Regina, which should provide for a good number of IBEW marine jobs for the almost six years of work between the Fleet Maintenance Facility and Victoria Shipyards. HCM FELEX is a joint venture with the Fleet Maintenance Facility and the Victoria Shipyards who will perform identified discrete contractor work packages. Each refit is 18 months long.

The opposition campaign to the HST is gaining momentum, with Nanaimo gathering enough signatures in the first 5 days of the campaign to reach their threshold of 10%. As reported in the last newsletter this expenditure tax is intended to hit ordinary British Columbians hard and I would urge our members to sign the petition for their electoral area. Please refer to the www.fightHST.com website for further information.

Dispensing Fees

Members are reminded to use their Assure Prescription Drug Card, whenever possible, when picking up their prescriptions. Pharmacies are bound by an agreement with Telus Health Solutions (Assure) that they will not charge more than what is deemed to be a reasonable and customary mark up, for all Assure card customers.

When a member does not use their drug card, the Pharmacy is not bound by this and can mark up the cost of the drug to whatever level they desire, thereby exposing the Plan to the additional markup unnecessarily.

It is in everyone's interest to keep the Plan's costs as low as possible in order to protect its financial viability into the future.

Average Dispensing Fee

1. Shoppers Drug Mart	\$10.28
2. London Drugs	\$8.60
3. Pharmasave	\$9.75
4. Canada Safeway	\$8.65
5. Overwaitea	\$8.42
6. Wal Mart	\$8.07
7. Peoples	\$9.34
8. Costco	\$4.45



Retired member Brother J. Schellenburg watches as the students launch a flying rotor into the air.

YES2It An Island Success

Friday March 26th Camosun College in collaboration with Island Industry partnership hosted the first Vancouver Island YES 2 IT event which saw 1400 grade 8 students.. The students had their choice to participate in hands on activities in 2 of 11 trades which included: auto body, carpentry, cooking, cosmetology, baking, heavy duty mechanic and operator, horticulture, sheet metal, plumbing and piping, welding and electrical. To make this happen over 100 industry volunteers donated their time and enthusiasm.

In the electrical hands on section, there were a few different activities showcased, including a pressure activated lab, some flying rotors and a snap together lie detector. In the tour section, Camosun College instructors had built some interactive PLC labs where all students had the opportunity to take a turn. The weather cooperated and the team really shined as they showcased our trade! Even after the end of the day and the dust had settled there were smiles all around and we knew that the team did an amazing job. It was a great day for the trades!

The IBEW Local 230 wants to thank our members and contractors who brought their great attitude and talent for this event.

Thomis Electric - TJ Hagen

Canem Systems - Ben Kilmer

Emery Electric - Alan Burnell

DND-FMF - Kevin Rasmussen

Victoria Shipyard - Scott Mathers

Western Pacific Ent. - Dale Sklapsky

IBEW 230 - Drew Garcia, Jim Schellenburg,
Ryan Diebel



DRAW FOR 1
2010 Harley-Davidson
FL Road King® Classic

\$100
Per Ticket

Early Bird Draw

\$5000.00

May 20th, 2010
at the
22nd Annual IBEW/MS
Charity Golf Tournament in
Kettleby, Ontario



Main Draw



2010 Harley-Davidson FL Road King® Classic

Draw for the Bike will take place as soon as all tickets are sold, or at the IBEW All Canada Progress Meeting in Saskatoon, SK on August 25, 2010

Must be an I.B.E.W. Member to Purchase and Win

Tickets \$100.00 each • Only 500 tickets to be sold
Winning Tickets go back in for the next draw.

A second \$5000.00 cash prize will be drawn at the All Canada Progress Meeting, August 25, 2010

Proceeds to assist in funding of the reception at the IBEW International Convention in Vancouver in 2011.



Congratulations to Local 230 member C. Rogers for winning the Scottford site pool in Edmonton. Brother Rogers would also like to thank Local 424 for the call!

Day of Mourning

In 1984 the Canadian Labour Congress declared April 28th as the Day of Mourning, and later passed by the Canadian Parliament in 1991, to be followed by the BC NDP as the Provincial Government in 1992. Today the Day of Mourning is recognized by over 100 countries around the world.

In BC injured workers suffer when they get hurt on the job, then again through dramatically reduced rehabilitation benefits and workers compensation levels paid out to support them while injured.

The Day of Mourning is our opportunity to pay tribute to those workers who have died and to recommit to the fight for improved workplace health and safety to prevent further deaths. Remember on Wednesday April 28th, 2010 to stop for a moment over your lunch break and remember those that gave their lives in going to work and those that suffered from workplace illness like asbestoses, and reflect what you can do to help ensure a safer work-site.


- **In B.C. three workers die each week**
- **More than 3,000 work injuries are reported every week**
- **19 workers are permanently disabled every working day**

Safety is everyone's responsibility. It takes real commitment and dedication to make sure we all go home safe at the end of the day. The next time you see an unsafe situation whether it's an unsecured ladder, a missing guardrail, or an unguarded opening don't ignore it or consider it someone else's problem. Report any hazards to your supervisor or foreman. Follow established safe work procedures, and make sure your ability to work safely is not affected by alcohol and other drugs.

Day of
Mourning
April 28

Remembering
lives lost
or injured
in the
workplace

forget-them-not

CCOHS  1-800-668-4284 www.ccohs.ca
Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety

Fallen Brothers

Name	Initiated	Passed Away
Harold Beckensell	08/1952	03/29/2009
Gordon Brooks	04/1952	07/23/2009
Edward Campbell	02/1952	03/06/2009
Robert Floyd	04/1955	05/22/2009
Edward Hartland	07/1947	07/30/2009
Frank Kodric	08/1979	04/11/2009
Clarence Lamb	09/1947	08/14/2009
Norman Postings	03/1956	11/25/2008
Percy Strong	03/1943	08/13/2009
David Watson	04/1964	06/16/2009