

World's Unions Come to Vancouver

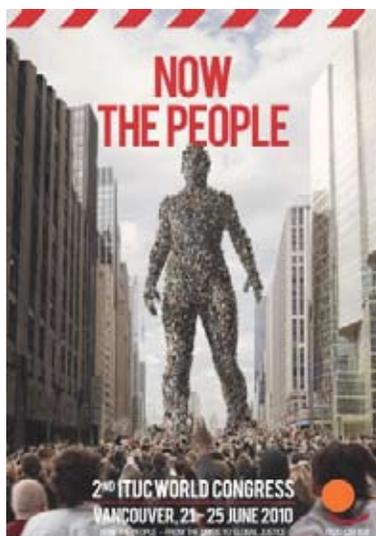
The **International Trade Union Confederation** (ITUC) representing the worlds 176 Million Union members throughout 156 countries held their 2nd Convention in Vancouver in June. The theme of the Convention was, "From the Crisis to Global Justice", in recognition of the worlds economic 34 million workers who have lost their jobs since the topple of the worlds financial system, that each of these 34 million people have a face, a heart and family responsibilities to put food on their table and maintain shelter, and they have all been collateral damage in the pursuit of greed. Meanwhile, Reuters reports that even after the worst recession in decades the worlds millionaires grew by 17% to 10 million, while their collective wealth grew 19% to \$39 Trillion.

Many of the World's Labour Leaders see that we're at a tipping point between one future which can offer decent work and balanced development improving living standards and respect for basic human rights, or a devastating dark future for workers which would plunge millions more into unemployment and poverty with all the dangers and suffering that would accompany, and in many situations it is only unions like the IBEW that can place their weight on the scale to ensure that our Constitutional interests in seeking a higher standard of living can be achieved.

The Convention was designed to gain attention to the worlds press leading up to the G-8 and G-20 meetings. Where the leaders of those countries will sit down to

map out a new financial system, along with a new financial transaction tax intended to offer a stability the general banking institution greatly lacks today. Some of the speakers addressing the ITUC Convention were Dominique Strauss-Kahn Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said, *it was the lack of regulation which was responsible for the current globaleconomic crisis*, which flies in the face of the Financial Sector in Washington still declaring they don't need regulation. Another speaker Pascall Lamy Director of the World Trade Organization (WTO) declared Unions and in particular the ITUC was in a position of great power, able to apply pressure domestically and act collectively on a global scale.

George Papandreou, Prime Minister of Greece, spoke of his country's current economic problems and pointed out that Greece does not have a lavish welfare system, as some conservative commentators have claimed, but that the crisis originated in economic mismanagement. Then summed up our significance nicely by saying, *"trade unions are needed more than ever to fight for workers' rights, sustainable development and a just world order"*. A few decades ago, the multi-national corporate identity was born, and to date has gone unchecked, they bankroll governments to have their political way, and militia when the oral authority of politics won't get the job done, and the only collective who can challenge their insatiable ambitions is the greater Trade Union movement.



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Business Manager's Report



Philip M. Venoit
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Early in May we met with Minister of the Treasury Board Stockwell Day to get buy in on moving our agenda of **creating a Shipbuilding Centre of Excellence in Esquimalt**. On June 3rd Minister of Defence Peter MacKay announced essentially a less favoured form of National Shipbuilding Procurement. That strategy which emerged from consultations

with the Industry is first and foremost a build Canadian strategy. We voiced our legitimate concerns of a follow-up to the BC Ferry disaster of going to the international community to build their vessels; our concerns obviously mirrored those of the shipyards and indirect business of the marine industry.

The Strategy has three components:

- 1) The construction of large vessels
- 2) The construction of small and medium vessels, and
- 3) The repair, refit and maintenance of existing fleets.

Under the Strategy the Federal Government will establish a long-term relationship with two Canadian Shipyards which will receive the Centre of Excellence designation for the large ships – one for combat vessels and one for non-combat vessels.

The over 100 smaller vessels will go out for competitive tender in Canada, as will the repair and refit work. The two shipyards selected to build the large ships will not be eligible to bid the smaller vessels, so at this time it is up to the Washington Marine Group to do their research and sharpen their pencil to decide what the best fit is for us in Esquimalt, and what will translate into more work. This is very good news and essentially promises more work for our marine section over the long-term. This is a win for the IBEW Local 230, as we have been engaged along with the International; Plumbers, Sheet metal Workers and the Labourers Unions on this issue for well over a year.

In the construction work picture, Canem Systems has picked up the Campus Infinity job, Moore's Clothing, Good Life Fitness, Sussex Hotel Fire Alarm job, North Saanich Middle School, and

the Oriental a mixed commercial and residential complex; Emery Electric has picked up the Coronet Building Corridors, Royal BC Museum Standby Generator, and continues with about 20 members at the University of Victoria; Houle Electric picked up the Ladysmith Sports Field Lighting, University Clearihue Building and Phase Two of the Uptown project, Comox Valley Sports Centre, Nanaimo Regional Hospital Island Medical Program, and the Rock Heights Middle School; Mazzei Electric picked up the Fed Ex building in Nanaimo, Port Alberni Information Centre, and the Little Qualicum Telus Tower; and Raylec Power has picked up various Victoria Airport Lighting Improvement and a major upgrade to Highway 19A near Campbell River.

We met with Tom Lyons, Vice-President of Covanta Energy from New Jersey who is the proposed developer of the Gold River Energy from Waste Incinerator which could produce 100 Megawatts, enough to power about 72,000 homes and make Vancouver Island more energy self sufficient. We are in the final stages of getting buy-in from mainland communities to move from shipping their garbage from Cache Creek and barging it to Gold River. If we are able to convince the mainland communities that this is the right route to undertake we have a pre-nup to a Project Labour Agreement to build this project. This job could keep 65-85 members working for well over a year and employ around 100 ongoing maintenance and operation jobs.

The town hall meetings on waste management held throughout the mainland communities went fairly well with very few speaking out against sending their waste to Gold River. The Greater Vancouver Waste Management Board then met in late July to decide how they are going to treat their waste in the future. After 6 hours the one thing that became abundantly clear in the meeting is that the 108 Directors know what they do not want. By the end of the meeting an Alternate Motion was to adopt *"a Plan that simultaneously considers in-region and out-of-region waste-to-energy opportunities."*

The Gold River waste to energy project at this time still looks like the the most attractive option to regional and provincial politicians. We will continue to be part of the solution to getting a good chunk of our members working in the North Island.

The Construction Labour Relations Association is sticking to their position on wrapping up Main Table Bargaining involving all construction unions in B.C. before moving to the Craft Table so the IBEW can meet with our Contractors to begin negotiations, this

is the same tactic they used in 2004, this left us no other response than to take them to the Labour Relations Board. In reply, we have filed a Bargaining in Bad Faith complaint in late July.



Brothers Dave Cleugh and Rick Buckley check Submarine Batteries during a charge cycle.

In Solidarity, Phil Venoit

The United Way

The United Way, together with labour, has a strong history of making a difference in our communities. As IBEW members we enjoy liveable wages and benefits that many in our communities do not. You do not have to look far to see those in our communities who struggle with hunger, homelessness, mental illness, addiction, and many other issues.

IBEW members have always been there for those less fortunate than ourselves. We have stood up for our neighbors and our communities for over a century. Our record of that support is one to be proud of, and our Local 230 office staff is no exception to that rule receiving the Labour Participation Spirit Award in 2009.

I am asking all IBEW 230 members to consider making a donation, whether it is a one time donation, or through pay roll deduction with your employer. The United Way is one of five charities recognized by our International Office.

Personally, I have chosen the pay-roll deduction as my way of donating.

Together, we can make a difference.

In Solidarity, Phil Venoit



2009 Golden Pliers Award goes to Brother Tim Haas currently working at the Twin Nurse Towers at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, presented by W-JETS Chairman L. Williams and B.M. P.Venoit.



In Honour

In 2007, third year apprentice Brother Doug Gustafson from Qualicum Beach suffered a stroke paralyzing the right side of his body, then airlifted to the Victoria General Hospital for a month. Doug's rehabilitation began with wiggling his toes, and there was no stopping him at that point. Doug finished his fourth year schooling just before Christmas last year with 84% on his I.P.. Doug recently stopped in the office with his young family on a turnaround from the Scottford site in eastern Alberta to pick up his Journeyman Certificates. The story doesn't end there, when Doug was sick the Local stepped in to help out a little with a Safeway gift card to help Doug's family with groceries. On his visit Doug brought us in a Safeway Gift Card for the same amount for the next Brother or Sister in need. Congratulations Doug on your Journeyman Certificates, your second chance at life, and for showing all of us what our Brotherhood is all about.



IBEW Canada and Local 230 are Pleased to Announce the Renewal of 200 Prepaid Online Training Courses for our Members and their Families

We are pleased to announce that we have prepaid for courses covering subjects from Improving Your Listening Skills to Time Management to Back Safety to All About the Internet. The courses will be available to you and your families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until May 1, 2013. That means that you have 3 years to take and retake any or all of the courses. Be sure to take advantage of as many courses as possible, we are certain that you and your family members will find a number of courses that will address your needs and interests.

To start your learning experience go to: "<http://vubiz.com/chaccess/IBEW2/>"<http://vubiz.com/chaccess/IBEW2/>
Every time that you sign on, you will need to enter the IBEW Password which is: **IBEW2**

Your Membership Card Number:

That is the number on your IBEW Membership Card for example.

If you do not know your Membership Card Number, you can use any unique number such as your home phone number or postal code without any spaces for example: **2505552211** or **L3P4R9**.

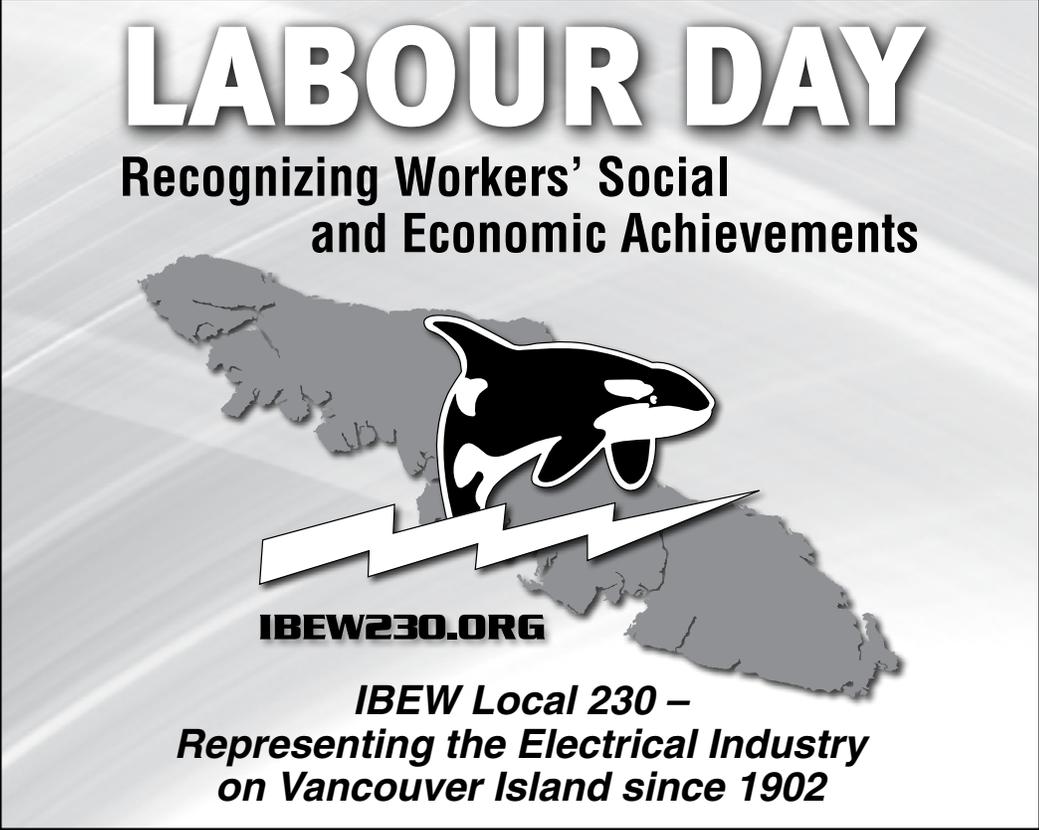
The First time that you sign on, you will need to enter a little extra information so that Vubiz can set you up.

Membership Card Number

(confirmation): This is to confirm the information that you keyed above.

First and Last Name: So that we can identify you properly in the system when you return.

We hope that you enjoy the training and make the most of it. The value of the prepaid courses if bought individually would cost over \$4,500.00. We are proud to be able to make this opportunity available to you, our members and your families.



LABOUR DAY
**Recognizing Workers' Social
and Economic Achievements**

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**IBEW Local 230 –
Representing the Electrical Industry
on Vancouver Island since 1902**

A Summer Sunday Drive Should Come with a Warning Label

According to recent research vehicle dashboards and seats emit high amounts of Benzene, a cancer causing toxin. In addition to causing cancer, Benzene poisons your bones, causes anemia and reduces white blood cells. Prolonged exposure will cause Leukemia, increasing the risk of cancer, affecting your liver and kidneys. Acceptable Benzene levels indoors is 50mg per square foot. A car parked outdoors under the sun above 15 degrees Celsius, the Benzene level can go up to 2,000 to 4,000 mg, 40 times the acceptable level. If you get into your car keep the windows up and turn on your A/C you are quickly inhaling excessive amounts of this deadly toxin. Benzene is also extremely difficult for your body to get rid of.

So, please remember this summer to open your car doors and windows and allow a few precious seconds to air out before you jump in after work or take the family on the Sunday drive.

