



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Vancouver Island

Quarterly Newsletter Since 1902

Asbestos: Banning and Beyond

On the Asbestos file, we met with WorkSafeBC Vice-President and Senior Policy Advisers, as with all of the national coverage on Asbestos it appears WorkSafeBC is willing to look to us for help with positive change. We are advocating for municipal required employer licencing so licenses can be pulled or cancelled, by date mapping residential neighbourhood construction, we should also be able to identify which neighbourhoods will carry what types of construction products containing asbestos in any particular era. The Municipalities can require testing of the home prior to residential demolishing or renovation. Credentialed abatement workers is also a big part of the solution. These workers need standard and regulated training as they are responsible for ensuring the safety of public, the client and all working trades after they abate the asbestos products from the project. Again, WorkSafeBC is looking for help and we are Constitutionally bound to move our community towards a safer workplace for our members.



PM Trudeau at the CBTU

I was asked by CAREX (CARcinogen EXposure), which is a multi-institutional research project that combines academic expertise and government resources to generate an evidence-based carcinogen surveillance program for Canada, to make a presentation at Simon Fraser University's Workplace Carcinogenic Symposium; our presentation provided the thousands of years' asbestos has been used in products, and the effects of Asbestos on workers, and their families.

The Local 230 Delegation of Victoria Unit Chairman Al Sotkow, Nanaimo Unit Chairman Dave Lambart and I were fifteen feet away from Prime Minister Trudeau for his announcement on moving towards a Canadian ban on asbestos while at the Canadian Building Trades Policy Convention in Ottawa, and had the ability to thank him for his attention on the move. "Canadian workers have paid a far greater price than any benefit from mining and manufacturing asbestos, the Liberal Government of Canada will be moving towards a ban on asbestos." (Paraphrasing the announcement) They had already announced earlier this year that they had banned all asbestos construction products on federal infrastructure work. With Asbestos products still being imported into Canada this is a great first step, because now we have a timeline to begin working backwards from, if we can get our Provincial Government to do the same we could build momentum on this very important issue.

Spring 2016

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News & Notes

Port Alberni Info Meeting
July 19th Tyee Motel
4151 Redford Street.

Online Courses

WHMIS and Basic Fall Arrest
<http://wjets.ca/training/training-online/>
CSTS – call the Union to get registered

IBEW-BC Women's Conference

Held in Victoria October 21 & 22nd
Call the Union Hall if you are interested
As their will be limited seating available

IBEW 230 Building Society AGM

Will follow the Unit Meetings

- Marine Unit August 10th
Dockyard Legion 622 Admirals Road
- Victoria Unit August 11th
Pro Patria Legion 411 Gorge Rd. East
- Nanaimo Unit August 17th
306-477 Wallace St.
- Courtenay/Campbell River Unit
August 18th



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Business Manager's Report



Philip M. Venoit
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

We wrapped up Provincial construction negotiations this year which allowed us to enable the Agreement in to place May 22nd. There will be a full package explaining the changes sent out to our "A" membership to vote on the Memorandum of Settlement, once we wrap up Main Table Bargaining and the other construction Trade Unions settle or have their Agreement Arbitrated in place, at the time of writing 10 of the 15 Unions have settled. Essentially, the IBEW settled at fifty cents (\$0.50) every six months of the three-year Agreement, (or \$3 over three years). Journeyman rate is now \$37.65 per hour. Increasing all levels of turnaround by \$25, an increase to daily travel to forty-eight cents per kilometer (\$0.48/km), an increase to Living Out Allowance (LOA) to \$125 per day.

Our Dockyard Bill C-10 Charter Challenge is going back to Supreme Court of Canada, as the Provincial Supreme Court has twice ruled contrary to what the Federal Supreme Court decided to do with our Appeal. This is the final kick at the can and if all goes to plan our members working at Dockyard will finally get their long-overdue 5.2% Labour Market Adjustment and I will be happy to send Mr. Harper a copy of the Decision myself.

The Western JETS Board of Directors met and instituted a new policy that for members to take JETS approved courses, the members' dues must be paid up in full at the time and in the month the course was finished. We have also renewed our electronic Vubiz Courses. Early term apprentices please pay particular attention to the WHMIS and Fall Arrest Courses, you will require proof of taking them beginning 2017.

We finally received our BC Supreme Court Decision against the BC Safety Authority and ASTT attempting to create the new classification of "Electrical Work Practitioner". This would have allowed electronic technicians who are educated and trained to work on extra-low voltage systems, and allow them to work on systems up to 600 volts. And I couldn't be more elated. I still find myself uncontrollably grinning and chuckling with our win on this issue that

I've devoted some considerable time over the last five years. Not only did we win the judgement, we were awarded our legal costs as well, (which was paid for by the IBEW Provincial Council). This is a huge win for the electrical industry in British Columbia.

Both the BC Safety Authority and the ASTT have filed appeals against the BC Supreme Court Decision striking down the ability to develop the new classification of Electrical Work Practitioner. We are busy preparing for that appeal.

We attended the BC Throne Speech to kick off the New Year in BC politics, as in the past fifteen years there was not a lot for working people, the down-trodden continue to be trodden upon, even the basic of needs like transportation to get to their minimum wage jobs will now cost more.

There are changes that could help our high-rise residential market; by removing the provincial housing tax on new build homes under \$750 thousand dollars, this provides some incentive to develop a housing boom that does make sense to slow the upward financial trend on BC housing affordability.

There was barely a whisper on LNG this year, whereas the past 3 years LNG was the entire discussion.

The BC Federation of Labour is reforming the old Organizers working Group where union organizers from all unions in BC would get together to share thoughts and ideas on what is working and what is not. Wayne and Shane were both in attendance. This group will help promote the culture of Organizing, and will include professional development for organizers and think-tank sessions on key topics, and provide other resources. Remember, if you are (or plan on) working non-union the IBEW Policy is to sign a Salting Agreement and stay in contact with our organizers, North Island that is Shane and South Island that is Wayne.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

The 29th Annual Baskin /

IBEW Local 230

PIG ROAST

Saturday
July 16th, 2016

3:00pm till ?
301 Petersen Road,
Campbell River

Pot Luck ~ Bring a Salad or a Pie
BYOB * Camping Room Available
Horseshoe Tournament, Chicken Chit Bingo, and much more
Bring the entire Family ~ No Dogs Please

IBEW Wires North Island Hospitals



Comox Valley.

The goal of the North Island Hospitals Project is to provide modern, effective, and appropriate inpatient and outpatient services to the communities of the North Island.

Evidence Based Design dictates that decisions about the design of each facility will be based on credible research, information from comparable projects, and information about how Island Health works, in order to achieve the best possible outcomes. The project will create elder friendly, patient centred facilities that support excellence and innovation in the delivery of safe, quality healthcare. The design systems are as similar as possible, at the same time acknowledging differences with respect to the different communities. The power and low voltage were tendered separately; the Comox hospital power went to Houle Electric while the Campbell River hospital went to a non-union contractor from the Okanagan, while the low voltage portion (about 40% of each project) went completely to Houle on both hospitals.

The facilities are being designed to achieve LEED Gold Certification. The design and construction will promote environmental quality to protect health and indoor environmental quality.

For this project, IBEW Electricians are installing innovative and energy efficient products, such as: LED lighting with BMS integration, high efficiency uninterruptible power systems with 50% less power loss (compared to traditional UPSs), Switchgear with Power Xpert® software and metering to identify energy savings opportunities and power quality issues, state-of-the-art Heating and Ventilation Systems, and much more. The products used during installation meet strict LEED requirements with regard to sustainability, energy consumption, types of materials used during construction, and contribution to a better indoor environment. This ensures that the building environment is maintained at a high standard to protect the health and comfort of occupants. Further to this, members follow strict measures of infectious control during installation, as per CSA Z317.13, to protect future patients, staff and visitors from potential harm. IBEW members on site also

A focus on improved hospital care for the North Island was one of the most pressing priorities facing the Island Health authority, the need to establish a sustainable network of hospitals to meet the region's acute care needs into the future. In the spring of 2009, the Board of the Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health) approved a plan to build two new acute care hospitals in Campbell River and the

participate in various programs of reducing waste and recycling, which diverts waste from landfills at construction sites.

General Foreman Matt Bewsey says,



"The north island Local 230 members bring immense value to the NIHP and Houle Electric Team. The amount of talented individuals in this Local proves that the IBEW and its members continue to produce and develop some of the top electrical workers in the trade. By completing projects with such a high standard of energy and environmental responsibility, combined with excellent workmanship, professionalism and the ability to meet or exceed owner's expectations."

Halfway into this Code of Excellence job, I've been told by a few industry representatives the Comox hospital electrical installation is a noticeably better project, our quality on display, everyday.

Both hospitals are scheduled for completion fall 2017.





SAFETY PARTNER *Program*

WHY SJA?

Reputation | Quality Assurance | Flexible Scheduling

25 locations across BC to serve your high quality training needs.——

Enhanced Safety in the Workplace

St. John Ambulance can act as a resource for First Aid Training, and first aid products such as AEDs and First Aid kits.

We Support Giving Back to Our Communities

Our members can give back to the community through taking a course or purchasing first aid products from St. John Ambulance.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ALLOCATES TRAINING AND PRODUCT REVENUE TO OUR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS.

St. John Ambulance is a charity and international humanitarian organization dedicated to helping Canadians improve their health, safety and quality of life at work, home and play.

With proceeds from first aid training and products directly supporting vital community service programs, such as Medical First Response, Therapy Dogs, and Youth Programs, St. John Ambulance is an integral part of every community.

THE OFFER

Western Joint Electrical Training Society has negotiated the following agreement on behalf of all IBEW Locals 230, 993, 1003 Members and Signatory Contractors:

Courses:

1) 10% discount on regular regional rates:

- WorkSafeBC Level 1 Equivalency – Emergency for Industry Course

2) 5% discount on regular regional rates for the following:

- WSBC Occupational Level 3
- WSBC Occupational Level 3 Recertification
- H2S Alive – ENFORM

Products:

- 10% discount on regular price WSBC First Aid Kits

This product offer is also available for all IBEW 213 Members and Signatory Contractors

Family Members

All immediate family members of IBEW locals 230, 993, 1003 and 213 and signatory contractors are eligible for at 10% discount on regularly scheduled CPR classes.

HOW TO REGISTER

IBEW Member Initiated Registration

1. IBEW member will email or call a St. John Ambulance Branch to register into a course.
2. St. John Ambulance Staff will register the member into the course and contact the IBEW Local Training Coordinator to verify membership.

Signatory Contractor Initiated Registration

1. Signatory contractor will call their IBEW Local Union Training Coordinator to approve training.
2. IBEW Local Training coordinator will contact the closest St. John Ambulance branch to arrange training (may require private class 8+)
A No show fee of \$20 will be borne by the member or contractor for those who register but fail to show up for scheduled training.

Family Discount

To take advantage of the family discount offer, please contact St. John Ambulance Customer Sales and Support Center at 1-866-321-2651 with promo code IBEW16.



St. John Ambulance

SAVING LIVES
at work, home and play

sja.ca

