

Spring 2023

# iuoe<sup>🍁</sup>news

L O C A L 1 1 5

## What's inside:

- **Operating Engineers 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention Nominees**
- **Pensions, security and summer raid windows**
- **Bentall IV Tower Memorial**

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## Pensions, security and summer raid windows

This year is shaping up to be a legacy year in so many respects. As our members and their families are navigating the challenges of inflation and higher interest rates, I am happy to

announce we have set a record with an 11.5% benefit increase for members of the Operating Engineers' Pension Plan (OEPP).

By now, all Pension Plan members should have been informed by mail of this historic increase. Several factors gave the Plan the ability to provide these increases. The sound fiscal management of the Plan and our disciplined approach to "stay the course" on our investment strategy was overriding in every decision the Board of Trustees needed to make over the years. However, the two major changes that provided the funding for benefit improvements in 2022 were the sale of our Burnaby co-operative housing investments, combined with regulatory changes that recognized the lower risk of our investment strategy reducing the reserves required for market fluctuations.

In 2022, the Operating Engineers' Pension Plan received \$49.5 million in pension contributions, \$9 million more than the year before. Complemented by the sale of the two Burnaby co-operatives, the OEPP now has more than \$1.53 billion in assets under management and is one of the healthiest and strongest pension funds in the construction industry.

This announcement has been very well received by our membership. While I have received many notes of thanks, I want to recognize the efforts of the entire team who have been active and engaged and who provided the sweat equity in so many areas to make this moment possible.

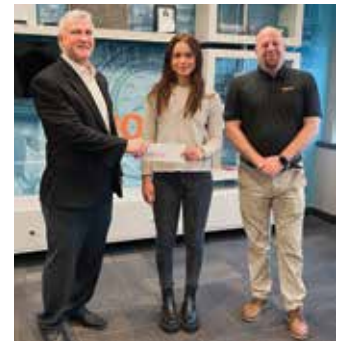
The dedication of your Executive Board that have supported initiatives to grow the Union, and the active

participation of the Board of Trustees of your Plan have played key roles in making such a dramatic benefit improvement possible.

In 1970 our organization was half the size we are today, and the Local Union was just in the process of establishing the Pension and Benefits Plans. Now, our organization of 13,000 members should reflect on the fact that we would not be celebrating this incredible milestone of 11.5% increase in retirement benefits if it wasn't for the initial vision of our former Business Manager, the late Mike Parr.

Brother Parr is the reason why for the past 53 years so many Local 115 Operating Engineers and their families have found financial comfort and security throughout their careers, especially in their retirement. We are proud to continue to improve upon what he started. In the years since Brother Parr retired and then sadly passed away, I've been reminded of the dedication and sacrifices he made to help IUOE Local 115 succeed in the future.

In continuing his legacy of always putting the interests of our membership at the forefront of every decision, I'm happy to announce as Business Manager of IUOE Local 115, I have been asked by our General President, James T. Callahan, to sit as the 14th General Vice President of the International Union. Operating Engineers in BC now have a seat at the International table.



Rain Thomas receives the M.L. Parr Bursary award from Business Manager Brian Cochrane and Assistant Business Manager Josh Towsley.

*Continued on following page*

### District 1 Meeting



Members attend the February 2, 2023 District 1 Meeting where the 11.5% pension lift was discussed.



This is a significant recognition for all Operating Engineers in Canada, as it will be the first time in the history of the International that two Vice Presidents from Canada (BC and Ontario) will be serving on the General Executive Board at the same time. Brother Gary Kroeker was Local 115's first Business Manager to serve as an International Vice President, and I now have the opportunity to build upon the great engagement and leadership Gary brought to the position. This recognition is a testament to the work and commitment of the current Executive Board, Staff, Shop Stewards and members of Local 115.

IUOE Local 115 as an organization has accomplished significant achievements and made progress on many important issues through the years, providing quality services and opportunities to over 13,000 members, even during the pandemic. This opportunity to sit at the International table will build on that.

I want to thank President Wayne Kemp for his commitment to this organization. Having recently joined District 1, he is having a direct impact by helping to shape strong Collective Agreements during these difficult economic times. By building relationships within the industry, Brother Kemp is a champion for Operating Engineers and continues to be a reliable source of knowledge and experience for our staff and members.

All Business Representatives have a big workload this year. In our construction and roadbuilding sectors, they are also working on lobbying efforts to make improvements to safety in the crane industry, and better regulations for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Together, we are creating a higher standard of work quality for the industry, helping to reduce workplace injuries and save lives.

Engaging in dialogue and bargaining with CLRA is never easy and our leadership is exercising incredible patience at the Bargaining Council of British Columbia Building Trade Unions (BCBCBTU). It looks like this process is now heading for mediation, and I remain hopeful that we will find a settlement we can take out for ratification by the time the agreements expire on April 30, 2023.

The International Union of Operating Engineers Training Association (IUOETA) continues to build and strengthen relationships with the government and community. Training Association staff have established partnerships in BC and in Ottawa to help fund innovative training in the latest skills and technology and recruit the next generation of Operating Engineers. In addition, Local 115 is helping to train workers left unemployed in declining industries like the forestry and pulp and paper sectors, and enrolling women, Indigenous Peoples, and underrepresented workers in training to be dispatched throughout BC as skilled Operating Engineers on many legacy projects.

The IUOETA remains the best in class in BC as a pipeline for training and dispatching of quality operators to many of our most critical Community Benefit Agreements projects, including Broadway Subway Project, Pattullo Bridge Replacement, Cowichan District Hospital Replacement Project and the Recovery Project along Highway 1 and 5. Along with the work being done at Site C, LNG Canada, the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion, and improvements to the John Hart Dam on the Island, our training facility is prepared and able to meet the labour demands of BC's construction industry.

2023 is showing no signs of slowing down providing record work opportunities for our membership. This is the time to stay focused and build our Union's strength while we have the tools and the high demand for skilled workers.

The Labour Code changes last year will provide better access for non-union workers to become members of our great organization. Local 115's Organizers are planning various campaigns as we head into peak employment season, especially the July and August raid windows to liberate workers from organizations like CLAC!

This year is an exciting time, and I want to thank all of our members for their continued support and the support of your Executive Board team. They dedicate the time and provide the sweat equity required to improve the lives of Local 115 members and families.

I look forward to working with you this year, in strengthening our future and helping to create more opportunities to improve the lives of our members.

Live Better / Work Union 🍁

*Brian Cochrane*



(L to R) Brynn Bourke, Executive Director of BC Building Trades, Business Manager Brian Cochrane, BC Insulators Business Manager Neil Munro, and ILWU president Rob Ashton attending BC Federation of Labour Officers Meeting.





## Pipelines & Pensions:

# Lifting up Operating Engineers and providing for their future

The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 115 members have a busy summer

ahead of them. The continuation of the largest Canadian infrastructure project, LNG Canada in Kitimat, is finally starting to take shape and is well on the way to completion. The Coastal GasLink (CGL) pipeline connecting to the LNG Canada terminal and the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion are major energy projects which are coming to fruition as a direct result of members of IUOE Local 115 being the best at their craft. Business Manager Brian Cochrane and your Executive Board have also secured millions of dollars of construction work through Community Benefits Agreements, ensuring work in the future for Local 115 members and underrepresented workers in British Columbia.

*"The continuation of the largest Canadian infrastructure project, LNG Canada in Kitimat, is finally starting to take shape and is well on the way to completion."*

Through the leadership of Business Manager Brian Cochrane, Table Officers, Executive Board, and staff, IUOE Local 115's membership has grown to the largest numbers the Local has ever seen. As the President of this great institution, I am proud to be associated with all the fantastic work the members do day in and day out without reproach.

Effective May 1, 2023, IUOE Local 115's Pension Plan members will see an 11.5% increase in their Operating Engineers' Pension Plan (OEPP) benefit payments and accruals. Board Chair Brian Cochrane and the Trustees are pleased to share this historic announcement, which is made possible through a combination of strong fiscal management, higher interest rates and the recent sale of our co-operative housing towers in Burnaby. The sale of the co-operatives and an increase in pensions would not have been possible without the dedication and drive of Business Manager Brian Cochrane, the Board of Trustees and OE Pension Plan Administrator Lee Riggs.

Thank you to all who have helped start this year off on the right note! 🍁



Work on the CGL pipeline will carry natural gas from Dawson Creek to the LNG Canada facility in Kitimat.

(Image courtesy of Canadian Press)

### Operating Engineers' Pension Plan Update

GROWTH • STABILITY • ENGAGEMENT • ACTION

#### OEPP Announces Historic Increase in Pension Benefits

Effective May 1, 2023, IUOE Local 115's Pension Plan members will enjoy an 11.5% increase in their Operating Engineers' Pension Plan (OEPP) benefit payments. Your Trustees are pleased to share this historic announcement, which is made possible through a combination of strong fiscal management, higher interest rates and the recent sale of our cooperative housing towers in Burnaby.

##### OEPP in Strongest Position in Decades

With more than \$1.53B in assets, the OEPP is one of the most stable and robust pension funds in the industry. Since its creation in 1970, the OEPP's goal has been to provide our retired members with a steady income stream, through all economic conditions. The turbulence of the past three years offers a good example of our ability to weather volatility. Through the industry slowdowns in the early phase of the pandemic, to last year's record-breaking contributions as a result of our active members working around the clock to rebuild BC's transportation corridors after the November 2021 floods, Local 115 retirees can count on the long-term viability of the OEPP.

##### Co-op Sale Enhanced OEPP Value

Last summer, we completed the sale of three co-op housing high-rises, which the OEPP had owned for some 40 years. At \$139,547,000, it was both one of the largest transactions in BC and one of the most complex. We knew that to feel good about the financial gains from the sale, our members would want the co-op's 425 units' residents to keep their affordable housing. Thanks to the dedication

of your Trustees and Brother Lee Riggs, Pension and Benefits Plans Administrator, we achieved that goal with a sale to The Community Land Trust. Selling the co-ops was a vital part of making this pension increase possible.

##### Largest Benefit Increase in Plan History

Your Board of Trustees knows how important your pension is to you and your family. We have all seen the impacts of recent inflation on the cost of living, and understand no one feels that more than retirees. With new changes to legislation, the OEPP is in the legal position to increase benefits for the first time in decades. This increase not only offsets the early 2000's adjustment that previous rules required, it will help retired members to meet life's growing expenses.

A benefit increase as high as 11.5% is almost unheard of. As always, your Trustees and your Union are committed to supporting you at every stage of your career. This is a change our OEPP is strong enough to sustain. Thank you for your ongoing support of our team, and helping make it possible to provide reliable retirement benefits to members of your Union.

In solidarity,

**Brian Cochrane,**  
Chair, OEPP Board of Trustees

**iuoe\***  
LOCAL 115  
OPERATING ENGINEERS' PENSION PLAN UPDATE  
JANUARY 2023

Publication Mail Agreement No. 40011378

Click to read and download pension update.



SCAN ME



## Improving benefits and pension through strong Collective Agreements

After a busy 2022, the New Year has brought new opportunities to advance the interests of Operating Engineers. Bargaining for the Standard Construction Agreements (Heavy

Industrial, Commercial Institutional, and Crane Rental) has been underway since June 1, 2022. That round of bargaining is coordinated by the Bargaining Council of British Columbia Building Trades Unions (BCBCBTU) and involves 15 International Unions negotiating over 40 Collective Agreements with Construction Labour Relations (CLR). A protocol agreement was negotiated before bargaining which set out mandatory dates for negotiations to take place. So far, over 40 of the 71 days set out in the protocol agreement have been used. If an agreement isn't reached as of February 1, 2023, the protocol agreement calls for non-binding mediation. At the time of writing, the parties remain far apart and mediation is likely. Our members have dealt with the effects of the pandemic and are now facing high levels of inflation. Our members deserve fair compensation for the work they do. For those of you affected by this round of bargaining, we will continue to negotiate with your employers, advance your interests, and work toward a Collective Agreement that our members can ratify.

We've made some important announcements to our membership in recent months with benefit improvements to vision care (\$750 every 2 years), orthodontics (increased from \$2000 to \$3000) and the creation of a \$500 per family per year Health Spending Account.

These improvements are the result of negotiated contribution increases by business representatives across the province, a large increase in the number of hours worked by our membership, and a work picture that predicts to keep our members busy for many years. These improvements take some of the financial pressure off our membership especially when they require medical treatment. Our members feel the inflationary pressures every day and it was important to make these adjustments.

Recently the Trustees of the OE Pension Plan increased benefits by 11.5% for all plan members as of May 1, 2023. Our work as Trustees of this plan is rooted in ensuring that the benefits that we provide are meaningful and reliable. A pension benefit increase of this size is historic and comes as a result of strong fiscal management, higher interest rates, and the recent sale of the co-operative housing units in Burnaby. The 11.5% increase is the largest single increase

in our pension plan's history and is unprecedented in recent times. We are proud of our work as Trustees and appreciate the support that we have felt from Pension Plan members as we make these improvements.

As we move into 2023, the Bank of Canada has been raising interest rates in hopes of controlling inflation, even with a risk of a recession. The Bank of Canada has never managed a "soft landing" in situations like we find ourselves in today – I doubt this will be any different. I expect that the Bank of Canada will continue to raise rates (at least in the short term) which will cause at least a short recession. If Canada does fall into recession, it is unclear how much of it will affect BC with two pipelines, an LNG facility, and \$12 billion worth of infrastructure work committed to our members. It is something that we will continue to watch.

A lot has changed recently. John Horgan, one of our Union's champions in government, is no longer Premier and has been replaced with Premier David Eby. Laird Cronk is no longer the President of the BC Federation of Labour and has been replaced by Sussanne Skidmore. Both Premier Eby and President Skidmore have made multiple visits to meet with representatives of Local 115 and know our priorities, our challenges and the opportunities that can be created when the power of workers is leveraged. Our work continues to create opportunities for Operating Engineers. 🍁

*"Success is where preparation and opportunity meet."*  
Bobby Unser



Minister for Workforce Development and Skills Training Andrew Mercier addresses Local 115 staff about the importance of Project Labour Agreements for the Eby government.



## Dispatch Kyle Egan



## BCIB Projects, many opportunities for work this spring

Spring is almost here and the days will be getting longer so the work should be coming in fast and furious.

We are going to have a lot of work with BC Infrastructure Benefits (BCIB)

on the Pattullo Bridge Replacement Project, Broadway Subway Project and Surrey Langley SkyTrain Project. We have also seen a lot of orders for various spreads on the Trans Mountain Pipeline in January and February. Michels Canada Pipeline Co. and Banister Pipelines Co. will be continuing with orders into the spring. There will be pipeline work in the north in Burns Lake and LNG in Kitimat. We will have some new projects along the way to keep the work going steady through the spring and summer.

Here is a list of what we are looking for currently:



- Crane Operators (project and taxi work)
- Heavy Duty Mechanics
- Side Boom Operators

If you know of anyone with qualifications for any of the positions mentioned above, have them contact Dispatch at 604-473-5320.

Hope everyone has a busy spring leading to a busier summer. ✶

Click to  
see job  
opportunities







## Increases to wages, work, and pensions for BC and Yukon members

I'm happy to report that we start our 92nd year as busy as any other.

We ratified a new Collective Agreement with the Town of Faro in the Yukon, where we have held a

certification since March 18, 1977. The agreement includes increases of 13.25% over three years with improvements to boot allowance, standby pay and language clarification on bereavement and special leave. Thank you to Shop Steward Chris Wilkinson and Glenda Power for your assistance throughout the process.

There have been two pre-job meetings for the Cowichan District Hospital Replacement project which have resulted in work assignments that are in dispute, including affiliates that are claiming jurisdiction over IUOE Local 115 project work. This is the first British Columbia Infrastructure Benefits Inc. (BCIB) project on Vancouver Island and like the other projects throughout the province, it will bring many benefits for local members and their communities.

Vancouver Pile Driving was awarded work on the stone columns for the Steveston Interchange project and they will be building a cofferdam on the south side of the Massey Tunnel. They have a project at the SeaBus terminal, a test pile at Surrey Fraser Docks and installation of piles for the swing bridge at Westham Island in Delta.

Business Manager Brian Cochrane and I went to GWIL Crane Service's yard to see their new Liebherr LTM 1650 hydraulic crane. It is the first one in western Canada and they are testing and commissioning it in their Burnaby yard.

Just a friendly reminder that we need 12 crane operators for Sterling Crane for the Parkland refinery shutdown. They have crews working at the Kinder Morgan tank farm on

Burnaby Mountain and two shifts on the Trans Mountain Pipeline working for Michels Canada Pipeline Co. on their pipe pulls in Coquitlam and Abbotsford.

Recently it was announced that the Industry Training Authority was renamed SkilledTradesBC.

This is timely and fitting as so much effort went into lobbying the government to recognize trade certification. Seems so long ago when in 2003 the BC Liberal government decimated the Industry Training Apprenticeship Commission. Following a restructuring of the department, all that remained from multiple offices and a staff over 100 was a single office in the Lower Mainland with a 10-person staff.

Now that certifications are compulsory for some trades, tradespeople and employers will benefit from higher completion rates and better-trained employees. Unfortunately, the crane operator and heavy equipment operator classifications were overlooked when the first 10 compulsory trades were announced. Please contact your local MLA and inform them how important it is that we recognize compulsory certification for operators of cranes and heavy equipment.

I would like to close off by acknowledging the leadership of the Operating Engineers' Pension Chair and Business Manager, Brian Cochrane and the Board of Trustees of the Operating Engineers' Benefits and Pension Plans, and our advisors. This is a historic time in our Local's long history with improvements to benefits coverage and the significant increase to the pension of 11.5%; excellent leadership, advice, decision-making, dedication and perseverance have brought us to this moment. I know this will mean a lot to our retirees and those working towards their retirement.

Stay safe and see you on site or at the district meetings. 🍁

### Our members at work



FRPD working in the Squamish Valley

(Image courtesy of Alex Gilbert)



Multiple drill rigs on display at Keller Foundations during a safety training day on January 3, 2023.



## Elsie and Phyllis the TBMs begin work on Broadway Subway Expansion Project

The end of 2022 was a busy one on all fronts, however, I was able to ratify Clean Harbors Canada and Lonestar Vacuum's renewed Collective Agreements. There were increases to

wages, premiums, boot allowances, and we cleaned up some old language and got a newly written vacation schedule.

There were many other great highlights in 2022, thanks to the efforts of the leadership within our organization. 2022 saw Local 115 put in the work to lobby the government and its stakeholders to improve the conditions for working people. IUOE Local 115 was one of the first unions to be successful in gaining a remedial certification handed down from the Labour Relations Board for Waste Control Services Inc. The single-step certification was also a huge asset for us to have when the Labour Code was changed under John Horgan's leadership. You wouldn't want Premiers or municipal leaders hovering over your shoulder while you vote...why would they allow your employer to do that? This will make it easier for potential new members to be able to vote privately for the union to come in and represent their workplace. The team is getting prepared to take full advantage of these two major changes to continue to grow our membership.

The tunnel boring machine is well on its way at the Broadway Subway Expansion Project. Until the unions affiliated with the Project Labour Agreement can find more workers with the required skill to operate a TBM, only two shifts are currently running. We are currently still seeking certified heavy duty mechanics for this job so the third shift can commence.

Proposals have gone out for Quattro Constructors for upcoming negotiations of their agreement. They have grown in the few short years they have been with us and have worked out well thus far. After completing their section of the Highway 8 reconstruction after the floods, they have more exposure to the market in the Lower Mainland and Interior.

This year looks like it is off to a great start with many ongoing projects and more on the books for our construction employers. Wishing everyone a safe 2023! 🍁

Click to watch the Broadway Subway 'boring' milestone



SCAN ME

### TBM Elsie breaks through

The first of two tunnel-boring machines (TBMs) that began excavating for the Broadway Subway Project last fall broke through to the future Mount Pleasant Station on the evening of Monday, January 23, 2023.

Named Elsie, after notable B.C.-born aircraft designer Elizabeth (Elsie) MacGill, the custom-built 150-metre-long machine bored a six-metre-wide hole in the station's east wall.



SCAN ME

Click to watch the timelapse video



(Image courtesy of the B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure)



## BCBCBTU update for spring

Greetings Brothers and Sisters. I hope all of you had a great holiday season with family and friends.

IUOE Local 115 is gearing up for another busy year in all industries that we represent. If you are not working, please make sure you are booked into dispatch and all of your tickets are up to date.

I would like to thank Business Manager Brother Brian Cochrane and Assistant Business Manager Brother Josh Towsley for assigning me to attend the Bargaining Council of British Columbia Building Trade Unions (BCBCBTU). It was a great opportunity to advance the interests of our members along with the other BC Building Trade Unions as

we work to get the best possible Collective Agreement. I look forward to attending more bargaining sessions over the next few months.

Looking at the work ahead for me this year, based on the members and industries I represent, all of the contractors have indicated that they are gearing up for another busy construction season this spring and summer.

The pipeline is still going strong and will get busier once the wet weather is gone in the Lower Mainland. Crane operators with taxi experience are a huge demand in the Lower Mainland and throughout the province. If you know of anyone who has crane experience, please have them send in a resume to [recruit@iuoe115.ca](mailto:recruit@iuoe115.ca) or visit our jobs page. 🍁



## Negotiations and unity, themes for bargaining in 2023

Greetings Brothers and Sisters. As I look forward to the upcoming year and prepare for what is on the horizon, I reflect on the lessons learned from previous experiences and embrace the challenges that lie ahead.

"Hard work is good for you," a friend of mine used to say when I was an apprentice. This lesson stuck with me as I travelled through my career and it made more sense as time went on. Through hard work, we learn our greatest lessons and grow stronger through adversity.

As I write this, proposal sheets have been mailed out to members of Cummins Canada ULC, Trimac Company Drivers, and Trimac Owner Operators.

These bargaining units are no strangers to hard work and together we have pushed to move the needle in a positive direction with their employer, achieving better working conditions and competitive wages to provide security for their future.

During negotiations, the members at Inland Kenworth reminded their employer of the importance of providing wages that kept up with the cost of living and aligned with industry competitors during negotiations. Kudos to the bargaining committee comprised of Brothers Max Merz, Curtis Andruk and Brent Morris, who dedicated their time

and effort to ensuring the agreement proposed met the expectations of members and would be something they would ratify.

Members at Pacific Coast Heavy Truck held their employer accountable for keeping up with the cost of living, staying firm with their initial proposals that provide equitable wages for the current financial market and language to support premiums moving forward. Bargaining committee members Scott McGillivray and Jamie McLellan provided the horsepower needed to encourage the members' voices at the table.

Hard work is good for you and the proof is in the result. I look forward to connecting with the membership over the coming year and working with bargaining committees in upcoming negotiations, ensuring members' voices are heard throughout the bargaining process as we continue to advance the interests of Operating Engineers. 🍁



Members (L to R): Eddy Pothier, Doug Wells, Mario Jurado, Fraser Sutherland, and Ranjeet Grewal at the Pacific Coast Heavy Truck shop.



# Bentall IV Tower Memorial

More than four decades after the Bentall IV tower tragedy that killed four workers in BC's construction industry, the BC Building Trades and its affiliates gathered to start the year off by honouring the fallen in a somber reminder of the dangers and risks associated with building BC's critical infrastructure.

On January 7, 1981, carpenters Gunther Couvreur, Brian Stevenson, Donald Davis and Yrjo Mitrunen were working on the Bentall IV tower when the fly-form platform beneath them collapsed. The men fell 36 floors to their death.

*"While we mourn the loss of life in BC's construction industry, we will continue to honour their lives by advocating for improvements to health and safety for all workers in BC."*

*Brian Cochrane,  
IUOE Local 115 Business Manager*

This was the first year since COVID-19 that the ceremony resumed in person, with Operating Engineers joining the BC Building Trades and local elected officials to mark this tragic day.

"While we mourn the loss of life in BC's construction industry, we will continue to honour their lives by advocating for improvements to health and safety for all workers in BC," says Brian Cochrane, IUOE Local 115 Business Manager.



Minister of State for Workforce Development Andrew Mercier places a rose at the memorial site of the Bentall IV tragedy on January 7, 2023.



Business Representative Steve Barnicke, Training Coordinator Gian Grewal, Business Manager Brian Cochrane and Training Coordinator Travis Woolford.



Executive Director of BC Building Trades Brynn Bourke hosts members of the BC Labour community at this year's Bentall IV tragedy memorial.

A WorkSafeBC report covering 2010-2019 cited the Construction sector as having confirmed 354 work-related deaths, including work-related asbestos exposure.

Brynn Bourke, Executive Director of BC Building Trades, said at the ceremony, "Since this day, 42 years ago, more than 10,000 workers have died or been severely injured due to workplace accidents and harmful exposures."

According to WorkSafeBC, 30 construction workers died on the job in 2021 with an average of one worker death every 12 days.

BC Labour Minister Harry Bains was also in attendance to honour the fallen and encouraged everyone to make health and safety a priority for all working-class BC residents.

"January 7th, 1981 these four men came to work and never came home. Today we honour them." 🍁



Onlookers including Business Manager Brian Cochrane pay their respects to workers that lost their lives in the Bentall IV tragedy.



[Click to watch a tribute video to honour the four workers who died on January 7, 1981 while working on the Bentall IV tower in Vancouver](#)

Memorial plaque in Art Phillips Park in downtown Vancouver. This commemorates the four construction workers killed in an accident while working on the Bentall IV building just across Dunsmuir street.







## Standing up for workers' rights and fair wages in the waste industry

I would like to start by congratulating Brother Chris Dalziel on his appointment to the IUOE Local 115's Executive Board. Brother Dalziel has been a member of Local

115 since February 2017. He has previously been involved in negotiations with Waste Management of Canada Corp. at the Coquitlam location. He is currently a shop steward, and he will soon become a member of the Langley East NDP Executive Board. As you can see Brother Dalziel continues to work for the betterment of his fellow members in many areas. Thank you Brother Dalziel for your time, effort and dedication to our organization.

One of the big things to come out of 2022 was the remedial certification of Waste Control Services Inc. (WCS) on August 12, 2022. This was IUOE Local 115's first remedial certification. Since that time Director of Organizing Bryan Railton and I have been hard at work on a first Collective Agreement for the members at WCS. One of the things the bargaining committee wanted to ensure was that the bargaining unit received their annual wage increase on January 1, 2023, as this was when the members

of the bargaining unit usually received an increase in their wages. The management team at WCS agreed that this was important to the employees and together, and in very short order, we managed to negotiate an average increase of 6.54% for the employees at WCS effective January 1, 2023. This was an important first step and the bargaining committee continues to work to conclude negotiations on a Collective Agreement for the members at WCS.

We had some great successes in 2022 organizing companies. In July of last year, we added Organizers Frank Baratto and Gavin Cross to our ranks. Both Brothers Baratto and Cross have been terrific additions to the team and they had an immediate impact with several raids on CLAC contractors during the summer. With the 2023 summer raid window coming up fast, Local 115 is gearing up again for what will be another busy summer. The more success our organization has, the fewer CLAC contractors will be out there taking work away from our members and their families. Here's to another successful year of organizing.

Take care and rise above. 🍁



## Defending our members

Winter layoffs are behind us now and we're focusing on a busy year to come. We are welcoming Banister Pipeline Co. to Spread 6 to work with Michels Canada Pipeline Co.,

which is due to be completed in the late fall of this year. Pits and quarries are back to normal production levels and anticipating higher yields in the year to come. Our utility signatories are ramping up and inquiring about the availability of experienced operators and heavy equipment operator apprentices. This is a perfect time to call the Operating Engineers Training Association and get certified.

We are defending over 90 IUOE Local 115 members from an application to consolidate Rempel Brothers Concrete, Allied Concrete and Ocean Concrete, all divisions of Lehigh. At the time of writing we are at the Labour Relations Board

trying to ensure our membership maintain their IUOE Pension and Benefits as members of Local 115.

I look forward to visiting sites and talking with as many members as possible this year. Stay safe. 🍁



Member Ian Railton standing in front of Mainland Sand & Gravel's new 992 CAT Loader.



## Local 115 champions tunneling for large infrastructure projects

My first six months working for IUOE Local 115 as a Business Representative have gone by so quickly, it's hard to believe that we're already well into the New Year!

The year has started off busy. Business Representative Brian Haugen and I have attended bargaining sessions with Epiroc. Most of the language has been agreed upon, but there are a few outstanding items. Meetings continue as this publication goes to print.

I have been working on adding inside sales representatives/parts persons to the United Rentals Burnaby Collective Agreement. This group of individuals is excited to be joining in with the rest of their colleagues under the United Rentals Burnaby Agreement,



United Rentals – Coquitlam Branch (L to R): Shop Steward and journeyman Kelly Di Tomaso, Shop Foreman D. J. Nicol, and first-year apprentice Sarah Decker.

securing better wages, vacation entitlement, pension and more. Welcome to IUOE Local 115.

Central Fraser Valley Transload & Sales Ltd. and Ritchie Smith Feeds Inc. have expiring Collective Agreements and negotiation will commence soon.

In February 2023 the Eagle Mountain - Woodfibre Gas Pipeline Project (EGP) is expected to begin. As Business Representative Frank Carr mentioned in the previous issue of IUOE News, there will be two tunnel boring machines (TBMs) on this project. This project is estimated to be completed by September 2025, securing work for our members for the next couple of years.

Tunnel projects also continue for Annacis Water Supply Tunnel ensuring a sustainable, reliable supply of clean drinking water for growing communities. The project is the construction of two deep vertical shafts, one on each side of the Fraser River, connected by a 2,350-metre tunnel between New Westminster and Surrey, as well as the installation of a water main, valve chambers and surface piping.

The Second Narrows Water Supply Tunnel will also ensure the reliable delivery of drinking water for Metro Vancouver. The project includes the construction of seismic standard shafts, one on each side of Burrard Inlet, connected by a 1,100-metre tunnel.

2023 is looking to be a busy year and I look forward to getting to know members of the companies I represent for IUOE Local 115, and assisting you in any way that I can. 🍁



Sunset occurs behind a IUOE Local 115 crane in North Vancouver.



Members (L to R): Trysten Rissanen, Lennox Samuel, Mangaldeep Chawla, Troy Frederickson, and Jared Mortensen at Central Fraser Valley Transload & Sales.





## Organizing effort helps new members to receive gains

2023 is now upon us and as you know we entered 2023 with a little over 13,000 members – a new high for IUOE Local 115. As this year has already begun with record-breaking achievements, we have high aspirations for the upcoming year. We have new tools to aid us in our Organizing campaigns, with the increase to our Pension Plan and the amount of infrastructure work coming up, you know Local 115 will be everywhere.

Since our last newsletter, the Organizers have been busy creating inroads for the upcoming raid period. We have built up a solid network of workers who are fed up with the lack of representation and weak Collective Agreements of rat unions. We are actively signing them up now in preparation for the July/August window. If you know of any other workers who wish to be liberated, make sure to connect them with one of

the Organizers.

During the winter season, we saw successful applications in the construction, waste and drilling/blasting industry. These workers are well on their way to having their first Collective Agreements bargained; some of them have already received

average wage increases of 6.5%, and others (originally reluctant to organize and opposed to Local 115 at their workplace) have just received wage increases of 16% or more.

Currently, we are actively organizing in the waste industry, construction industry and industrial shops. We hope to be bringing applications to the Labour Relations Board in the coming weeks. Although non-union companies may misrepresent the operations of Local 115 (to dissuade workers from organizing with us) we're proving day after day that Local 115 is the way to go! We're even poaching lots of non-union workers, signing them up and placing them among our signatory contractors. Organizer Gavin Cross most recently had two members who have received more than a 50% increase in their wages simply by switching to Local 115. Imagine that!?

Director of Organizing Bryan Railton and Organizer Gavin Cross were recently invited to the Keller Foundations Safety Startup in January. We had the pleasure of meeting face-to-face with the Keller members and had the opportunity to tell them about the OE Benefits Plan and upcoming improvements, and to advise them about what they can expect as a result of being enrolled in the Local 115 Pension Plan. Some great feedback was received by all.

Organizers Frank Baratto and Gavin Cross are currently involved in site visits of roadbuilding and crane industries, arbitration hearings and ratification meetings. We appreciate the learning opportunities and patience the membership is providing them.

Until next we meet, stay safe out there! 🍁

### New members benefit



New member Michael Armstrong made the switch from non-union to Local 115 and received an increase of 53% working with RKM Crane Services.



New member Tristen Owen made the switch from non-union to Local 115 and received an increase of 67% working with Keller Foundations.



## John Hart Dam Seismic Upgrade recruitment

Things on Vancouver Island did slow down over the winter but never came to a halt. Bargaining is going to be either in full swing or close to completion by the time this is

published. We have three Tri-Pac signatory contractors all due at the end of February and at this time proposals are starting to come in and bargaining committees are being struck.

Dispatches continue for the Cowichan District Hospital Replacement Project and the John Hart Dam Seismic Upgrade has its first job fair in mid-February but we are not expecting to see work ramp up until late summer. Shops continue to grow steadily and paving and roadbuilding have lots on the books. Our biggest challenge still continues to be worker supply.

The contract for civil works on the John Hart Dam Seismic Upgrade was awarded to Aecon-Flatiron-Dragados-EBC (AFDE) which has a history of building and upgrading hydroelectric projects. With an estimated price tag of over \$800 million, the upgrade is slated to start late this summer if all pre-work goes to plan and is set to roll into both the Ladore and Strathcona Dam upgrades as well. The John Hart upgrade alone is projected to last over six years and create jobs for an average of 100 local people. This will bring much-needed jobs to the Campbell River and North Island amid the steady decline of jobs in both the fishing and logging industries. 🍁



July 1948



September 1970



March 2018



The John Hart Dam and John Hart reservoir.  
(Image courtesy of Stephen Watson, BC Hydro)





## Trailblazing women working on the Cowichan District Hospital Replacement

*In this special feature written by Business Representative Kyla McCormick, we learn about the Cowichan District Hospital Replacement Project (CDHRP) and how*

*it has helped to employ and support two women and their families. Special thanks goes out to our Shop Steward Steven Walker who helped coordinate these interviews to recognize his colleagues for their work and accomplishments.*

This project is incredibly important to the communities of the Cowichan Valley in so many ways. Not only is it replacing an aging and overcapacity hospital with a much needed state of the art facility, it is also bringing a forward-thinking employer, the British Columbia Infrastructure Benefits Inc. (BCIB), which is making it a priority to hire local tradeswomen. This priority hiring practice led to two women Operating Engineers being hired from the beginning of the project. For the first three months of the project these two women made up 50% of the workforce.



Shauna Nash, 29-year member working at the CDHRP site.

These two women were kind enough to share their career paths and stories with me below.

Meet Shauna Nash and Jessica Fletcher. Both of them were born and raised on Vancouver Island and appreciate how meaningful it is to work on a homegrown project. Finding work

in their field on the Island was difficult at first. They moved to Alberta early in their careers, like many other workers to take advantage of the boom there; however, the call of the Island brought them home.

Shauna is a 29-year member of the IUOE, who originally attended Malaspina College to take the heavy equipment operator course. There she learned to operate multiple pieces of equipment and was also the first woman to take the asphalt laydown course.

At the time, working in the construction industry as a woman was not easy. "Back in those days I may have put Shaun instead of Shauna on my resume to get a few jobs," says Shauna. After the union realized what a trailblazer she was, she was approached by union representatives at the time

to tell her story to other women.

Currently at the hospital site she is operating a roller, which is a return to what she was operating on the Island Highway project years ago, and "stress free" as she put it. Thanks to BCIB's

priority hiring process, Shauna was at the top of the list. When asked how she felt about working on the hospital site, she was quick to answer: "Ecstatic! It's a great opportunity for a lot of local people and I'm excited to be a part of the team!"

Jessica Fletcher's journey to the hospital site was very different. Jessica says she decided to make a name for herself by seeking out jobs in construction with no experience or training required. Her strategy was to find a company that would invest the time and resources to train her and work her way up the company from there. Her work ethic and quality of work quickly helped her find an employer that was willing to invest in her growth. She says it was her "nothing is impossible" attitude that has helped her find success in the construction industry ever since.

Jessica says, "In my ten years in the trade I have had some amazing mentors and coworkers who have helped shape me into the operator I am today, and I am very proud of how far I've come as a woman in the trades." Her eagerness to learn has given her the opportunity to run many different types of machines, giving her a broad skillset and versatility. She says she is proud to break the stereotypes of gender-based roles and she wants others to know that being a woman hasn't stopped her from succeeding in the industry.

"I am extremely proud to be a part of the Cowichan District Hospital Replacement Project. It is a huge local project in my community that is desperately needed! Not to mention it's going to be pretty cool driving by it years down the road and saying 'I built that!'"

Jessica and Shauna agree that becoming an Operating Engineer is about being a part of something big.

*Thank you Sisters for sharing your journey and for inspiring future Operating Engineers and tradeswomen. 🍁*



Jessica Fletcher working on the CDHRP site.





## Members in District 3 busy with lots of work

Here in District 3 spring is upon us and with it comes new hope and opportunity for everyone.

Currently, our roadbuilding sector is still very busy with all five BCIB Projects on Highway 1 at Chase West, Chase East, Salmon Arm West, Quartz Creek and Kicking Horse. These projects are under the Community Benefits Agreement which gives priority to local workers, Local 115 members and underrepresented workers throughout BC. There are currently 44 Members working on BCIB projects in our region.

Rebuilding work on the Coquihalla Highway is steady and ongoing with Emil Anderson and Kiewit (KEA-5) Joint Venture under the Highway Reinstatement Program Project Labour Agreement (PLA).

All of our local contractors are very busy and are looking for experienced operators throughout the district. Bargaining has begun with the roadbuilding contractors as well. IUOE Local 115 and the companies have met twice and although these meetings have been preliminary, bargaining has been constructive so far. The companies have assured us that one of their main goals going into bargaining is to address recruitment and retention for their employees and our members.

Bargaining has been very busy for us here in District 3. We recently ratified a Collective Agreement with our members at SNC-Lavalin who maintain the William R. Bennett Bridge in Kelowna.

The Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project - Spread 4B with Banister Pipeline Co. is nearing completion in

Clearwater. Crews will return to the site to continue to clean up after spring break-up.

We have recently ratified a PLA for our members working for Cantex up at the Highland Valley Copper Mine. They have received an increase in their hourly wages and their travel allowances.

Bargaining for Dawson International Truck Centres in Vernon, Kamloops and Penticton has wrapped up. The crews will have a chance to ratify the Collective Agreement by the end of January.

RJames Management Group has locations in Kelowna and Kamloops. We have members working in both the body shop and mechanical shop in Kamloops and the mechanical shop in Kelowna. Local 115 and the employer have met for bargaining twice with more dates set for February.

Our members working at First Truck Kelowna (formerly Premium Truck and Trailer) have returned their proposals to Local 115 with a notice to commence bargaining sent to the employer. Negotiations began in early February.

We are currently looking for experienced commercial transport technicians and heavy equipment technicians for work located in and around Kamloops, Vernon and Kelowna.

Lastly, we want to remind everyone that organizing the unorganized is every member's job. If you know someone who is looking for union representation, please contact your Business Representative so that we may help them. With the new tools our government has provided for trade unions (single-step certification and July/August raid windows in construction), we must put them to good use.

United we stand. Divided we fall. 🍁

### Members working on Trans Mountain Pipeline





## Labour Code changes create opportunities up North

2022 was a great year in Districts 4 and 5 especially when you look at how much work and projects Local 115 were involved in, and it doesn't look like we will be slowing down for 2023.



Every Operating Engineer should be extremely proud of their work in 2022! The work you have done to keep some of BC's largest projects in history moving forward while maintaining a safe and secure work environment is a testament to your training and professionalism as an Operating Engineer.



Inland Kenworth and Premium Truck and Trailer will be at the table negotiating Collective Agreements; hopefully, the negotiations won't take too long and we will have ratified agreements soon.

LNG Canada continues to move from civil to material handling/installation. SA Energy, Michels Canada Pipeline Co. and OJ Pipelines on the Coastal GasLink are back from the

Christmas break and will continue until spring break-up occurs. Meanwhile, TC Energy announced 80% of Coastal GasLink has been completed.

Following some well-deserved time off, members at the Site C Dam project are back to work for 2023. Coming into 2023 strong with 86% of the concrete poured and less than 100,000 m<sup>3</sup> to go, our members at Priority Action JV are



IUOE Local 115 member Wesley Mitchell, presenting a 16" Elk hide drum made by Prince George First Nation member Rollie Hillier on behalf of Business Manager Brian Cochrane to the new Premier David Eby.

looking to have a busy year finishing up with all their pours.

We cannot stress this enough, especially up in Districts 4 and 5, Business Manager Brian Cochrane's efforts, along with the Table Officers and Executive Board, changed legislation to fundamentally create opportunities for our organization to grow this year.

These changes included single-step certification and the new raid windows for July and August in construction make for an exciting summer for Local 115. Our leadership has helped to secure massive infrastructure jobs through Community Benefits Agreements for the foreseeable future. This means jobs are local, apprentices can begin their trade working on legacy projects and more women and underrepresented workers throughout BC can find work as Operating Engineers.

Hoping everyone has a safe and prosperous 2023. 🍁

### Our members at work



Crew working at Coastal GasLink with SA Energy.





## Line Creek Mine continuing success, great for onboarding new members

As the new year progresses, Line Creek Mine continues to hire on a steady basis. This continued hiring has grown the IUOE Local 115 membership at the mine to over 600 members. New hires joining the mine create the perfect opportunity to discuss the history and significance of IUOE Local 115. These informal discussions are critical because many of the new hires have either never been part of a union or are not even familiar with what a union is. We enjoy the opportunity to help educate and empower our new members on the history, significance

and gains our union has made in British Columbia for 92 years. Additionally, we help to explain the various roles and responsibilities of shop stewards, safety representatives, the Mine Council, and the Occupational Health and Safety Committee.

District 6 Business Representatives and the Line Creek Mine Council members are pleased to be able to resume Line Creek Membership meetings again. Meetings were held in November of 2022, and meetings for 2023 will be held every two months. These meetings are also very informative and educational for the members of Line Creek Mine, providing information on matters taking place at the mine and within Local 115.

The Ministry of Mines and the Mine Code Review committee are set to re-engage in late January with the intention of continuing to seek out and address much-needed language modifications including, but not limited to guarding, reportable incidents including, dangerous occurrences, gender-neutral facilities and autonomous mining.

2022 was a banner year at Line Creek. Together we celebrated Line Creek's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, an unprecedented bonus for all members and capped the year off by announcing the record growth of our membership at over 13,000 members. We are confident 2023 will be another safe and productive year.

As we move further into 2023, bargaining finds its way into the forefront of our scheduling as we continue to negotiate with roadbuilding employers, with all signs pointing to an agreement in the near future. In addition to that, we have the Village of New Denver Public Works on deck, along with the Nelson/Castlegar/Trail Ready-Mix Collective Agreement.

Work safe - your life depends on it! 🍁

### Our members at work



IUOE Local 115 members working at Line Creek Mine.



# IUOE Local 115

## TRAINING ASSOCIATION

The training, skills,  
and experience you need

### In-Person Courses

- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Mobile Crane Operator
- Grader
- Asphalt Paving Laydown Technician
- Fall Protection
- Rigging Level 1 and 2
- Occupational First Aid Level 1
- Traffic Control Person
- Telehandler Operator
- Blended Forklift Operator
- Blended Skidsteer Operator
- Aerial Lift Operator

### Online Courses

- Ground Disturbance for Supervisors
- Sideboom Safety
- Pipeline Construction Safety Training
- Confined Space Entry and Monitor
- H2S Awareness
- WHMIS 2015
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods
- CSTS 2020



SCAN ME

Click to find course  
schedule information





## Happy trails for IUOETA's Mark McGregor

### Mark McGregor

Mark McGregor has been a proud member of the Operating Engineers for over 42 years. Mark's passion for being a member is something that runs

in his family: both his father and brother have also been long-time members.

At a young age, Mark decided to pursue the opportunity to become a mobile crane apprentice with Local 793 in Ontario, where he completed his apprenticeship and received his mobile crane Red Seal.

Mark always appreciated the education he received which helped him to excel in his chosen career. This foundational experience gave him a better appreciation for education and the importance of being a life-long learner.

Nearly 20 years ago, Mark decided he wanted to eventually pass on his knowledge and experience to the next generation of Operating Engineers. He started as a mobile crane instructor with Local 793. Mark thrived in this position and found it very rewarding to share the gift of knowledge with the next generation of mobile crane apprentices.

Mark eventually moved out west where he continued his education and received his BC Provincial Instructors Diploma, his Blue Seal, his Master's Degree in Leadership and his E-Learning Certificate.

For more than four years, Mark has worked for the IUOETA as our Learning & Development Specialist. Mark has done a fantastic job in solidifying our partnerships with our signatory contractors and Indigenous communities.



Mark McGregor is presented with a model crane from Business Manager Brian Cochrane and Training Administrator Jeff Gorham following his retirement with IUOE Local 115.

Mark also played an integral part in the development of our new blended online training programs such as forklift and skidsteer.

Mark has also worked hard with many of our members who needed that extra assistance to help them get through their final government exams to become a qualified journey-person.

As of January 13, 2023, Mark McGregor retired. Although we are sad to see him go, we would like to thank him for the loyalty, dedication and passion he has shared with the Operating Engineers for the past 42 years. We will miss his presence at the training campus but would like to wish him all the best as he enters the next chapter in his life.

*Continued on following page*



Grades & stakes class L-R: Daniel Alcock, Carlos Guillen, Matthew Bergman, Adam Therrien, Coert Grobbelaar, Letrell Suite, Juan Medina Amaro, and Instructor Garry Jabs.



Heavy equipment operator class with students from Powell River who were affected by the local mill closure. L-R: Ross Fitzgibbon, Kevin Carr, Matthew Tom, Training Coordinator Steve Ervin, Jonas Watkins, Consultant Kelly Sinclair, Training Coordinator Gian Grewal (rear), Jeremy Abbott, Warren Welde, Marm Fortier, Morgan Huxter, Learning & Development Specialist Mark McGregor.

## International Training and Education Center

The IUOE's International Training & Education Center in Crosby, Texas is the largest and most comprehensive training facility for union operating and stationary engineers in North America. This world-class facility was designed by a blue-ribbon panel of IUOE Local Union Training Coordinators and staff to develop and improve the skills of our members, instructors, and staff to meet the needs of our members and our industry. The training center augments and enhances the training opportunities delivered by our local union programs and demonstrates the International Union's commitment to high-quality skills training for our signatory contractors, general contractors, and owners.

This state-of-the-art facility contains everything needed to host, support, and develop the skills of a constantly expanding and varied group of construction and maintenance professionals.

The International Training Center offers:

- 265-acre campus
- 8,120 square foot conference space with seating for up to 900 people
- 17 classrooms and labs
- 15+ pad crane field
- Simulator rooms
- Heavy equipment mechanics shop
- Welding bays
- Central utility plant with training redundancies
- 227-room dormitory, fitness center, and full dining facilities
- Proximity to major airports in the Houston area

If you have not yet had the opportunity to take advantage of the training opportunities available to members in good standing, I encourage you to take a look at the course offerings that would benefit you and your career. To review the course offerings you can visit their website at [www.iuoe.org](http://www.iuoe.org). 🍁



Brother Jesse Phillips being presented Mobile Crane Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal from Training Coordinator Gian Grewal. Jesse completed his apprenticeship while working for Menard Canada Inc.



Brother Joel De Groot being presented with his Heavy Duty Mechanic Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal by Training Coordinator Gian Grewal. Joel completed his apprenticeship while working at Keller Foundations.



Brother Vincent Silveira receiving his Heavy Duty Equipment Technician Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal from Training Coordinator Travis Woolford. Vincent served his apprenticeship while working for Vancouver Pile Driving.



Brother Scott McNeill being presented with his Truck and Transportation Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal by Training Coordinator Travis Woolford. Scott completed his apprenticeship while working for Pacific Coast Heavy Truck Group at the Chilliwack location.





## OEPP 11.5% Lift

I know it has been said before but I like the sound of it! 11.5% for 115!

The Board of Trustees, investment managers and actuaries have been working on this for a very long time

and I am so happy that we were able to make this improvement for all members of the Operating Engineers' Pension Plan (OEPP). I have been talking about this for some time now both in these articles and at District 1 Local meetings. I have been letting everyone know that we are in a position to make improvements and those improvements will happen for everyone on May 1, 2023. Our funded status of 143% before the benefit improvements made us very comfortable in making the decision to provide the pension increase. I am going to provide you with the following quote from our actuary Greg Heise at George and Bell Consulting:

"Based on the April 30, 2022, actuarial valuation, for the first time in over two decades the OEPP is legally in a position to deliver a benefit improvement to its membership. Getting to this point has been no small feat; it is the culmination of significant lobbying efforts on the part of Local 115 and the Trustees to get two different eras of legislation changed, as well as the adoption of a meaningful shift in investment strategy, while at the same time keeping the OEPP's prudent asset/liability matching approach. Those changes, as well as long term investments paying off (e.g., the cooperative housing holdings), and changes in the economic environment have all played a part in achieving a strong funded status of 143% before the benefit improvement. Risks remain in the economy that no one can predict, but, as advisors to the Trustees, we believe that this benefit improvement, now, is reasonable and appropriate, particularly in light of the

current challenges faced by the membership (e.g., inflation). Further, we are comfortable that after the benefit improvement is in place, the OEPP remains funded to the extent that it can withstand various economic shocks that could occur given the level of uncertainty in our world today. The Trustees' stewardship to get us to this point has been exemplary and will continue to be needed in the future, so that the OEPP can continue to provide a meaningful benefit that its members can depend on".

The increases to the Benefits Plan are being well received by plan members. The Trustees know that every bit helps and will make improvements that are both beneficial and sustainable for the members.

Work continues to be strong. There were \$57.1 million in contributions and 10.6 million hours worked up to the end of December. These represent increases of 23% and 15%, respectively, compared to this time last year. The average contribution rate for the 2023 fiscal year to date was \$5.39 per hour (an increase of 5.3% from the fiscal year 2022). January hours were over 1.4 million so the slowdown we were expecting did not arrive. I am looking forward to another busy year so that all of you will reap the benefits of this unprecedented level of work.

Work safe, play safe, be safe !🍁

**OEPP**  
**11.5**  
**% INCREASE**  
**FOR**  
**115**

## Changing financial institutions?

Receiving direct bank deposits from the OE Pension or Benefits Plans?  
Be sure to provide us with your new account information.

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LOCAL 115

604.291.8831 or toll-free at 1.888.486.3115  
email: [iuoe@iuoe115.ca](mailto:iuoe@iuoe115.ca)





## History of Scabby the Rat

Scabby the Rat is a symbol used by organized labour around the world to illustrate our opposition to anti-union employers and unscrupulous employer-dominated unions. You have probably seen images over the years when IUOE Local 115 has protested the poor treatment of workers in our province. What you may not know is that Scabby was invented by the International Union of Operating Engineers at Local 150 in Chicago in 1986.



Union protest "rat" from 1989  
(Image courtesy of IUOE Local 150)

It came about when Local 150 was organizing in equipment rental and repair shops. The nickname for the organizing campaign was Operation Wrench. They needed to find a way to get the attention of the public and help them understand the concept of a 'rat contractor': someone

who refuses to work with unionized workers or treats employees poorly. Using a rat helped to bring attention to those particular contractors. Local 150 initially had several rat costumes made by the Stage Hand Union for the union organizers to wear.

It got the point out and drew lots of publicity. Current General Secretary-Treasurer, James M. Sweeney (then an Organizer with Local 150) later mentioned that "this new method of getting attention was particularly useful and almost as fun as drawing straws to see who had to put on the costumes every day."

A downside was that they were heavy, hot, and eventually smelled too authentic, so they came up with a way to get even more attention. The idea came from a used car dealership inflated gorilla. Being Operating Engineers they went one step further by having a custom inflatable rat built. They then painted an old yellow cab, installed the giant rat on the roof and had RAT PATROL painted on the door. Initially, he was named Mr. Rat, but after a naming contest held by the Local, Mr. Rat became Scabby, and the car was renamed SCAB TRACKER. They eventually had a fleet of Scabby mounted Scab Trackers roaming the city. It became

so popular that they started making Scab Trackers for other locals as well. Today you may see a Scabby as tall as 25 feet pointing out labour injustice and rat unions even.

You may wonder how Local 115 ended up being home to a Scabby. It occurred more than 25 years ago when the Business Manager along with then Assistant Business Manager Brian Cochrane were in Chicago discussing among other things, organizing tactics and strategy. Business Manager Cochrane was very impressed with Scabby and mentioned that Local 115 should get one. A few weeks later Local 115 received a call from the front desk saying a large package arrived. Inside was our very own Scabby. Scabby was now at our local courtesy of Local 150. Scabby lives in the basement of the District 1 union hall and still goes out to fight labour injustice and helps point out rat contractors. 🍁



Scabby protesting in New York.



Staff from L to R: Business Representative Simon Thomsen, Director of Organizing Bryan Railton, Organizers Frank Baratto and Gavin Cross pose for a picture with Scabby outside the CLAC office last summer.

### Listen for more

Not too long ago, President Trump-appointed members of the U.S. National Labour Relations Board attempted to restrict the use of Scabby. Find out how Scabby won free speech rights in America.



SCAN ME



## Conventions are key to keeping democracy alive

As we prepare to elect delegates to represent Local 115 at the 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the International Union of Operating Engineers, it is worthwhile to review what this important convention is all about.

All democratic institutions are governed by a constitution which provides the rules of government for the organization and includes the ability of the individual members participation in this process.

The IUOE was established and organized on December 7, 1896 and we celebrated our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2021. Our original constitution was compiled by the special constitutional convention held September 30, 1938 and was adopted by referendum votes of the entire membership on December 31, 1938. This formed the basis of our modern constitution which has been amended by referendum or convention on some 22 occasions since that time. The most predominant way to amend our constitution is by convention, however, referendum can be used as an alternative.

Our constitution proves that General Conventions of the IUOE are to be held in the month of April every five years which includes the year 2023.

*Participation is important in  
any democratic organization  
and all members are  
encouraged to do their part.*

The composition of the Convention is to be made up of elected General Officers, General Executive Board, Board of Trustees and duly elected Delegates from Local Unions.

The basis of representation is determined by a Local Union's membership and in the case of Local 115, we have approximately 13,000 members. Our Local Union will be electing delegates to attend this year's General Convention. Your Local Union By-Laws provide that the Business Manager and President of the Local Union are delegated to attend all Conventions, including the

General Convention, by virtue of their office.

The General Convention is the sovereign power including the legislative, executive, administrative and judicial authority of the IUOE.

The major agenda items to be dealt with at the Convention will be proposed amendments to the constitution, resolutions, appeals of members, issuing of Local Union charters, fixing of per capita taxes paid by Local Unions to our International and the election of the General Executive Board and Trustees.

Participation is important in any democratic organization and all members are encouraged to do their part by exercising their right to vote in electing delegates to attend the International Union of Operating Engineers' General Convention.

Delegates in 1944, at the  
22nd convention of the IUOE.



# Meet Your Nominees

Local 115 members will elect 18 delegates to attend the upcoming Operating Engineers 40th General Convention.

**Douglas Allan**



Hi, my name is Doug Allan. First I would like to say thank you to my nominator. It is a great honour to be nominated to attend the IUOE

General Convention in Florida. I have been a member of IUOE 115 since 1990 and a member of the 115 Executive Board since 2017. I've been a shop steward at Lehigh Materials for 15 years. The years I've spent serving on the Executive Board and speaking with the reps from around the province has been a very valuable experience and helps me be a better steward. If I were to be chosen to attend the General Convention I would use the opportunity to learn from Reps and Stewards from across the US and Canada about what they are dealing with and more about the labour movement. Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Matthew Baker**



I have been a proud member of IUOE Local 115 since January of 2011. I went through the Operating Engineers Training Associ-

ation where I completed my Red Seal Certification for Lattice Fric-

tion Crane. I have operated cranes throughout Northern BC and before I became a Business Representative for the Local I was a Shop Steward, which is where I realized I could make a difference for our Brothers and Sisters.

I have been working directly for Local 115 for over 6 years. I sit on the Executive Board for District 4 and have had the pleasure of working with member's and companies throughout Northern BC. I enjoy every aspect of my employment with the Local and it is an honour that I am able to continue making a difference in the working lives of our members.

I volunteer as the North Central Labour Council President, I have been in this position for 3 years and enjoy working alongside other unions within my region to make positive changes and help the community and advocate for the labour movement.

I would like to thank my nominator for the opportunity to be considered to go to the 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention. If I am elected to attend, I look forward to meeting IUOE members from across the U.S. and Canada and continue learning about our Local, the International Union and Unionism.

**Steve Barnicke**



I, Steve Barnicke am asking for your support to attend the General Convention of our International Union. I have been on staff with the Local for

over three years and currently hold the position of Business Representative, I am also a member of the Executive Board where I currently hold a seat as Auditor.

My family has been proud union members for three generations, this legacy has instilled dedication, commitment and pride that I choose to represent everyday through our Local.

I have worked as a journey person millwright in various shops throughout the lower mainland over the past 20 years of my working career until assuming the role as Business Representative at Local 115.

During the past three years I have enjoyed having the opportunity to work with Shop Stewards, Bargaining Committees and members while overcoming the adversity of a pandemic and continuing to advance the members interests.

It brings me great satisfaction every day to represent the interest of the members and helping to provide better working conditions, stronger wages and reliable sustainable cash flow through the Operating Engineers' Pension Plan into retirement.



## Franco Baratto



Hello Brothers and Sisters,  
My name is Frank Baratto, I am 56 years old and I have been an active and good standing

member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 115 for the last 24 years

The bulk of my career I have spent in the Road Building industry with B.A. Blacktop where my roles included both Foreman and Shop Steward. I have also had the opportunity to work for Sarens Crane as well as Pacific Pile and Marine and Western Explosives at the Gilley Quarry. I am currently working for the IUOE local 115 in Burnaby as an Organizer/Rep and am pleased to say that it is both challenging and rewarding.

My education includes SFU and Capilano College back in the 80s as well as having completed the HEO program and Asphalt Laydown that was offered to me via Local 115, as well as various upgrade programs offered by our union. I am a firm believer that a well trained work force is both a safer and more productive as well as happier.

## Frank Carr



I am grateful to receive the support of my nominators and I am seeking your support to be elected as a delegate to the

International Union of Operating Engineers 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention. I first joined Local 115 in the summer of 1993 through an organizing drive while working in the demolition industry operating heavy equipment and have remained a proud member in good standing since. Shortly

thereafter I registered with the Training Association to take the mobile crane apprenticeship and became an indentured crane apprentice. I received my red seal certificate as a mobile crane operator in 1999 after having worked in different sectors of the construction industry.

In 2000 I began working in District 1 for the Local as a Business Representative in the Burnaby office. From that time, I have had the opportunity to be involved in several different positions. In 2003 I was appointed to the Executive Board as the Guard; I've held the position of District 1 Representative and in 2009 appointed as Treasurer. Also, in 2009 I was appointed as a Trustee of the Operating Engineers' Benefits and Pension Plans, currently I'm the Secretary. I am a director on the Jurisdictional Assignment Plan of the BC Construction Industry and the director of Jurisdiction for Local 115.

Other areas I have been involved in during my career,

- Delegate to the New Westminster District Building and Construction Trades Council, Vancouver, New Westminster, and past Executive Board member of the Fraser Valley District Labour Council.
- BC Federation of Labour Political Action, Apprenticeship and Resolutions Committees.
- Co-Chair Industry Training Authority Construction Employers Sector Advisory Group.
- Delivering the Union Membership Orientation Program at the Training Site.
- Tower Crane Safety Campaign – safer worksites for assembly and dismantling, a registry and certification for those working in the industry.
- Political Action - supporting Federal, Provincial and Municipal labour friendly candidates and assisting in campaigns.
- Bargaining Council of the British

Columbia Building Trades Unions negotiating committee member.

- Negotiated Agreements in both our Construction and Industrial sectors.

- Negotiated Project Labour Agreements in the tunneling industry.

- Negotiated Project Labour Agreements with the Transportation Investment Corporation for highway reinstatement work and the Steveston overpass.

I enjoy being involved in the many aspects of our Union - organizing, representing, and advocating for the membership. It would be an honour and a privilege to attend the convention with our Executive Board and participate in the democratic process that guides and governs our International Union, while supporting Business Manager Brother Brian Cochrane as the 14th Vice President on the General Executive Board. Thank you for your continued trust and support.

## Christopher Dalziel



With thanks to my nominator, I proudly accept the nomination to be a delegate to the 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the International

Union of Operating Engineers.

I have been a member of IUOE Local 115, employed at Waste Management of Canada since February of 2017. I currently serve the members of Local 115 as an Auditor on the Local Union Executive Board, a position that I have held since September 16, 2022. I have served my coworkers at Waste Management of Canada as their Shop Steward since December 17, 2020.

I have been grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Executive Board with a group of

strong leaders and look forward to learning from leaders from across North America at Convention. I know that interacting with delegates from the 123 Local Unions will provide me with additional skills in my role on the Local Union Executive Board.

Further, I look forward to advancing the interests of Local 115 members and supporting Business Manager Brian Cochrane for re-election as the 14th General Vice President of the IUOE.

### Kyle Egan



I have had the privilege of being a Brother of IUOE 115 since 2013. I started my career in Kitimat working as an overhead crane operator

for Brasco International on the Kitimat Modernization Project. For my duration at Brasco I was Shop Steward and ensured our member's needs were met and concerns were addressed.

From there I went on to be an apprentice crane operator working for several of our fine partners; including but not limited to Vancouver Pile Driving, Protech Industrial Movers, and Gwill.

In the summer of 2020, I joined the staff of IUOE 115 as the Dispatcher for District 1. I have learned a lot from the fine folks in this office and around the province. I love interacting with our members and helping to match brothers and sisters with positions that are fulfilling to their careers. I am enjoying having the opportunity to meet everyone when they have a chance to stop by the office so I can put a face to the name.

Since joining the staff, I have become a member of the Executive Board. My approach to governance is to ensure inclusivity to all of

our members while upholding the principle and values of our fine institution. It is the responsibility of the board to be available to all our members and my door is always open.

All of these opportunities are because of the membership of Local 115 that have encouraged and supported me throughout my career. This support has continued with my nomination as a delegate to the 2023 General Convention. I would like to ask for your support one more time in the election of delegates to the 2023 Convention where I can represent our membership with passion for who we are and what we value.

### Douglas Fisher



My name is Douglas Fisher. I joined Local 115 in 2010 after a successful Union certification achieved in that year at my

workplace, Rempel Bros Concrete Ltd. I have been active for nearly 13 years as Shop Steward and have participated in three of the four sets of contract negotiations.

In 2014 I was approached by the Union to participate as a rank-in-file member of the Executive Board. I have acted in the position of Conductor for nearly nine years. It has been a rewarding experience to assist the Union in this capacity and I have developed many long-standing relationships with Union staff.

My family has realized many benefits of my Union membership with Local 115 since 2010. It has been a pleasure to be an active member of our local union and I look forward with anticipation of many good things to come as I approach my retirement years. Thank you Local 115.

### Robert Foskett



My name is Rob Foskett and currently live in Sparwood with my wife and two sons. I joined the IUOE Local 115 when I gained

employment with Transwest Mining Systems in the Elk Valley back in 2004 as a welder by trade. Since then I have been a proud member in good standing.

My calling as a Rep for the union began when I became a Shop Steward shortly after starting my employment with Transwest. Eventually I became the Head Shop Steward for several years before leaving the company to launch my career with the Local as a Business Representative in January of 2013.

It has been a great honour to represent the membership during my 10 years on staff with the Local, dealing with a wide spectrum of issues that the members may have, either on the job or even in their own personal lives. Collective bargaining, arbitrations, mediations and grievance handling are some of the more common matters that are at the top of the list of priorities at any given time.

It has always been my commitment and I will continue to assist our members to the best of my ability; as I believe that I have attended all matters our members have brought to me the way that I would expect my own Business Representative should, while keeping honesty and integrity the focal point of my guiding principles.

I have held the position of the District 6 Representative on our IUOE 115 Executive Board since 2014 and it is with tremendous pride that I represent the East and West Kootenays in this capacity. In addition, I also sit on the Mining Code Review Committee where I am



the voice of our members in mining, providing insight into items that are to be amended or created as new language, in the Ministry of Mines' Health, Safety and reclamation code for British Columbia.

With thanks to my nominator, I ask for your support in electing me as a delegate to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> International Union of Operating Engineers General Convention where amendments are to be applied to our International Union's Constitution.

### Brian Haugen



With thanks to my nominator, I am seeking your support to represent the Membership of this Local at the IUOE General

Convention this spring. I got my first permit to join the Union in 1988 when I was dispatched to Delta Aggregates to be a Heavy Duty Mechanic apprentice then Red Seal. I worked in Heavy Construction, Road Building, and some Marine and Industrial Shops.

In the fall of 1998, I took on the role of Training Coordinator, a position I really enjoyed as I got to work with so many members (new and experienced) supporting training and apprenticeship. During the seven years that I was a Coordinator, I had the opportunity to be a Pension and Benefits Trustee and serve on the Application Committee with Mike Parr.

After working for the Training Plan (now Training Association) I taught all levels of Heavy Duty Mechanics and Truck & Transport Mechanics at Vancouver Community College. In January 2018 Business Manager Cochrane hired me to work for the Local where I am currently the Director of Education and a Business Representative for Industrial shops. I had the honour of being appointed as

an officer of the Executive Board as the Financial Secretary.

Somewhere in all of this work, I managed to get married and buy a house in Langley with my wife and six daughters. However, it does seem too busy to get our 1920 Nash on the road.

I find my various roles in the union challenging and rewarding; being from a union family, this is a great fit for me and I want to assure that the interests of Local 115's members are supported at the General Convention.

### James Knowles



By the time of the General Membership meeting this spring I will have been on staff as a Business Representative specifically for

District 2 Vancouver Island for seven years. I am thrilled at this time to be given the opportunity to attend my first General Convention of the International Union of Operating Engineers as a representative of Local 115.

This is a huge point of pride for me personally especially as I look forward to supporting Business Manager Brother Brian Cochrane who is running for re-election as the 14th General Vice President of the International Union.

Prior to my position within the Local, I worked almost exclusively in British Columbia in construction. I was a crane operator by trade and started like most on smaller equipment for a family-owned business where I constantly pleaded to get the opportunity to advance my skill and training and secure a proper Red Seal certification. My tenacity got me additional training but only the minimum required certifications to be in compliance and some additional to have me train others.

It wasn't until I met a union crane operator that I got the opportunity to meet the owners of a proud union company who told me that in order to work for them I must go to school and get my Red Seal Certification.

Once I was accepted as a member of Local 115, I couldn't be more proud and was as active as I could by attending union meetings and spreading the word when and where I could. I tried to assist two of the Business Representatives at the time with access to Cape Scott Windfarm with the goal of organizing the non-union operators on site. Following that, I was asked while still technically an apprentice, to attend and speak at the BC Building Trades Convention to help advance our agenda within government.

Being able to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention will give me the opportunity to meet and learn from delegates from across North America who have experienced the fights we are currently in and some of the fights yet to come. I will also be proud to stand alongside the other Local 115 delegates supporting our Business Manager as the 14th General Vice President.

### Leanne Hughf



I, Leanne Hughf, would like to thank my nominator and ask for your continued support in the election of delegates for the 40<sup>th</sup> IUOE General

Convention.

I was raised in a union proud household. My father was a millwright and finished his career as a Business Representative for a Union in the Pulp and Paper industry. I've attended Labour Day events in Port Alberni, labour rallies, picket lines along side my father from a young age. I was educated on the "no grapes" boycott of the 70's and knew

the term “scab” well before I could fully understand it.

I completed training at the Maple Ridge Training Site as a Heavy Equipment Operator and started my apprenticeship in 2014. I started out in roadbuilding, preparing roads for the Tsawwassen Mills mall to be built. A few years later I took the Asphalt Laydown Technician course and ended up laying a lot of asphalt for the parking lot at that same mall. I finished working in the field with my Blue Seal for Asphalt Laydown.

I started on staff with IUOE Local 115 in early 2019 as a Business Representative. After a few months on staff I spent the summer in Winnipeg, Manitoba assisting Local 987 and the International staff with the “Healthcare Campaign”. The Premier of Manitoba had forced a “winner takes all” scenario in that Province, forcing all healthcare workers into one Union. That was a proud moment for me, and gave me the experience of interacting with large groups of workers, and educating them on the benefits of being a member of IUOE.

In my time as a Business Representative, I have taken a lead in lobbying Government and WorkSafeBC on the improper fit and challenges faced by women with the PPE available in the construction and industrial sectors. Recruiting and retaining this minimally tapped demographic of people to assist with the future of construction is key to solving this so called “skills shortage”. Having barriers such as ill fitting PPE for women before they even start a trade shouldn’t be a barrier.

Additionally, I have been on the Executive Board of Local 115 since the election in 2019 as an Auditor, and I believe all my experiences to date will allow me to represent our Local admirably at the 40<sup>th</sup> IUOE General Convention.

## Curtis Laverty



Firstly, I would like to give special thanks to my nominators and supporters, I’m very grateful for the nomination and would be

honoured to represent the IUOE Local 115 at the General Convention.

I was given an opportunity to become an Organizer for the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 115 in late December of 2019. The role was a natural fit for me and I was given a full time position on staff at the District 1 Hall within a few months.

I have been a dedicated member of our team helping wherever I can. My passion is helping people join our organization, I’ve organized multiple companies within my first couple years of being on staff. In 2021 I was promoted and now have become a Business Representative in addition to my Organizing role.

I’ve gained invaluable experience as a Business Representative over the last 3 years through the collective bargaining process (including first collective agreements), mediations and arbitrations.

In the summer of 2022, I was offered a Business Rep position in the District 3 office located in Kamloops. I accepted the position with enthusiasm looking forward to the new challenges that awaited me there.

I was born into a union family; I was educated throughout my childhood on the importance of working union. I’m a 10-year member who started my career in the field as a distributor operator for B.A. Blacktop in 2012.

Shortly after being hired by B.A. I took the Asphalt Laydown Course at the Unions training facility located in Maple Ridge and passed in the top

of my class. I was then appointed Shop Steward and began helping members navigate the roadbuilding collective agreement and solve grievances.

During my time at B.A. Blacktop I took advantage of all the opportunities that were before me and learned to operate multiple pieces of paving equipment.

I’m a very proud Operating Engineer, my wife of 15 years, Kristy Carter comes from a union family as well, and her brother and father are also proud Members. Kristy and I have 2 children, Liam is 7 and Jackson is 2, we both hope they follow in their father’s footsteps.

## Brian Lefebvre



Brian Lefebvre joined the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 115 as a staff member in 1999.

During twenty-four years on staff, he has worked in many different district offices within the Local. He began his career in the District 3 Kamloops office and worked there for six years. In 2005, he moved to the Cranbrook/Sparwood Offices in District 6 and proceeded to work there for nine years. In 2014, Brian saw a move to the Head Office in Burnaby and remained there until he relocated back to Kamloops in 2017, where he is currently based. During Brian’s career with Local 115, he has been involved with Collective Bargaining, representing the Local in negotiating the Site C Project Labour Agreement as well as the Community Benefits Agreement with the Provincial Government, Grievance Handling, Mediations, Arbitrations and Top-Down and Bottom-Up Organizing. He currently holds the titles of Business Representative, Trustee of



the Operating Engineers Pension and Benefits Plans and is the current Privacy Officer and Harassment and Bullying Officer for the Local. Prior to coming on staff for the Local, Brian worked as a Mechanic at Trimac Transportation where he earned his certification as a Red Seal Commercial Transport Mechanic. Brian has been involved in Roadbuilding, Heavy Construction and Dam Construction throughout his work life. Outside of work, Brian has been happily married to his wife, Raelene, for the last thirty years, and together they have two grown boys, Brandon (28) and Brock (25).

### John MacKie



My father was a proud union member with the I.B.E.W. for over 30 years and that union job allowed him to raise & support

our family. So I knew I wanted to become a tradesman with a union. After graduating in 1986, I started out as a fitter/welder/ mechanic. I attended Kwantlen College & took the millwright course. As opportunities for good union jobs were hard to come by in the late eighties I became frustrated with only getting jobs at non-union shops. So in 1991 I sold my truck and motorcycle and went back packing around Asia and New Zealand for about a year. While in New Zealand I worked at Crowder Engineering for a few months working on the biggest dairy plant in the world. After that fun money was spent I returned home and worked various jobs saving money for my next adventure moving to Phoenix, Arizona to attend the Motorcycle Mechanics Institute. Upon graduation there were several job opportunities for me. One at Custom Chrome Inc.

in California, one at Pacific Harley-Davison in Hawaii and the one I took at Trev Deeley Harley-Davidson in my home town. After 8 years it was time for a change and I went to work with Ivers Custom Cycle for 6 years. Then in late 2006 I had the opportunity to become a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers local 115. On December 1st I was dispatched to Fraser River Pile & Dredge as a deck hand. I worked my way up to Deck Engineer then to a Red Seal Lattice Friction Crane Operator. 17 years later I am still there and 10 years and counting I am the shop steward. I have served on the bargaining committee for the Standard Piledriving Agreement with Brother Frank Carr for the last 2 contracts. Recently I became a Trustee on IUOE Local 115's Executive Board. It's been a great and interesting journey for my working career to be where it is today, a proud Operating Engineer with IUOE Local 115.

### Kenton MacPherson



My name is Kent MacPherson and currently live in Sparwood, BC with my spouse and two children. I became an IUOE Local 115

member when I gained employment with Teck Coal's Line Creek Mine Operation in 2011 as an Equipment Operator and have been a proud member in good standing with Local 115.

I began my duties as a Business Representative for IUOE Local 115 in March 2022. During my employment at Line Creek I was involved as a Crew Safety Representative, and served on the Line Creek Mine Council as Health and Welfare Chair, Safety Chair, as well as Co-Chair on the Occupational Health and Safety Committee. I bring the knowledge of

mining, heavy equipment operation, automotive mechanics, pipelining, and civil construction to my new role with the Local 115.

I am honored to be representing members within District 6 throughout the East and West Kootenays. I commit to representing our members with pride, integrity and compassion, regardless how matters are brought forward. I strive to ensure each member obtains fair and equal representation whether the matter is personal or employment related.

I ask for your support in electing me as a delegate to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> International Union of Operating Engineers General Convention. This convention ensures delegates are involved in the review and changes to amendments within our International Union's Constitution.

### Kyla McCormick



My name is Kyla McCormick and I am humbled to be nominated as a candidate to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention and the opportunity

it presents. I was born and raised on Northern Vancouver Island and now reside in the beautiful capital of British Columbia with my partner Jason where I have been for the past 18 years. I have been a Business Representative of Local 115 for a whirlwind 6 months but have been a member since 2008. I have a Red Seal in Metal Fabrication with a background in marine construction, repair, structural and custom fabrication.

My journey as a member of the local 115 has taken my career to a place I never thought possible, from apprentice, to journey person, to shop supervisor to serving the membership itself. I am thankful and look forward to sharing that success by supporting

our members and bringing another perspective to the organization.

I would be incredibly proud to represent our Local as a Delegate at the General Convention and be a part of the history that is made at such an event. Thank you for your consideration.

### Braydon Randall



My name is Braydon Randall. I am 32 years of age and have been a member of the Operating Engineers Union for over 14 years.

I am a third generation Operating Engineer. Both my Father Brad Randall and Grandfather Fred Randall worked in the construction industry and for Local 115 in various capacities. I attended the Operating Engineers Training Site and completed the Heavy Equipment Operators course. Later I enrolled in the Mobile Crane Apprenticeship program and registered as a Mobile Crane Apprentice. I completed my 4 year apprenticeship and obtained my Mobile Crane Lattice Boom Friction ticket with Red Seal endorsement. During my years as an Operating Engineer, I have gained a great deal of experience working on many projects throughout the Province. I have worked in the marine construction industry, mobile crane taxi industry, the heavy construction industry and am currently working for Sterling Crane out of Vancouver. My Father and Grandfather have appreciated your support in the past. I am asking for your support in electing me as a delegate to attend the Operating Engineers General Convention.

### Bryan Railton



I am a proud fourth generation Operating Engineer having spent the majority of my apprenticeship and career as a

Crane Operator with Fraser River Pile and Dredge. I have served as Shop Steward and on the bargaining committee for the Standard Piledriving Agreement with Brother Frank Carr. I joined the staff of Local 115 in 2013 as an Organizer, and have since served as Business Representative in District 3, Trustee on the OE Pension & Benefits Plan, and Trustee on the Executive Board.

As an Organizer, I cut my teeth by bringing in new members on many fronts, from industrial units such as commercial truck shops and the waste industry, through to mining and construction units. I have also been a fierce adversary, and advocate, fighting against the Rat Unions like CLAC and CISIWU.

My time as a Representative in District 3 rounded out my skillset, having spent eight years bargaining with the interior roadbuilders, local utility contractors and commercial shops. I have also been the Provincial Rep for Wajax Equipment for the past two years.

A particular highlight of my career has been serving as a Trustee of your OE Pension and Benefits Plans, and being part of bringing in positive changes and increases to both plans since 2019. It has been a particular legacy moment following in the footsteps of my father Lionel, who served as a former Administrator of the Plans until 2012.

All of these roles have kept me grounded in the foundational values of this fine organization, especially now that I am serving as Director of Organizing, as well as Table Officer and your newly appointed Vice

President. I owe all of this to the membership of Local 115 that have encouraged me to excel, and the forbearers that paved the way for my career.

Finally, I would ask for your support in the election of delegates to the 2023 General Convention. I believe that all of my experience will allow me to represent Local 115 admirably and I promise to bring the fullest value of my 115 pride to the Convention.

### Lee Riggs



Lee Riggs is the Administrator for the Benefits and Pension Plans at the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 115

and currently serves as a Director at Pacific Blue Cross. Prior to joining the Operating Engineers, Lee served as the National President of the Telecommunications Workers Union, United Steelworkers Local 1944 where he also Co-Chaired the Pension and LTD Plan for over a decade.

Lee has an extensive background as a Director on multiple boards and as a fiduciary. Lee has also served on the Board of Concert Properties and Concert Infrastructure Ltd. as a Director. Lee was also a founding director at Castle 1 Investments and served on the Investment Committee at ACM Advisors.

Lee brings pension, benefits, investment, negotiation and labour union experience to his many roles. He has most recently completed his Master of Trust Management from the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans.

Lee was instrumental in the \$139 million sale of the three Co-operative housing high-rises in Burnaby while also lobbying government to make changes to



the Provision to Adverse Deviation (Pfad). These two initiatives had a significant effect in the ability of the Pension Plan to provide the 11.5% increase to pensions.

Lee looks forward to continuing to serve the members of the Local in his capacity of Pension and Benefits Administrator.

### R. Darcy Shearer



With thanks to my nominator, I proudly accept the nomination to be a delegate at the 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the International

Union of Operating Engineers.

I joined the Operating Engineers December 1994, working for Waste Management Canada (at that time, Laidlaw). I grew up in a union household, and many in my family have been employed by, and worked for unions.

In April 2017, Brother Don Swerdan asked if I would like to be Shop Steward in Brother Curtis Wright's absence. I humbly accepted, and felt it was a great honour. In late 2017, I joined the Local Union Executive Board as a Trustee.

It was truly a great learning experience, and opened a whole new world to me representing my Brothers and Sisters at Waste Management.

I am honoured and grateful to serve on the Executive Board. I look forward to interacting and learning from the many talented and dedicated Delegates from across North America that will be attending the Convention. It will provide me with invaluable knowledge and skills that I can use to be a more effective member of the Local Executive Board.

Additionally, I look forward to supporting Business Manager Brian Cochrane for re-election as the 14th

General Vice-president of the IUOE, and to advance the interests of the Local 115 members.

### William Suelzle



My Name is Will Suelzle and I have been a member in good standing of Local 115 for over 11 years. I am 49 years of age and currently reside in Coquitlam. I am a 25-year class 1 operator. I joined the union in 2011 as a mixer truck operator for Rempel Brothers Concrete. During my 10.5 years at Rempel I became a concrete pump certified, operating both mixers and pumps. I eventually became a trainer for both and then a shop steward for my last 4 years.

2 years ago, now Retired President, Don Swerdan recruited me and Business Manager Brian Cochrane brought me on staff. I wish to thank both for believing in my abilities. As a business representative in district 1, my area of representation is Earls Creek on the Sunshine Coast all the way east to Hope. I am honoured to represent all the pits and quarries for Heidelberg, Lafarge, Mainland Sand and Gravel, and Fraser Valley Aggregates. I also represent the all-encompassing Spread 6 with Banister and Michels, as well as a contingent of Utility companies spread throughout the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley. Of course, I started with Rempel Brothers Concrete and now I represent the OE contingent. I thank everyone for their support in nominating me and I would be proud to represent our Local as a delegate at the upcoming 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention.

### Konrad Tarry



I have been a proud member of the IUOE Local 115 since 2017. I started as an apprentice with Sterling Crane in Fort St. John and

from there I attended the IUOE Training Association's apprenticeship program in Maple Ridge where I earned my Red Seal Certification for Lattice Friction Crane. I was asked to be the Shop Steward for Sterling Crane and later on the Shop Steward for FCCL on the LNGC project in Kitimat.

Since joining the staff at IUOE Local 115 in August of 2021, I have been busy working with the membership and companies throughout Northern British Columbia. It has been a great pleasure of mine to get to know the many names and faces of the members that makes up Local 115 over the last few years through Site C, LNGC, and the many shops in Districts 4 and 5. I look forward to my future working for all the members, the Local, and the labour movement for years to come.

I would like to thank my nominator for the opportunity to be considered to attend the General Convention. The knowledge and experience available at the General Convention will be invaluable for our Local, the International Union, and the Labour movement. If elected, I look forward to the opportunity to meet like-minded IUOE members from the United States and Canada.

## Simon Thomsen



My name is Simon Thomsen and I am asking for your support to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the International

Union of Operating Engineers.

I have been a proud member of Local 115 for 23 years. For the last 2 years I have been working for Local 115 as a Business Representative in the Waste Industry and was recently appointed as a Trustee in Training on the Operating Engineers' Pension Plan.

I am a firm believer in developing leadership in our bargaining units through the education and training of Shop Stewards and would like to thank all these members for their dedication to their fellow Brothers and Sisters. I enjoy working to educate members on the importance of supporting not only their workmate, but also getting involved with safety committees and local political parties that support workers in BC.

I would like to thank my nominators and ask for your support in electing me as a delegate to represent the interests of our Local Union at the 40<sup>th</sup> General Convention.

## Joshua Towsley



With thanks to my nominator, I proudly accept the nomination to represent the membership of IUOE Local 115 at the 40<sup>th</sup> General

Convention of the IUOE.

Originally hired as a Business Representative by Business Manager Brian Cochrane in 2015, I have served our members as the Assistant Business Manager and Recording

Corresponding Secretary on the Local Union's Executive Board since 2017 and have had the opportunity to work alongside many great leaders in my role.

I have represented members and negotiated agreements throughout the Local Union's jurisdictions and have been active in advancing our member's interests, the labour movement, health and safety issues, and worker's rights in many different examples of government lobbying and political activism.

The General Convention is the highest form of governance in our Union, and I look forward to actively participating to advance the interest of Operating Engineers and expand our Local's engagement with all of our Local Unions.

After attending the 2017 General Convention and participating in the Law Committee, I know the benefit that I can bring back to serve the membership of Local 115.

The dedication of your leadership and Executive Board is second to none and I am extremely proud of our many accomplishments.

Currently, I hold the following positions representing the members of IUOE Local 115:

Trustee – Operating Engineers' Benefits and Pension Plans  
(Certificate – Master of Trust Management Standards)

Director – IUOE Local 115 Training Association

President – Vancouver, New Westminster and District Building and Construction Trades Council

Chair – BC Building Trades Political Action Committee

Chair – BC Building Trades Occupational Health and Safety Committee

It has been a great honour to serve the members of IUOE Local 115 in all of my various roles, working with a dedicated group of leaders. I thank you for your continued support for myself and the entire team and look

forward to using this Convention to advance the interests of Local 115 members.

## Craig Young



I have been a proud member of IUOE Local 115 since September 1975. Prior to becoming employed by Local 115 I was employed

as a Heavy Duty Mechanic for 34 years working in the logging and mining industry and was appointed as a Shop Steward with the company for 6 years.

I have been employed with Local 115 as a dispatcher in the District 4 office since August 2020. I am also a delegate with the North Central Labour Council. I spend some of my spare time with the Prince George Men's Shed as one of five members of the leadership team.

I would like to thank my nominator for being considered to go to the General Convention.



# OPERATING ENGINEERS 40<sup>th</sup> GENERAL CONVENTION ELECTION PROCESS

## Choosing the delegates that your Local will send to the International Convention

- ✓ **Ballots are mailed** to eligible voters on March 7, 2023.
- ✓ **Ballots must be returned by** March 28, 2023.
- ✓ **The top 18 Candidates receiving the most votes** shall, by the Election Committee, be declared elected.
- ✓ **Persons approved for membership** by the Local Union prior to February 1st shall have the right to vote.
- ✓ **Every member who is not suspended** as of January 31, 2023 shall have the right to vote.
- ✓ **Ballots must be marked clearly** as to your choice of candidates.

**STEWART MILLER**

2023 Election Committee Chair

**It is your right and  
obligation to vote.**

**KEEP DEMOCRACY ALIVE.**

**iuoe** 

**L O C A L 1 1 5**

Canada

# Liebherr LTM 1650 Hydraulic Crane

GWIL Crane Service's yard in Burnaby is the first contractor in Western Canada to test and commission its use.

*(Images courtesy of Shop Steward Andy Murray)*



## iuoe<sup>★</sup> Pensions Awarded October 1 to December 31 2022

LOCAL 115

### October

Paul Brown  
Dale Corrigan  
Scott Corrigan  
Richard Dallas  
Terence Doyle  
Greg Kinney  
Bruce Korsvoll  
Kerry McDonald  
Martin Mckim  
Brian Rutherford  
Don Swerdan

### November

Helder Amado  
Leroy Anderson  
Malcolm Bachand  
Grant Baker  
Douglas Barsaloux  
Randall Carlson  
Lyle Cartwright  
Roy Ducklow  
Michael Foulds  
Donald Graham  
William Hagley  
Shawn Kennedy

Murray Kester  
Edwin Lepp  
Adrian Mahyr  
Perry Malcolm  
William Markstrom  
Richard Massy  
Neil McKeown  
Donald McNeil  
Randel Miller  
Lorne Pare  
Lenard Peetoom  
Russell Phillips  
Randall Poznikoff

Trevor Rees  
Sant Saran  
Darrell Southgate  
Richard Starnes  
Ricky Storoschuk  
Kenneth Templin  
Alan Wesloski

### December

Julius Batta  
Donald Biscaro  
Imre Dande  
Johannes Degraaf

Joseph Desbiens  
Raymond Garneau  
Ross Gilmour  
Thomas Jackson  
Steven Jefferson  
Randy Murphy  
Sandra Nylund  
Andy Popoff  
David Reynolds  
Christopher Self  
Erwin Vhal  
Ronald Ward  
Wayne Wheeler



## IUOE Local 115 Donates to Peace River Charities during the holiday season



(L to R): Shop Steward Tim Harris, Business Representative Konrad Tarry and Shop Steward Tom James hold a cheque for \$40,000 dollars to present to various charities in the Peace River region.

IUOE Local 115 joined Aecon-Flatiron-Dragados-EBC Partnership (AFDE), LiUNA Local 1611, and CMAW Local 1998, each contributing \$10,000 for a total donation of \$40,000. Donations were made to local charities throughout the Peace River North Region including Fort St. John Firefighters Charitable Society, Fort St. John Hospital Foundation, Fort St. John Women's Resource Society, Fort St. John Seniors' Association, North Peace Ride for the Disabled and the Fort St. John Literacy Society.

## IUOE Local 115 and Fraser River Pile & Dredge (FRPD) assist children in BC



Business Representative Frank Carr presents a cheque to FRPD to support the CKNW Kids Fund in November 2022. Together IUOE Local 115 and FRPD raised \$17,500.

# How to use QR Codes

When you see a QR code in this magazine, pull out your cellphone and open the camera tool. Place the camera over the QR code and wait for a link or prompt to pop up. Click on the link or prompt to be directed to videos, photos and much more.

In future magazines we will use QR codes to expand on stories, share videos, and provide links to help you take action and become more involved.

We hope you enjoy the enhanced IUOE News digital experience.

# Welcome to our 498 new Members

October 1 to December 31 2022

Kendra Achtymichuk	Mark Buchanan	Parmji Deol	Christopher Ganesh	Anthony Jennings
Adam Adams	Zachary Bugden	Dylan DeRick	Brennan Geach	Michael Jens
Caden Adams	Andrii Bukrieiev	Joel Desullan	Edwin Genge	Ryan Johnny
Lawrence Adolphson	Micheal Burgemaster	Austin Devost	Myriam Gettis	Taylen Johnson
Zaki Ali	Thomas Burns	Jordan Dewing	Balkaran Ghuman	Ryan Jones
Christopher Allaby	Terry Burtch	Michelle Dey	Summer Gilbert	Trai Jones
Nick Allen	Gurkanwaljit Buttar	Bavan Dhaliwal	Jaspal Gill	Jordan Jongema
Jessie C Amy	David Caldwell	Gurwinder Dhanoo	Geoff Gillette	Corinna Julius
Brayden Anderson	Gerald Calhoun	Branden Digiovanni	Gaibriel Glatiotis	Peter Kazda
Edward Andrus	Joe Calverley	Olivier Dione	Jacob Goodlet	Markus Keirsebilck
Sorin Antonescu	Allan Carmichael	Ryan Dobson	Bradley Gorrill	Wade Kellington
Colin Archer	Jacob Caron	Stephen Doire	Michael Gould	Jeremy Kelly
Ashley Armstrong	Benjamin Carrier	Zayne Doney	Caden Grant	Jason Kennedy
Kane Arnott	Mitchell Carrigan	Matthew Dorish	Ralph Grau	David Kirwan
Mitchell Ashford	Michael Carson	Tania Dorish	Ranjeet Grewal	Kynan Koci
Keaton Ashley	Erik Case	Tiege Doughty	Aubyn Griffiths	Jan Komperda
Sheldon Aubee	Benjamin Case	Ashely Dudley	David Grover	Marty Kooyman
Todd Babchuk	Kody Chamberlain	Kabir Dulai	Ivan Alejandro Gudino	Derek Krestanovich
Zachary Bachand	Leah Chambers	Daniel Duncan	Carlos Guillen	Brennen Kropodra
David Bachron	Dane Champion	Graham Dunne	Greg Hagar	Brandon Kukula
Paul Baldwin	Ethan Chan	Paul Dunseith	Ahmed Halat	Pradeep Kumar
Bradley Banman	Dalmatius Charlemagne	Samuel Dyck	Darryl Hall	Cody L'Arrivee
Justin Banman	Evan Charles	Ryan Eastcott	Zachary Hall	Peter La Marre
Noah Banman	Ruby Charters	Tony Edelsward	Warren Hamel	Rajpaul Lail
Marcus Baptiste	Mangaldeep Chawla	Tyus Emberly	Steven Hannah	Jordan Laird
Natha Bath	Dreanna Cheater	Justin English	Michael Hanrahan	Trevor Lalande
Darren Beattie	Hemant Chingunde	Morgan Erickson	Kenneth Hansen	Eric Lalonde
Darryl Beck	Daniel Chwan	Dustin Erricson	Eric Hansen	Lynn Lambert
Shaun Beier	Rudolf Ciccio	Stacy Ewen	Kevin Harrold	Brendon LaPlante
John Benko	David Cliff	John Fairburn	Md Hassan	David Lawson
Chase Benson	Jacob Co	Nicholas Falconer	Calista Hatch	Tyler Lebreton
Jaden Berezan	Brian Coates	Ibrahim Farah	Brandon Hegedus	Tyler Leil
Dawson Bergunder	Dion Colbourne	Benjamin Fargey	Alisha Henderson	Kody Lessard
Dalbara Bering	Gage Colville	Sleiman Farrage	Spencer Hendrickson	Joshua Levesque
Gurpreet Bering	Amanda Companion	Brian Fawthrop	Matthew Hern	Boyd Lewarne
Christopher Betker	David Cooper	Cynthia Ferreira	Frederick Hewitt	Ty Lewis
Conner Betson	Danny Cossette	Carter Festerling	Jackson Hleucka	Cheyenne Liebrecht
Tyler Bigattini	Joseph Court	Courtney Finnie	Lawrence Hoganson	Jacob Lockyer
Parmjit Billan	Aiden Cowell	Niko Fiorilli	Bradley Holm	John Loewen
Marla Billy	Coleman Craig	Isaac Firth	Mark Hoover	Craig Logan
David Bitter	Ryan Craig	Brenden Fischer	Clinton Hoppe	Darren Logan
Kristopher Blanchard	Nastassja Crawford	Mikaela Fitz-George	Michael Hornby	Kelly Lott
Leigh Block	Chris Culp	Travis Fello	Gregory Houweling	Vanessa Louie
Wayne Bobb	Joren Cummings	Laura Fleming	Caroline Huang	Trevor Louie
Matthew Boddy	Jamie Curtis	Jessica Fletcher	Alan Hulsman	Shannon Loutit
Daljit Bohgun	Tyler DaSilva	Kyle Fox	Maxwell Hunt	Thomas Love
James Boldt	Chad Daigle	Carlie Frank	Egan Huxter	Dustin Lybbert
Kenneth Borring	Christian Dallyn	David Fredland	Abdelouahid Ibn Aissa	Chad Mabberley
Jaret Bradford	Robert Danielson	Bradley Freeman	James Ickert	Kyle MacDonald
Mark Branco	Max Danshin	Todd French	Jacob Ingram	Tina MacDonald
Tyson Brewer	Bryce Davis	Joshua Friesen	Peter Jackson	Tyler MacLennan
Dustin Brigden	Scott Defelice	Zachary Friesen	Erin Jacobs	Cameron Macmillan
Corey Brookings	Jordan Degraaff	Geoffrey Gallagher	Mateo Jakus	Scott Maitland
Coliel Brown	Terry Dennis	Myles Gallagher	Darren Janzen	Rahul Manchanda



Robby Mann	Savannah Parsons	Gabrielle Schmeelke	Jordan Tobin
Robert Markotich Jr.	Daniel Pashe	Keith Schmidt	Jorde Tolmie Meier
Joel Marten	Akshay Patial	Ernie Schroeder	Travis Tolsma
Daniel Martin	Caz-Mel Paul	Dennis Schroeder	Jonah Tom
Lesley Mason	Devin Paul	Tyler Schultz	Clayton Tom
Lanny Matthews	David Pauls	Kyle Schwab	Brett Townsend
Jedd Matusza	Michael Pazur	Kaden Scott	Anndrea Tresierra
Daniel McCauley	Bill Peerenboom	Cole Searle	David Tressel
James McCulloch	Ethan Penner	Gurmit Sekhon	Parmeet Tung
Grant McDill	John Percy	Tobijas Sepkowski	Gurdial Turna
Justin McDonald	Cameron Pereverzoff	Sheldon Shaler	Prabhjot Tut
Melinda McGregor	Trevor Perison	Kartik Sharma	Adam Underwood
James McGuffin	Troy Perison	Mohamed Shire	Colin Uppal
Darrel McIntyre	Devin Peters	Nicholas Shmyr	Shaun Vallee
Warren McLeod	Tyson Peters	Jordan Sieben	Will Vandebeek
Randall McMorran	Bradley Phillips	Tyler Sillers	Colter Vanee
Kevin Meadows	Christopher Pichor	Brandon Sims	Branislav Vaskic
Dawit Melake	Ronald Pierre	Amritpal Singh	Monish Velur Balasubramanian
Georgia Mercer	Travis Pilon	Damanjeet Singh	Melissa Vesper
Gary Merriman	Daniel Pochylko	Deepak Singh	Dylan Vickers
Corey Meynders	Jason Pogue	Gagandeep Singh	Michael Vidal
Jack Middlebrook	Franz Policarpio	Gurpreet Singh	Calvin Vienneau
Kevin Miller	Dia Pope	Lovepreet Singh	Dylan Villeneuve
Leslie Milne	Micheal Poulin	Manpreet Singh	Kyle Vollet
Johnathan Modeste	Jarrett Powell	Ryan Smith	Eric Walas
Ethan Monaghan	Butch Priester	Thomas Smith	Len Walker
Calixto Monzac	Shawn Prince	Arjun Sodha	Shawn Walker
Brad Moore	Donald Prokop	Kyle Soloman	Nicholas Warburton
Wanda Morgado	Brian Purdy	Maurice St Laurent	Ethan Ward
Kelly Moss	Jordan Quaife	Robert Stanhope	Kevin Ward
Rick Mould	Rod Quidlat	Dawson Steele	Larry Warner
Inez Mousseau	Quiny Quisido	Emily Stefanuik	Kevin Watson
Ryan Moxley	Reuben Radford	Brett Stella	Shanten Watson
William Moyes	Terry Rae	Aleah Stevenson	Kevin Weed
Corey Mueller	Jonah Ragsdale	Jamie Stewart	Alexandra Werginz
Musangu Mukenge	Gregery Randell	Ryan Stokes	Heidi West
Amandeep Mutti	Rakesh Rattu	Tanner Stratton	Brandon Wharf
Gurminder Nagra	Resteo Real	Garrett Stratulat	Brandon Whitcroft
Navi Naiker	Carlos Rebelo	Tayven Strilchuk	Mark White
Kenneth Navratil	Gregory Redmond	Gurkaran Sunner	Dennis Wilcox
Michael Navratil	Nathan Reinert	Tyrel Supernault	John Williams
Mitchell Neil	Rocky Rice	Wes Swelander	Reese Williams
Diem Nguyen	Todd Richardson	John Sylvester	Ryan Williams
Zebediah Nichols-Bullock	Shadow Riggs	Joshua Symes	Spotted Eagle Williams
Brent Nicolson	Trysten Rissanen	Matthew Taggart	Russell Willson
Mitchell Nixon	Trevor Robinson	Ashtin Tait	Michael Wilson
Emmanuel Nunoo	Nathan Roche	Jennifer Takaoka	Robert Wintrip
Carmel Anne Ocampo	Chad Rodowitz	Minna Teiniranta	Seungsu Woo
Brian Oddy	Ivan Romero	Jacob Terlecki	Kyle Yamelst
Jeanna Oler	Lucas Rosa Batista	Nathan Theriau	Sam Yan
Brandon Oles	Cameron Rose	Christian Thibodeau	Shu Yang
Joseph Onyejeke	Deanne Rosen	Nikolas Thiessen	Roderick Young
Aidan Orich-Tanguay	Kelsey Rounds	Bryce Thompson	Angus Yuno
Jeff Osterberg	Micheal Rowan	Canaan Thompson	Darin Yurkiw
Daniel Palmer	Matthew Savourid	Denny Thompson	Faran Zafar
Gary Papworth	Alexandra Sawatzky	Hayden Thompson	Brandon Zutuz
Shawn Parry	Jayden Scheffler	Tristin Thompson	

**10 years**

Sherwin Almarez  
Jason Andrews  
David Armstrong  
Arthur (Jake) Arnold  
Grant Asman  
Travis Bailey  
Alan Baker  
Robert Barazzuol  
Jerret Beal  
Ed Beedle  
Patrick Belanger  
Scott Bird  
Douglas Bohn  
Daniel Bowyer  
Tyler Brown  
Barry Brown-John  
Scott Bryce  
Terry Burgess  
Jeff Butler  
Ryan Cabalfin  
Jaime Cabintoy  
Alan Cappon  
Brad Carr  
Louis Carriere  
Terry Chomeczko  
Jefferey Collicutt  
Chris Cooper  
Spencer Coulter  
Beau Cree-Reeve  
Stephen (Brent) Daggitt  
Gary Daschuk  
Stephen Dea  
David Degrace  
Gurvira Dhindsa  
Brian Dinn  
Dalan Dos Santos  
James Dredge  
Donald Ducharme  
Steve Duncan  
James Elgert  
James Elliott  
Robbie Fowlie  
Cameron Gardner  
Joshua Garneau  
Brian Goodwin  
Terrence Gould  
Kirby Grewal  
Ed Guise  
Shane Halliday  
Shawn Hanson  
Mark Harding  
Don Hartford  
Shawn Hatch  
Rolfe Haugen  
Kirk Henry

Samuel Higgs  
Troy Hindle  
Karl Hoggatt  
Brandon Hughes  
Chris Hulls  
Brian Iwasiek  
Thomas Jackson  
Steven Jansen  
Ilsun Jin  
Andrew John  
Alexei Josafatow  
Jonathan Kauffman  
Sean Kavanagh  
Kenny Knezetic  
Jason Krickan  
Mike Landgraf  
Curtis Laverty  
Kam Lebourdais-Louis  
Vikram Legha  
Daniel Loehndorf  
Trevor Loewen  
Danny Loiselle  
Sven Lomeland  
Harjot Longia  
Mitchell Looor  
Mitchell Lotysz  
Kevin Lovas  
Brent Mazzo  
Clayton McGill  
Blake McMurray  
Cameron Miller  
Rob Milligan  
Daryl Mitchell  
David Molyneaux  
Tyler Moore  
Jeremy Newman  
Dane Ogden  
Raymen Overland  
Wesley Pigeault  
Graham Pink  
Tommaso Ponzini  
Lawrence Prentice  
Joshua Rankin  
Christopher Rivers  
Gregory Robbins  
Georgie Robichaud  
Wilfried Rombach  
David Rourke  
Dave Roy  
Brennan Ruault  
Richard Sayers  
Leslie Schellenberg  
Jeffrey Scott  
Kelly Scott  
Stuart Sherlock  
Todd Shorman

Gerry Smith  
Lorne Spooner  
Michael Stewart  
Ricky Storoschuk  
Stephen Swaim  
Brandon Tanaka  
Chris Tehennepe  
Cory Thomas  
Joshua Turcotte  
Leonard Uchman  
Leonard Van Boven  
Tom Van Luyn  
Andrew Vanbeek  
Lyle Williams  
Steven Woodward  
Will Wyness

**20 years**

Josh Adams  
John Bevan  
Shaun Blais  
Robert Burleigh  
Stanley Carson  
Fraser Cocks  
Stephen Couper  
Michael Dezeg  
Biagio Di Lauro  
Harlan Fenske  
Robert Hall  
Brandon Hebert  
Joe Kokkelink  
Daniel Kuva  
Don Kwitkoski  
Sebastien Laroche  
Andrew Latuszek  
Carlos Magana  
Ivan Pendleton  
Michael Prentice  
Victor Ribeiro  
Jason Robinson  
Frank Smekal  
Clinton Stiles  
Eric Straumfjord  
Terry Trainor  
Caelan Trustham  
Brad Vessey  
Todd Wettlaufer  
Glen Wilson

**30 years**

Peter Bartkowski  
Bruce Fletcher  
Mark Gilbert  
Vincent Lambert  
Glen Lange  
Brian Lefebvre

Raymond Logan  
Scott Lozie  
Carl Quechuck  
Edward Riddall  
Robin Scott  
Miles Thomas  
Gerald Whitehead

**40 years**

Gerry Burtnick  
Robert Carter  
Harold Fraser  
James Jamieson  
Alvin Scarff

**50 years**

Bryan Albers  
Wayne Berlinger  
Jim Brooks  
Laurie Broughton  
Jim Cruch  
Leonel Custodio  
Harry Derksen  
Neale Driver  
Edward Fiedler  
Wesley Fraser  
Larry Giroux  
Donald Head  
Paul Hindle  
David Hoenderop  
Dale Hyams  
David Kennedy  
Larry La Fave  
Ernesto Mancin  
Jerry Olynky  
Jonn Regan  
Jack Rice  
Rodney Robinson  
Noel Tarling  
Robert Thiessen  
John Van Diemen  
Wayne Vickner  
Bernie Wiebe

**60 years**

Glen Ecklund  
John Rempel

**70 years**

William Chucko  
William Ward





# Bursaries and Scholarships

Education is important to our members and their children, which is why a number of scholarships and bursaries are available to union members and their families. Some of the awards that are available:

## IUOE Canadian Conference Bursary

Awarded annually to a dependent of a member of a Canadian local of the Operating Engineers.

*Bursary Amount:* Ten bursaries of \$750 each. Two of these are allotted to British Columbia.

*Criteria:* The bursary recipient must be entering their first or subsequent year of a full-time course of study (at least 2 years in length) leading to a diploma, certificate or degree from any recognized public Canadian college or university.

*Applications Deadline:* August 1.

## BC Building Trades Fred Randall Bursary

The British Columbia Building Trades established two bursaries in memory of the late Fred Randall, who was an MLA and Business Manager of Operating Engineers Local 115.

*Bursary Amount:* \$500 each to two successful candidates.

*Criteria:* Applicants must be a member of a Building Trades union in good standing, be enrolled in a union recognized trades training program, and submit a 250-word essay on the topic of "Commitment to Trade Union Principles."

*Applications Deadline:* June 30

## M.L. Parr Award

Awarded annually to a son, daughter or legal ward of a member of the IUOE Local 115 entering first-year studies at a recognized Canadian college, university or vocational school as a full-time student.

*Bursary Amount:* Total \$2000. May be divided between more than one applicant.

*Applications Deadline:* September 30.

## Donald Smith Scholarship

Awarded in memory of the late Donald Smith, a longtime member of IUOE Local 115.

*Bursary Amount:* Up to \$1000

*Criteria:* Awarded annually to member of an IUOE Local 115 member family (son, daughter or legal ward, member or member's spouse) who is in full-time attendance at UBC, SFU, University of Victoria, University of Northern British Columbia or BCIT pursuing studies in engineering, industrial relations or law at either the graduate or undergraduate level.

*Applications Deadline:* September 30.

## CSCU-OECU Pioneers Memorial Bursary

Established in 1989 by the Operating Engineers Credit Union, which merged with Community Savings Credit Union in 2009. Provides assistance to students in academic, vocational or technological programs at B.C. educational facilities.

*Bursary Amount:* Varies with financial need.

*Criteria:* These awards are designed to help disadvantaged youth pursue higher education. Applicants should therefore demonstrate a strong and justified financial need for assistance.

*Applications Deadline:* Applications for students starting school in the spring/summer semester are accepted between May 1 and June 15. Applications for students starting school in the fall are accepted between September 1 and October 15.

For details on where to apply, visit:

[iuoe115.ca/membership/scholarships](http://iuoe115.ca/membership/scholarships)

# In memoriam

**Members who have passed away October 1 to December 31 2022**

## Name Years of membership

### OCTOBER 2022

Cecil Bancroft	12
Joseph Bellerive	23
Frank Burleigh	5
Ian Cameron	42
Jerry Chayba	49
Tyson Dal Col	1 month
Gilles Dompierre	48
Kristine Drombolis	11
Clint Eppler	15
Robert Evans	21
Mervin Ferguson	49
Wayne Fischer	27
Gordon Hill	57
William Joe	27
Glynn Jones	49
Kacie Lagace	2

John Larsen	9
-------------	---

Brian Phillips	19
Donald Scherer	10

### NOVEMBER 2022

Gary Aeichele	15
George Bone	57
Lloyd Furgason	64
John Gaunt	10
Clarence Guimond	53
Allan Gulka	53
Norman Jensen	8
Ronald Johnston	2
Peter MacDonald	65
Dennis Marchessault	42
Clayton May	41
James McKillop	57

Michael McLaughlin	24
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Lloyd Miller	7
Chris Ouellette	2
Walter Trentini	47
Elroy Ulmer	43
Joe Vieira	10
Edward Wainwright	54
Dan Wilson	41
Steve Bezak	30

### DECEMBER 2022

Marvin Enger	52
Dennis Felker	63
Barry Henderson	55
George Irwin	42
Ron Jones	61
Alfred Lang	51

J.C. Alex Lee	48
David Marshall	42
Kenneth McGregor	6
Andrew McNaught	4 months
James Nicholl	49
Andrew Papp	20
Bruce Ricketts	12
Robert Rooke	8
Kari Salle	7
Joe Steiner	49
Michael Stephenson	14
George Wagar	57
Kenneth Wilkinson	42
Russ Wilkinson	4

## IUOE HATS HOODIES SHIRTS and much more

To order IUOE Local 115 merchandise—please call our Burnaby Office at 604.291.8831 or toll free at 1.888.486.3115





## IUOE Local 115 Offices

### District 1 & Main Office

4333 Ledger Avenue, Burnaby, BC, V5G 3T3  
Phone: 604.291.8831 Toll free: 1.888.486.3115  
Fax: 604.473.5235 Email: iuoe@iuoe115.ca  
Website: iuoe115.ca

**Business Manager:** Brian Cochrane

**President:** Wayne Kemp

**Assistant Business Manager:** Josh Towsley

**Director of Organizing:** Bryan Railton

**Dispatcher:** Kyle Egan, 604.473.5230

### Organizing Representatives:

Frank Baratto, 604.312.4227

Gavin Cross, 604.908.0874

### Benefits & Pension Plans

**Administrator:** Lee Riggs

### Training Association

**Administrator:** Jeff Gorham

**Training Coordinators:** Steve Ervin Gian Grewal  
Travis Woolford

### District 1

#### Business Representatives:

Steve Barnicke Frank Carr Michelle Dey Brian Haugen  
Leanne Hughf John Munro Will Suelzle Simon Thomsen  
Phone: 604.291.8831 Toll free: 1.888.486.3115

### District 2

#### Business Representatives:

James Knowles Kyla McCormick  
Nanaimo Office: 35 Wharf Street, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 2X3  
Phone: 250.754.4022 Fax: 250.754.5513  
Victoria Office: Please call to set up an appointment

### District 3

#### Business Representatives:

Curtis Laverty Brian Lefebvre  
785 Tranquille Road, Kamloops, BC, V2B 3J3  
Phone: 250.554.2278 Fax: 250.554.1766

### Districts 4 and 5

#### Business Representatives:

Matt Baker Wayne Kemp Konrad Tarry  
Craig Young (Dispatcher)  
3339 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Prince George, BC, V2M 1N1  
Phone: 250.563.3669 Fax: 250.563.3603

### District 6

#### Business Representatives:

Rob Foscett Kent MacPherson  
103 Centennial Square, Sparwood, BC, VoB 2Go  
Mailing address: PO Box 1567, Sparwood, BC, VoB 2Go  
Phone: 250.425.2161 Toll Free: 1.888.605.9955  
Fax: 250.425.2166

## Meeting Notices

### District 1

BURNABY: 1st Thursday of every month, except March and September due to General Membership Meeting  
7:30pm at 4333 Ledger Avenue

### District 2

NANAIMO: 2nd Monday of odd months  
6:00pm at the Coast Bastion Inn, 11 Bastion Street  
VICTORIA: 2nd Wednesday of even months  
6:00pm at the Pro Pat Legion Branch 31,  
#292 - 411 Gorge Road E.

CAMPBELL RIVER/COURTENAY:

Members will be advised of meeting date, time and place

### District 3

Monthly meeting locations alternate:

KAMLOOPS: 2nd Thursday of even months

7:30pm at the Union Hall, 785 Tranquille Road

KELOWNA: 2nd Tuesday of odd months

7:00pm at the Coast Capri Hotel, 1171 Harvey Avenue

### District 4

PRINCE GEORGE: 2nd Wednesday of every month

8:00pm at Coast Inn of the North, 770 Brunswick Street

PRINCE RUPERT, TERRACE, KITIMAT, SMITHERS:

Members will be advised of meeting date, time and place

### District 5

Monthly meeting locations alternate:

FORT ST. JOHN: 2nd Tuesday of odd months

7:30pm at the Masonic Hall, 10441 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue

DAWSON CREEK: 2nd Tuesday of even months

7:30pm at the George Dawson Inn, 11705 8<sup>th</sup> Street

TUMBLER RIDGE:

Members will be advised of meeting date, time and place

WHITEHORSE: Teamsters Hall, 407 Black Street

Members will be advised of meeting date and time

### District 6

Monthly meeting locations alternate:

CASTLEGAR: 1st Wednesday of odd months

7:00pm at the Super 8 Inn, 651 18<sup>th</sup> Street

CRANBROOK: 1st Tuesday of even months

7:00pm at the Labour Centre Boardroom,  
105 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

TECK'S LINE CREEK OPERATION: Members will be advised of meeting date, time and place

Please contact your District Office to register for the next meeting in your location. Any meetings that do proceed will be held in accordance with Provincial Health Authority guidelines.

rise above.

# Fuelling Our Economy with BC Operators



**iuoe**   
L O C A L 1 1 5

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