

Winter 2024

iuoe[🍁]news

L O C A L 1 1 5



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- Leadership transition underway
- 2024 Year in Review

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Thank you

I want to start my last article in the IUOE News as your Business Manager by saying thank you, to our members who have supported me over my 35-year career. Your support, friendship, guidance, advice, and determination have kept me driven to perform at my best, every day of the week.

On January 29, 1990, my life really changed. Originally hired as an organizer, I was determined to make a difference in improving Local 115's market share, increasing our bargaining power, and strengthening Collective Agreements for our membership. My focus was improving standards for Operating Engineers and their families.

Like most people who take on the challenge and responsibility of working for our Local Union, I was pretty naïve in the beginning. At that time in my career, it was incomprehensible to discover that when employers violated labour legislation or interfered with organizing campaigns there could be long, drawn-out legal matters that could take a very long time to resolve.

How do legal delays protect workers? I mean isn't that what the law is designed to protect – right??

I was pretty impatient back then, (some would say that I still am!) and I remember taking a group of our members involved in an organizing campaign down to the Labour Relations Board (LRB) and we set up a picket line. A bunch of Unfair Labour Practices that were taking forever to resolve were affecting them, and we needed to make a statement that this process does not work. I wasn't aware of any rules around setting up a picket line at the LRB at the time, and I did let a few of my colleagues know, but damn it – it was just wrong having unnecessary delays in a process designed to protect workers – so we had to make a statement!

It was quite the day, and while the Board redirected all of their hearings to a nearby hotel, and my Business Manager Brother Gary Kroeker was busy deflecting calls from everyone in the Union movement, our members ultimately got a meeting with senior people at the LRB to express their concerns.

It was probably around that time that I truly realized the importance of the Labour Relations Code. The significance of having good law that protects the ability of workers' rights, along with the Union's ability to effectively represent their membership is crucial to success.

All of that of course comes from having an elected government that supports working people. With the provincial election and the US election behind us, I am sure there will be a stark contrast in policies that affect working people in the months and years ahead. As the future unfolds, I ask you to stay informed on these issues and listen to the leadership of Local 115 as they are dealing with the issues that affect you daily.

Our biggest gains have happened when we have had favourable governments that give us the tools to do our job for our members, and the world is bombarded with misinformation these days. It is just so hard to imagine that elected billionaires will make decisions that help regular working people. They won't.

Now, it is truly impossible to recap all of the people I have engaged with over the last three decades, who have played a significant role in mentoring me, pushed hard for initiatives important to Operating Engineers and demonstrated the relentless professional determination to keep going. There are too many to list and unfortunately, many have passed away.

I want to say that Brother Bryan Railton shares all of those similar qualities of the best people I have worked with, and I know he will be a solid leader for Local 115. As a 4th generation Operating Engineer, he understands the needs of our membership, and the value of our organization, and has the passion for excellence that will ensure results.



Continued on following page





He has grown up as a trade unionist, he knows when to fight, knows when to adapt, and knows when to find a deal—all while putting the interests of our membership first.

Over the last several years, we have been investing in more staff training and technology than at any other time in our history, which has helped to build our staff and our team to deliver for our members. Under Bryan's leadership, the strength of our staff will no doubt carry forward a solid future.

Brother Brian Lefebvre will be assuming the role of President of Local 115 in March. Brother Lefebvre will be

the longest-serving staff person at that time and will bring a wealth of experience and professionalism to that position. Brother Lefebvre's leadership will carry the institutional memory of our organization, and complement the leadership changes and I look forward to the continued growth and respect he will bring to the Local.

Now, there is a very long list of experiences and accomplishments that I am extremely proud of, but it looks like there is not going to be enough room in this article to touch on them! I do want you to know, however, that transitioning our leadership team to be in the best position possible to look after our membership will be on that list.

I want to close off by again thanking you for the opportunity to serve you over the years in my various roles. It has been an honour and privilege, and together, we have made the impossible – possible.

On behalf of the Officers, Executive Board and Staff of Local 115 I want to wish all of our members and their families a great Christmas, and a healthy and prosperous 2025 and beyond!

In Solidarity, 🍁

Brian Cochran



British Columbia has lost a remarkable leader and a friend of Labour

Brother John Horgan achieved remarkable milestones, helping Operating Engineers and working people across this province thrive. As the only politician—and Premier—ever to be named a lifetime honorary member of the BC Building Trades, he wasn't just a leader; he was one of us. Through every challenge, he stood by us like a true brother.

John pushed forward single-step certification, restoring workers' rights to join our union without employer

interference, as long as we met the 55% threshold. He also helped reintroduce construction raid windows in July and August—two groundbreaking measures he turned into legislation that forever changed the landscape for our members.

An avid Star Trek fan, John lived by the motto, "Live long and prosper." Thanks to his work, many more Operating Engineers can do just that—free from intimidation and empowered to

unionize their workplace.
RIP Brother Horgan.





Leadership transition underway

Humbled and proud... You will hear me say those words consistently for the rest of my career, but by the time this article hits your doorstep, you will have heard about Brother Cochrane's

retirement and my appointment as your next Business Manager effective March 1, 2025.

I can't begin to tell you how humbled I am by the support I've received from members, officers and staff alike, in taking on this new role. I likely wouldn't have believed it when I started with this Local as a pile driving crane operator shortly out of school. However, the things that I saw as normal growing up around this organization my whole life, have influenced those around me in seeing me advance to this position. Whether it's the picket lines I attended with my father as a young boy, the general strikes I supported when I was a teenager, my stewardship with Fraser River Pile & Dredge, the organizing of new members or the numerous roles I've held on behalf of the membership. I have always done so in my goal to wake up every day and work for the members of IUOE Local 115. It's funny, in fact, a member who I've known for most of my career tapped me on the chest at the General Membership Meeting and told me, "Don't forget where you came from" and that truly spoke to me. I want to assure all of you, that I will not forget my beginnings. I know that I serve due to the grace of the members, those same members who have supported me my entire life. So from the very foundation of my heart, and on behalf of my whole family, I thank you for this opportunity.

At the same time, I can't tell you how proud I am of Brother Cochrane and his decision to take on the next chapter of his life. After a career of unwavering commitment to the membership of this Union, he can rest easy knowing that he leaves the Local in the strongest financial, political and reputational position that we have ever enjoyed. Members of IUOE Local 115 can be proud in realizing that they have enjoyed record years of employment, unprecedented pension increases, increases in health and welfare benefits, strong government relationships and an even stronger team of IUOE staff. It seems like yesterday when I met Brian on a sunny Saturday morning, in the first real suit I ever owned, to interview for the position of organizer. I knew back then that he represented a high level of professionalism while still exuding a real working man's reality on life which he carries with him into every situation,

and with every staff member he has mentored. Brother Cochrane has left nothing on the table in his sacrifices to the membership, and I know you all join me in wishing him all the best in his retirement. He is a true trade unionist and Operating Engineer to the core, and we look forward to him bringing his fire to future membership meetings.

I'll also note that the Executive Board of your Union, in recommendation from Business Manager Brian Cochrane and I, have appointed Brother Brian Lefebvre to take on the role as your next President within the same timeline. Brother Lefebvre has been serving the members of this Union for many years, now in his 25th year of service. He has been a cherished personal mentor of mine but has also lent his learned experience to just about every member of our staff for a generation now. I can't think of a better person for the role of President. Brian brings a level of calm to every room he walks into, while also being prepared to fight for our members at every opportunity. He has expressed his sincere desire to build this Local 115 team up for the fights ahead, and I look forward to working with him closely again in this transition.

That will lead me to my final thoughts. While IUOE Local 115 has benefited under consistent and steady leadership for generations, the fights against this Local are still ever-present and growing. There is still plenty of work to do to prepare for what's to come. As I mentioned in my previous article politics are important and as I write this the political future of BC is rather tenuous. It's obvious we have a rather divided electorate. While the results may still be shaking out by the time you're reading this, the reality will be different now than the one we have enjoyed. This will mean that the enemies that have been waiting in the wings for a political shift will become more active. Groups such as the Independent Contractors Association, CLAC and other like-minded organizations will be looking to gain back ground that we had taken from them in recent years and they will have more friends in government to do that. Our focus will be to continue to build this team up, focus on organizing and growing our market share despite those who would wish us away. Operating Engineers will honour our elders, remember their sacrifices, and grow our way through this next wave of hurdles. Solidarity Brothers and Sisters, let's get it done, together. 🍁



Leadership that punches above its weight

I want to start by wishing Business Manager Brian Cochrane a long and happy retirement. When I was hired in 2015, I knew that I was coming to work for an organization that was

a leader in our industry and one that “punches above its weight.” I did not know that I was coming to work for one of the greatest trade union leaders of our time—it didn’t take me very long after I was on staff to figure that out.

When faced with tough decisions, Brian always defaults to what is in the best interests of our members and our organization—even if those decisions are unpopular with some of our affiliate partners. The results of his leadership are seen throughout every aspect of our organization, with the highest membership in our union’s history, the strongest financial position in our union’s history, pension increases for members of the OE Pension Plan, benefit improvements for members of the OE Benefits Plan, and huge investments in new equipment at the Training Site in Maple Ridge. The effects of his leadership cannot be denied.

“Local 115 will continue to demonstrate strong and stable leadership and a level of activism that is second to none.”

I am grateful for his mentorship and the opportunity to serve as his Assistant Business Manager for the last seven years. Our work in the union office together may end on March 1, 2025, but our friendship never will.

I also want to congratulate Brother Bryan Railton as he takes on the responsibility of becoming the next Business Manager of IUOE Local 115 on March 1, 2025. Bryan has IUOE running through his veins. He is a fourth-generation Operating Engineer who has been walking the halls of this Local Union since he was learning to walk. Brother Railton has large shoes to fill and I have complete confidence in him and his ability to lead our Local.

As our current President and Director of Organizing, Bryan has demonstrated that he understands what makes our union strong, what makes our pension and benefits plans strong, what we need to train the next generation of Operating Engineers, and the steps we need to take to get there. He has a strong team around him, and I look forward to serving our members under his leadership.



Business Manager Brian Cochrane, former NDP Minister of Labour Harry Bains, and Assistant Business Manager Josh Towsley earlier this year. Over the years both Cochrane and Towsley worked closely, lobbying government, for more work for Operating Engineers and pushing for critical changes to improve health and safety on construction sites.

Our Local Union has a long history of strong and stable leadership. As Bryan Railton becomes the fifth Business Manager in our history, Local 115 will continue to demonstrate strong and stable leadership and a level of activism that is second to none.

As we move into the new year, I am working with the Bargaining Council of British Columbia Building Trades Unions on the development of the 2026 Industry Bargaining Protocol. This is the framework of how we negotiate our Standard Construction Agreements (Heavy Industrial, Commercial Institutional, Crane Rental, and Steel Erection). The Protocol will set out when bargaining shall begin, how proposals are delivered to the employers, how they are received from employers by the unions, what are key demands on behalf of everyone in the industry, which proposals are trade specific, and what happens if the parties reach an impasse.

It is an important document to get right, and I am confident we will do that. I expect to be seeking proposals for bargaining from members working under those agreements as early as the 2nd Quarter of 2025—more to come in the months ahead. 🍁



Strong work picture for the spring

Our workload between the end of fall and the beginning of winter may experience a temporary slowdown but we anticipate a surge in activity come spring. In preparation for the

upcoming busy season, I kindly request that you secure your book-ins to ensure your readiness for the increased workload.

I encourage you to stay informed and up to date regarding the union's business and activities by reading the business representatives' news articles, which

provide valuable insights into upcoming projects and job opportunities.

There is much work on the horizon, but much of it is weather-dependent. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further assistance.

I want to wish Business Manager Brian Cochrane a happy retirement. I hope like many of the retirees who call me from time to time that he is spending his days on his motorcycle, and enjoying his well-earned pension.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to every one of you. 🍁

IUOE 
LOCAL 115

We are looking for:

-  Concrete Pump Operators
-  Crane Operators (taxi work)
-  Heavy Duty Mechanics

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DISPATCH RULES



2024 A year in review

2024 was a year of highlights that illustrated the strength of Operating Engineers.

Facing high interest rates and record inflation, we still managed to complete major projects, vote in a provincial election, and negotiate improvements and plan for future negotiations.

Following a bad year for crane safety, which included a fatality, we pushed aggressively to make more improvements in the crane industry.

Looking ahead, there is still much more that we plan to accomplish.

Crane Safety Advocacy IUOE Local 115 in the news

Scan the QR
codes to watch
the videos

The BC Liberals de-regulation of the crane industry happened 20 years ago. IUOE Local 115 has been advocating for changes ever since.

BC missed the opportunity to lead immediately following the Kelowna crane collapse. Now we must be leaders in tower crane safety across Canada to ensure this never happens again.

Brian Cochrane, Business Manager

Growing concerns over crane accidents



10 IUOE news



This year a celebration of life for former Business Manager Brother Gary Kroeker was held at the Union hall. A friend, and mentor to Local 115. Here is Brother Kroeker in 2010 congratulating Brian Cochrane on being sworn in as Business Manager.



IUOE Local 115 receives recognition for its support of Burnaby Minor Hockey.



Premier Eby with stakeholders following the successful sale of the Coquitlam Cooperative Housing units to the Community Land Trust.



Spring 2024 General Membership Meeting.



Canada's Building Trades Unions and SkillPlan announce new Indigenous Awareness Training.

IUOE⁺
LOCAL 115

Effective May 1st, 2024

OEPP
4.5% increase
for 115

A YEAR IN REVIEW



Ratification meeting at ColdFront.



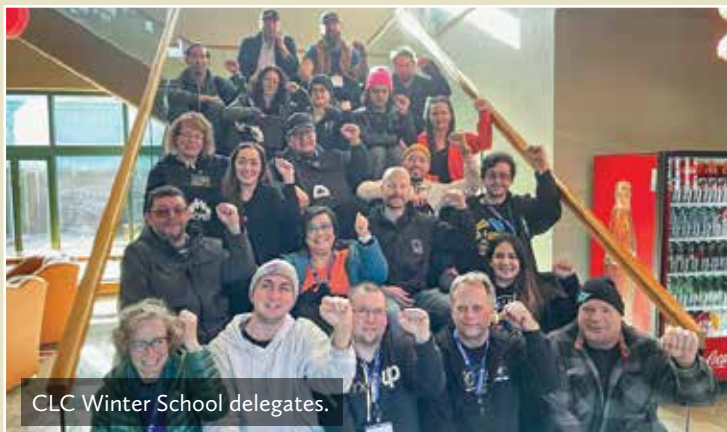
Eagle Mountain Woodfibre Gas Pipeline. L-R: Shop Steward Chris Ma, Jason Kehler, Patrick Lamoureux, and Joshua Knuff.



TMX Expansion was completed this year.



Canadian Regional Organizing course at Local 115 in Burnaby, facilitated by Andre Chenier and Larry Richard.



CLC Winter School delegates.



IUOE delegates from across Canada at the Day of Mourning ceremony in Ottawa.



Shop Steward training at the Burnaby union hall in June.



Business Representative Leanne Hugh speaking at the Day of Mourning ceremony in Ottawa on April 28th.



The IUOE Training Association trades booth at the Skills Canada BC Competition.

HEAVY METAL ROCKS 2024

Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Indian Band gravel pit

Grade 11 and 12 students from School District 73 took part in the 2024 Heavy Metal Rocks Program, co-sponsored by IUOE Local 115. It began with classroom-based orientation sessions, followed by three days where students, under the mentorship of professionals, got hands-on experience operating various heavy equipment.







Grade 11 and 12 students took part in the 2024 Heavy Metal Rocks Program, co-sponsored by IUOE Local 115.



GFL Coquitlam/Surrey workers



Emil Anderson Construction asphalt plant in Smithers, BC.
Photo credit: Colton Taphorn



Shop Steward Tom James at Site C Dam.



Tunnel boring machine "Elsie" on the Broadway Subway Project, breaking through at the future South Granville Station.

A YEAR IN REVIEW



Fall General Membership meeting.



Member Wesley Mitchell has been hosting a drum circle every Monday at the UNBC Hospital in Prince George since COVID-19 began. IUOE Local 115 staff had the opportunity to attend in July.



Former Minister of State for Infrastructure and Transit Dan Coulter and Premier David Eby join Local 115 at the announcement of the Highway 1 Fraser Valley Corridor Improvement Project



Members from both RKM and Oxford Builders working together assembling the Potain MDT 219.



Members at Line Creek.



IUOE Local 115 Heavy Equipment Rodeo.



Liebherr 81K Self-Erect Tower Crane at the IUOETA training site.



Record set at Tradeswomen Build Nations conference

In September, IUOE Local 115 sent five delegates to attend this year's Tradeswomen Build Nations (TWBN) conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

There were over 5,200 delegates, which was the highest number of attendees to date. The energy in the rooms was electric which left our delegates going home with a newfound spark for the tradeswomen movement in our industry.

There was a special guest who joined us via video conference, President Joe Biden. The United States currently has the most pro-labour President ever. President Biden has the same ideology and beliefs that our organization has, he said "When unions do well, all Americans; all union and non-union (workers) are better. Your job is a lot more than your paycheck, it's about your dignity, your place in your community, being able to look your kids in the eye and say everything is going to be okay." As with any politician, there were a few in the room who were Trump supporters, but no matter what people's views were on the election, everyone was still able to be respectful to one another and support the common good of women in the labour movement.

There were many great workshops throughout the weekend that highlighted major issues facing women in the trades, such as childcare challenges, financial literacy, managing money, respect on the job, LGBTQ+ in the workplace, Project Labour Agreements, pensions, and most impactful, suicide prevention in construction.

The topic of suicide prevention really hit home when Dr. Sally Spencer-Thomas, Jen Massey (UA), and Vicky

Waldron from the Construction Industry Rehabilitation Plan (CIRP) spoke about their experiences and advocacy for greater suicide prevention in construction. The fact that not a single hand was not raised when they asked the room of over 5,000 people 'Who hasn't been affected by suicide in their life? By either a friend, family, or acquaintance?' was alarming! The suicide rates in construction are increasing at a rapid pace along with the opioid epidemic.

To help combat suicide the Building Trades Union members (which includes members of Local 115) now have access to CIRP on Vancouver Island as well as in Burnaby. These are no-cost services that are granted to members to access an opioid-free pain clinic, mental health and substance use services, and other resources for British Columbia and Yukon, all organized for the union construction industry. Scan the QR code to learn more.



This was the second year that Business Manager Brian Cochrane attended the TWBN conference for women in trades. His ongoing support helps improve safety at workplaces and improvements to personal protective equipment for all genders. I am grateful for his leadership, guidance, and commitment to helping advance the interests of all Operating Engineers, but especially for women in trades.

I want to wish him all the best in his upcoming retirement. 🍁



Local 115 delegates at the Tradeswomen Build Nations conference in New Orleans



New year, new projects

This year started slow for work, but as the months passed, the Local got busier. By the end of the year, more projects will be announced that will keep the Local and its members busy

for the next couple of years.

Appreciation for many years of service

I would like to take this time to congratulate Business Manager Brian Cochrane and wish him a happy retirement. Brother Cochrane has put his heart and soul into Local 115 since he joined the staff in the 90s as an organizer. He has moved up through the ranks of the Local, from business representative to assistant business manager, and then took over as business manager in 2010. He has led the Local through hard fights and has left the Local in a better position to lead the fight in the future for all of our members in this great Local. I would personally like to thank Brother Cochrane for allowing me to come on staff over 10 years ago and be part of this great team.

New Business Manager a fourth generation member

I would also like to congratulate President Bryan Railton on being appointed as the next business manager. Brother

Railton has always been a dedicated member of this Local, from when he was running the crane, working as a shop steward, organizer, business representative, executive board member, and now president. Brother Railton will have the same dedication to the job that Brother Cochrane did and will lead the Local into the future.

Collective Agreements coming up

2025 will be a year of bargaining: with the roadbuilding utility and paving, Green Infrastructure Partners, HydroTel Group, Badger Infrastructure Solutions, B&B Excavation and Shoring Collective Agreements all coming up for bargaining. Please be on the lookout for proposal sheets being mailed and emailed to you.

Get these back so you can have a say in your next Collective Agreement.

I wish all members and their families a safe, happy holiday and a happy New Year! 🍁

Holiday hours for all IUOE Local 115 offices

Tuesday December 24th
Closed at noon

Wednesday December 25th
Closed

Thursday December 26th
Closed

Tuesday December 31st
Closed at noon

Wednesday January 1st
Closed

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LOCAL 115



Reflecting on humble beginnings

With the announcement of Business Manager Brian Cochrane's upcoming retirement, I find myself reflecting on the past five years as a business representative and the belief Brian had

in me when he first hired me.

Transitioning from my trade as a millwright into the role of a business representative was a venture that gave me a sense of pride and excitement, but also a feeling of nervous energy as I left the world that I knew and began a new career.

From the moment I met Brother Cochrane, he made me feel welcome, confident, and comfortable with the transition. He shared stories of his past role as a business representative, and how 'this job is certainly not for the faint of heart, but to be rest assured, the support would be there for me' as I took on the good fight for working folks.

Brian has always led by example and was the first one to step into the arena at times when others were running in the opposite direction. Whether it's being in the front row at a Labour Day march, or finding a seat at the Premier's dinner table to advocate for the interests of Local 115. He has time and again demonstrated that the high standards for Operating Engineers begin at the union hall.

I would like to personally thank Business Manager Cochrane for his leadership, mentorship and example of what a true trade unionist embodies and wish him well in his retirement. I look forward to seeing what he does next as I'm sure that his next venture will be just as assiduous as his last.

Through the summer and fall, I have been working with the Bargaining Committee from First Truck Freightliner/Velocity, which includes members Ed Riddall, Leo Leblanc, Dave Clarke, and Shawn Hughes. Together they are helping to achieve a Collective Agreement aimed at providing wage increases that are comparable to competitors' wages and cost of living in the Vancouver area.

Kudos to the committee as they brought a wealth of experience in the trade and at the table negotiating, sacrificing personal time and advocating for their co-workers while resisting any changes that could potentially negatively impact their colleagues.

I have also been working with Brother Al Larsen from Great West Equipment to negotiate a Collective Agreement that will satisfy the ever-growing importance of keeping up with the cost of living while also ensuring that they continue to be recognized as leaders in their industry. Brother Larsen has been an active member of the Local for over 35 years and an active participant with the bargaining committee since 2006 when he was initially instrumental in organizing the Great West Equipment location in Surrey.

I also look forward to working with the members from Pacific Coast Heavy Truck Chilliwack and Harbour International Trucks as we prepare to negotiate with their employers in the next few months.

Happy Holidays to all and I sincerely look forward to what the next year has in store for us. 🍁

Enhancing your IUOE NEWS

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We 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.

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LOCAL 115



Member leads community in an Indigenous drum circle

As we move into the New Year, I would like to reflect on a few things that have happened over the last 12 months. Firstly, Brother Wesley Mitchell has been appointed shop

steward at Waste Management in Prince George. In his spare time, Brother Mitchell supports hospital workers and patients at the University Hospital of Northern British Columbia, in Prince George. Since the COVID-19 pandemic to the present day, every Monday evening Wesley, along with other members of the community, come to the hospital and perform a traditional Indigenous drum circle. Local 115 staff were in Prince George this summer and were invited to attend the Monday evening drum circle. It was inspirational to see around 50 members of the community out in support of the hospital workers and patients. Not only does the community show up to support Brother Mitchell but they are encouraged to participate. Thank you Wesley for all you do to support the community.

Next, I would like to wish Brother Aaron Gruber all the best as he retires after 30 years at GFL (Owen Carney) in Squamish. Brother Gruber has been working in the waste industry in Squamish since 1994 and served as a shop steward for many years. He has been a member of the bargaining committee during negotiations on several occasions. Aaron has helped many members over the years and has always been there when needed. Thank you Aaron for all you have done and enjoy your retirement.

Last but not least, congratulations to Business Manager Brian Cochrane on his retirement. Brother Cochrane announced at our General Membership Meeting in September that he would be retiring on March 1, 2025, after serving the members of this Local for more than 30 years. Brian has worked tirelessly for the members of Local 115 and we all owe him our thanks. This Local is in the best position it has ever been thanks to his leadership. Brian, thank you for all you have done. I consider you a great leader, mentor, and friend. Enjoy your retirement, you have earned it. 🍁



TMX completion, new work in Fraser Valley

As we bring another busy year to a close I wish to reflect on some of the highlights.

I started this year with a ratification vote for Dyno Nobel in Abbotsford and Heidelberg Pipeline Road in Coquitlam, both benefiting from solid gains. We then received an unprecedented second increase in under one year of 4.5% to our OE pensions.

In May, Director of Education and Engagement Brian Haugen held the long-awaited first round of shop steward courses that were well attended. Everyone is looking forward to next year's training.

At the end of May TMX Spread 6 and 7 started clean-up. We strongly advocated in the pre-job to use only Local 115 members. Michels worked closely with Dispatcher Kyle Egan to comply and we ended up with 95 Local 115 members and nine travel cards, which was well below the allowed limit. The sub-contractors to Michels on this job also included: Badger Daylighting, Lone Star, B&B Contracting, Jack Cewe,

and Palmieri Brothers. In total, at its peak, we had close to 140 Local 115 members working on the final clean up, to complete the \$30 billion TMX Pipeline Expansion.

The summer and fall included bargaining with Heidelberg Sechelt, Marine Maintenance and Depots as well as Lafarge Earle Creek. Both have main quarries situated on the Sunshine Coast. Brother John Munro and I are currently bargaining with the companies involved in the District 1-Paving Agreement and hope to have an agreement soon.

I am happy to see our valley quarries hiring and anticipate being busy throughout the winter season producing and supplying the Fraser Valley Highway 1 Corridor Improvement Project. A large portion of the work is being done under a Project Labor Agreement employing union workers and providing good wages, pensions, and benefits.

Finally, I want to congratulate Business Manager Brian Cochrane on his upcoming retirement and look forward to working with future Business Manager Bryan Railton.

Merry Christmas and have a safe holiday season. 🍁



Mediation with UBC remains ongoing

I would like to send my very best wishes and congratulations to Business Manager Brian Cochrane on his recently announced retirement as Business Manager of IUOE Local 115.

We are nearing the final steps of bargaining with Canadian Heating Products. We had meeting dates in September and October and we are down to a few final items. We hope to have a Collective Agreement ratified by the end of the year.

Taplow Feeds in Chilliwack are currently working on their proposals so that we can begin bargaining before the end of the year.

In October the University of British Columbia (UBC) Shop Stewards Parm Ubhi, Tom Baker, and Brother Julian Hawkins joined Business Representative Brian Haugen, Legal Counsel John MacTavish, and myself, for a mediation related to a Policy Grievance filed by UBC against the Union

back in September 2023. We continue to advocate for our members and advance their interests every step of the way.

In addition, we had a grievance regarding night shift premiums for relief subheads at UBC which has been resolved with premiums retroactive to October 1, 2022.

Eagle Mountain-Woodfibre Gas Pipeline Project had some water issues in the early fall with excess groundwater. The initial plan was to bring in a mobile-water treatment plant to help with the excess. Work, as a result, slowed at the BC rail site as soil improvement work needed to be undertaken.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the shop stewards who have done an excellent job in supporting their fellow Local 115 members. You are very valued and appreciated for all that you do!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy 2025! 🍁



Shop steward Paramvir Ubhi, Brother Julian Hawkins, and shop steward Tom Baker.



UBC members Shaun MacDonald and Liz Cortens.

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Member feedback shapes Collective Agreements

I want to start by taking a moment to acknowledge Business Manager Brian Cochrane announcing his upcoming retirement this spring.

Thanks to his guidance Local 115 is in one of the strongest positions it has ever been. Over the years Brian's tireless lobbying efforts have ensured billions of dollars worth of work for our members, including pipelines, dams, highways and bridges. Thank you Brian for your hard work and commitment as a proud Operating Engineer. Your dedication has not only strengthened our Local but has also paved the way for future success. We wish you all the best in your retirement years.

In November, we started negotiations with Union Tractor in Chilliwack. This sets the tone for the upcoming year, as several Collective Agreements will be up for renewal. As many of you know I have been encouraging you to continue getting to know your agreements and to think about 'what's working' and 'what could use improvement'. Understanding

your agreement not only gives you more power but also helps us at the negotiating table. Thanks to your feedback, the shop stewards and I were able to ensure that your voices were heard.

This year, we held crew meetings with members at John Deere Specialty Products, Westerra Equipment, Harrigan Rentals, Coastal Mountain Fuels, Fuelex Energy, Union Tractor, and Williams Machinery. Your feedback has really helped me understand the day-to-day challenges you face and what matters most to you.

While we've had some challenges, including grievances, I'm happy to report that many have been resolved successfully—whether it's about pay, overtime, layoffs, or terminations. Keep reaching out with your concerns as we work together to uphold our agreements.

Thank you, and enjoy the holiday season! 🍁

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- Site Ready



First Collective Agreement bargaining ongoing

I'd like to thank all Operating Engineers for the work they've done in building our province over the last 12 months. We've all had an extremely busy year with lots of hours coming

in through all industries. I've had the privilege of getting to know our members in the crane and pile driving industries and also spent a lot of my time visiting your job sites and was proud to see our members hard at work. It has been a busy fall season for pile driving, in particular the commencement of the AltaGas Ridley Island Propane Export Terminal in Prince Rupert with Vancouver Pile Driving. At the time of writing, I am preparing the proposal sheets for our members in the pile driving industry and by the time this is printed we should expect our proposals to be in and our bargaining committee selected.

I am bargaining the first Collective Agreement with Business Representative Curtis Laverty for GFL Landfills in Kamloops. President Bryan Railton and I are also in full swing bargaining the first Collective Agreements for Konecranes and Amix Marine Services.

Our new organizing truck has been racking up the kilometres, with ongoing organizing drives and member events throughout the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island. We achieved the first successful top-down organizing drive with the new truck on its inaugural visit to 49th Parallel Crane and Rigging earlier in the fall. They are a smaller crane rental company based out of Coombs which is now a signatory to the Crane Rental Agreement.

Congratulations to Business Manager Brian Cochrane on his retirement announcement. It's an honour to have you as a mentor and I want to thank you for all that you have done for our members over the last three decades, and in particular the education you have imparted to all staff to ensure that this Local remains strong!

Stay warm, busy and safe out there. See you on the job soon! 🍁



Members from Vancouver Pile Driving hard at work.



Vancouver Pile Driving crew working on No. 4 Derrick off the Esquimalt Nation Harbour.



Mammoet open house showcasing their new Abbotsford location.



Top down organizing drive success, new signatory joins

As we slide into the darkness of winter, we may still find light in the successes of our organizing. Workers are wanting to unionize and become a part of our Union. Even though organizing a company through a worker-driven bottom-up approach is not without its difficulties, workers are still engaging and seeing the power that solidarity can wield.

I'd like to welcome our newest signatory contractor, 49th Parallel Crane and Rigging Inc. Organized in one day on the maiden voyage of our new organizing truck. They are located in Coombs with four mobile cranes serving all of Vancouver Island. The owner is a member that sees the benefits of a Collective Agreement. 49th Parallel is signatory via a Letter of Understanding to the Crane Rental Agreement. Welcome aboard to Local 115 and we look forward to representing these new members and

dispatching members to help 49th Parallel build its business in the future.

Organizing drives continue

We are hard at work with several organizing drives throughout the province, with a major one in the waste industry. This company pays below industry average, pushes excessive overtime on their employees just to keep their business running, and continually skirts equipment safety issues. Educating workers on how their workplace can be improved through unionization can be tough. Many do not want to cause upset by pushing back on anti-union ways of thinking, which can be prevalent and encouraged at non-union companies. It takes sustained commitment from our inside organizers employed at a company like this to break through these anti-union sentiments and overcome fear of speaking out. Our organizing department can stand outside a gate and shout our Local's praises all we like, but it often takes a co-worker speaking the same message and leading by example to have fellow employees truly listen. We know that with this continued effort, from both the inside and out, we can eventually see success and certification of this company and companies alike.

This, in light of recent tower crane incidents, is a fundamental reason why we continue to actively organize the tower crane industry. Our lobbying efforts have helped shape the new safety regulations put in place by the NDP provincial government, but they are not enough. We are educating workers on what their workplace rights are, the safety practices that every job site must adhere to, and the necessary training needed. Employers are not often happy to see us coming on site and raising these issues, but the workers are. This agitation should lead to safer working conditions and less of these terrible incidents. Because going home safe at the end of the day is not a privilege, it is every worker's right.

Inspirational leadership

Lastly, we would like to give the greatest of thanks to our retiring Business Manager Brian Cochrane. From his start as an organizer with our Local, to his very successful tenure as our leader, Brian has always been a vocal advocate for improving working conditions through organizing the unorganized. His enthusiasm is contagious and has set a tone for our organizing department that will continue on once he retires. "Organize or die" is a motto that he has taught us to embrace, and we are not planning on dying anytime soon. 🍁



Early mornings organizing in the Fraser Valley.



Island members working to address the cost of living

As we approach a busy year of bargaining across all sectors in District 2, we are committed to addressing the challenges our members face. By the time you read this, we hope to have

concluded negotiations with the District of Port Hardy and to be reviewing proposals from our members at Hub City Paving and Waste Connections in Victoria.

Wages will be at the forefront of our bargaining agenda. While this is always a priority, the past few years have seen wages struggle to keep pace with inflation and the rising cost of living on Vancouver Island. Recent reports highlight that Vancouver Island has the fastest-rising cost of living in Canada, with Victoria ranking among the top three most expensive cities. Addressing this disparity will be a key focus in our negotiations.

In our discussions with Waste Connections Victoria, we aim to align their agreement with the North Island agreement. This effort to merge the two agreements is intended to create a stronger, more unified bargaining unit. The solidarity within this group is truly impressive and serves as a testament to our collective strength.

I had the privilege of attending the Tradeswomen Build Nations conference alongside Sister Leanne Hughf and three delegates from our Local. This year, the event took place in New Orleans, Louisiana, and it was the world's largest gathering of building trades members, with over 5,000 delegates in attendance.

Tradeswomen from across North America came together at this event to inspire one another, share challenges and

triumphs, and discuss current issues facing the trades and how to overcome them. This year, the conference heavily focused on the American election and its implications for the building trades. It emphasized the critical role politics plays in our ability to organize, and maintain a labour code that protects workers, uphold safety standards that ensure we return home to our families each day, and secure fair wages.

Many repeat delegates have shared that this conference recharges their motivation to push forward and inspire others to employ women and support them entering the trades. The workshops provided were relevant to the issues facing tradeswomen, including sessions on mental health and suicide prevention.

A special thank you to Business Manager Brian Cochrane for joining us and for his continued support of this incredible event.

As I sign off from District 2, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Business Manager Brian Cochrane on his upcoming and well-deserved retirement. I am grateful for Brian's support and mentorship. It has been an honour to be part of the strong team he has built, positioning Local 115 for continued success.

I cannot emphasize enough that the Local is in the strongest position it has ever been, and we are committed to carrying on Brian's legacy. His leadership has set a solid foundation for our future, and we look forward to building upon the remarkable progress we have achieved under his guidance. 🍁



Local 115 delegates at the Tradeswomen Build Nations conference in New Orleans, LA.



Brothers Dale Bohn, Len Dakin, Scott McBryde from Uplands Contracting working on the John Hart Dam Siesmic Upgrade.



100 years later, Black Bridge Memorial honours workers

Everyone here in District 3 would like to congratulate Business Manager and IUOE General Vice-President Brian Cochrane on his retirement announcement.



We are both excited and bittersweet about Brian's retirement. After many years of tireless service, Brian set a high bar when it came to advocacy for workers' rights and safety. His remarkable legacy will be that of a leader who always put the membership ahead of his own needs.

Brian's leadership has been instrumental in fostering a culture of safety and professionalism within our Union and beyond. His unwavering commitment to ensuring that all members received the training and support they needed has significantly improved our Local and its ability to set the example for our craft.

Under Brian's leadership, the Union has grown exponentially in every category, from our membership exploding to over 14,000 members to the pension plan now worth upwards of \$1.6 billion. Brian's ability to successfully lobby our governments both federally and provincially has resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars worth of work for our members and their families.

Brother Cochrane was also instrumental in securing desperately needed labour code changes like card check and the summer raid windows which gave us the tools we use today to fight rat unions like CLAC and their anti-union contractors. He has also helped secure millions of dollars in grant money from the federal government to purchase top-of-the-line equipment for training our members at our world-class training facility in Maple Ridge.

As we bid farewell to Brian, we want to express our deepest gratitude for his years of hard work and passion. He has not only been a mentor and a leader but also a true advocate for every member of our Union. We wish him all the best in this new chapter of his life.

Please join us in celebrating Brian's contributions and wishing him a happy and fulfilling retirement!

As we move into winter in District 3 we look back on what was a busy year and look forward to many opportunities to come for members in 2025. But before the work can begin for 2025, now is a great time to take

advantage of all the training the Union has to offer at our Maple Ridge training site or the International Training and Education Center in Crosby, Texas.

For more information on training, please visit iuoe115.ca or contact the IUOETA at 604-291-8831.

On the bargaining front, we are set to ratify agreements with the Village of Cache Creek, GFL Landfills in Kamloops, Armstrong, Vernon and Lumby, and Cantex Mining at the HVC mine in Logan Lake. We are wrapping up negotiations for the Project Labour Agreement that covers the expansion of the Hyland Valley Copper Dam in Logan Lake. This will be a tremendous opportunity for our members and the amount of work needed to be done is large in scope and could be upwards of \$1.6 billion.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and organized the Black Bridge Memorial held on October 6th in Kamloops. It was a sombre yet inspiring event, as so many people from all walks of life came together to remember Patrick Fardy and John Walstrom, the two Ironworkers who lost their lives during the construction of the Black Bridge in Kamloops 100 years ago to the day. Special thanks to Brother and Kamloops Heritage Commission member, Jeff Lodge and IUOE Local 115 President Bryan Railton for their involvement.

From all of us in District 3 stay safe, stay warm and enjoy the holidays! 🍁



President Bryan Railton speaking at the 100 Year Memorial Ceremony for the Black Bridge Collapse.



Current and future pipeline breakdown for BC

We would like to acknowledge the announcement of Business Manager Brian Cochrane and his upcoming retirement.



Brother Cochrane has worked tirelessly in multiple positions at Local 115 ensuring a strong future for Operating Engineers. Brian is leaving a huge legacy, having delivered some incredible milestones for the organization including the highest membership, two pension increases and better benefits for our members, to name just a few.



Congratulations Brian and we wish nothing but the best for you in your future endeavors, wherever your motorbike takes you.

With the Site C Generating Station and Spillway project nearing completion and the reservoir finally filling, we can look back at all the work that the Operating Engineers have done on-site with pride. With the ups

and downs of the project throughout its construction there is one thing that can be said for sure and that is, it was built Union!

The shops in the area are as busy as always, without our heavy duty technicians and partspersons Districts 4 and 5 would grind to a halt. We would like to acknowledge all the work that is done inside and outside of the shops keeping



Site C project work is nearly complete and has begun generating power.

Image courtesy of BC Hydro

the trucks running and the equipment working. Thank you all for your hard work, professionalism, and for being exemplary Operating Engineers.

The paving season is coming to an end as the weather gets colder. Lafarge and Pittman Asphalt have been working through all the different weather patterns that the North has to offer, giving the Prince George and surrounding area roads a much needed facelift this summer.

Wishing you all a safe and happy New Year! 🍁

Pipeline breakdown throughout BC:

TC Energy – Coastal GasLink (CGL)

- 670 kilometres 48" pipeline (Dawson Creek to Kitimat)
- \$14.5 billion
- Mechanical completion achieved October 2023
- Cleanup activities are underway with overall project completion expected in Q4 2024
- Transports natural gas to LNG Canada export facility in Kitimat to customers across the Pacific

Enbridge – Aspen Point Program

- 18 kilometres of 24" to 36" pipeline (Fort St. John)
- \$1.9 billion
- CER regulatory application submitted Q1 2024
- Construction target date Q2 2025
- In-service target date Q4 2026

Enbridge – Sunrise Expansion Program

- More than 137 kilometres 42" pipeline (Chetwynd to Chilliwack)
- \$3.6 billion
- CER regulatory application submitted Q2 2024
- Construction target date Q2 2026
- In-service target date Q4 2028
- Upgrades of compression and metering stations

NW Infrastructure LP Prince Rupert Gas Transmission Project

- 900 kilometres of 48" pipeline (Chetwynd to Pearse Island)
- \$6 billion
- BCEAO approval received in Q4 2014
- Construction is estimated to begin in Q2 2026
- In-service target date of 2029
- The project coincides with the Ksi Lisims LNG export facility with an estimated cost of \$10 billion



Union recommends members reject agreement at Line Creek

Elk Valley Resources at Line Creek Operations (LCO) has presented the Bargaining Committee with a document to take to the membership for voting. The committee is recommending not accepting this offer and we are expecting a strong “NO” vote. We will return to the negotiation table after the vote with a strong mandate from the membership at LCO. Voting dates are scheduled for the end of October.

The BC Mining and Reclamation Code review continues to gain much needed language amendments to reflect the rapid changes in the evolution of mining in our province. A tremendous amount of time and energy has been put into ensuring our members working in mines are properly protected while on site. We will continue to push for necessary improvements that benefit our membership.

The Jaffray overhead and bridge project with Emil Anderson continues to move along with minor setbacks but is still looking to be completed in a timely fashion. Preparations for the upcoming round of negotiations with Maxam Explosives will begin

in the fall with proposal sheets going out to the membership shortly, in order to begin bargaining with the employer before the end of this year.

On behalf of the District 6 office, we want to congratulate Business Manager Brian Cochrane on his retirement. Through the years Brother Cochrane has been instrumental in the many challenges the Local has taken on concerning safety, projects, training, and not to mention the political side of the coin. The Local will miss his impact and presence. Thanks to his thoughtful leadership, the Local union has the tools to continue to evolve, thrive and grow with the new team we have in place.

Thank you, Brother, for always being in our corner. Happy Holidays to all of you, from all of us. 🍁

Health, Safety and
Reclamation Code
for Mines in
British Columbia

Ministry of
Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation
Victoria, British Columbia
Revised April 2024



The Jaffray overhead and bridge project with Emil Anderson

Image courtesy of B.C.
Ministry of Transportation
and Infrastructure

Tool Allowance

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The Operating Engineers Tool Allowance provides reimbursements for tool expenditures for heavy duty mechanics, serviceperson, millwrights, and welders.

To qualify, you must be a member in good standing, dispatched in the trade in which you are applying for and have worked a minimum of 250 hours between Sept. 1, 2023 and Aug. 31, 2024 for an employer who contributed to this fund.

Applications were sent out to qualifying members in the second week of October and the deadline for submissions is December 31, 2024. If you qualify for this allowance but have not received your application, or have any questions, please contact the Training Association at 604-291-8831.



BC announces mobile and tower crane to become compulsory trades

Back in the early 2000s under the former BC Liberal government, they decided to de-regulate several trades, including the removal of all compulsory trades. That meant

that you no longer required training or were required to complete an apprenticeship to work in trades like electrical, mechanics, and crane operators. BC was now the only province in Canada that did not have any compulsory trades and was the laughing stock of the country.

On top of the de-regulation of the trades, the province made the damaging decision to dissolve the Industry Training and Apprenticeship Commission (ITAC). This was originally the organization that oversaw the entire BC apprenticeship system including certification. ITAC went from 16 offices around the province to one central office in Burnaby and went from 116 staff down to 12. This poor decision essentially shut down the apprenticeship system in BC. To this day we still feel the effects of that decision with the mass shortage of skilled workers in the province.

To correct the errors of the previous government, an NDP-led government in 2021 announced the decision to re-introduce compulsory trades under the banner of Skilled Trades Certification. The initial trades that were approved to have this status were as follows: gasfitter A & B, refrigeration, sheet metal worker, steamfitter/pipefitter, construction electrician, industrial electrician, powerline technician, automotive mechanic, autobody and collision technician, and heavy duty equipment technician.



Level 1 Mobile Crane class. L-R: Karly Desjardins, Daniel Kuchak, Nicholas Robinson (bottom), Stefan Storz, Scott Hemphill, Kevin Montgomery, and Instructor Brad Heddle.

To further expand trades with this designation, the government opened up the opportunity for us to apply to have further trades added in the Spring of 2023. With the support of our contractor community and BC Crane Safety, we submitted applications to add mobile crane and tower crane as compulsory trades.

I am happy to announce that in early September, Assistant Business Manager Josh Towsley and I met with the Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills, Lisa Beare and former MLA Bob D'Eith at our training site where they gave us the good news that our applications were approved.

Later that month we received official notice from SkilledTradesBC that both trades had been approved and will now enter the next phase of the process towards implementation.

With both mobile crane and tower crane operators becoming compulsory trades, apprentices will now have a clear understanding and pathway of what steps will be required to compete to achieve their full certification. This decision will go a long way at improving the safety and qualifications of crane operators.

Kelly Bickerton

On December 4th, Kelly Bickerton officially resigned as a Director of the IUOE Local 115 Training Association. Kelly was appointed as a Management Director of the IUOETA in February of 2009.

During more than 15 years, Kelly was able to witness some major changes in the growth of the IUOETA. Kelly's contributions played a big part in providing positive direction and advice so that we could continue to meet the needs of both our membership and the industry.

Kelly's experience from B&B Contracting gave us the insight needed from the industry's perspective about what training was needed and the importance of not only staying current with technology but also thinking ahead of how technology will be changing the way we do business.

On behalf of the IUOETA Board of Directors, we would like to thank you for your service and would like to wish you all the best in your retirement.



IUOETA Director
Kelly Bickerton

Tool Allowance

The Operating Engineers Tool Allowance provides reimbursements for tool expenditures for heavy duty mechanics, servicepersons, millwrights, and welders. To qualify, you must be a member in good standing, dispatched in the trade in which you are applying and have worked a minimum of 250 hours between September 1, 2023 and August 31, 2024 for an employer who has contributed to this fund.

Applications were sent out to qualifying members in October and the deadline for submissions is December 31, 2024. If you qualify for this allowance but have not received your application, or have any questions, please contact the Training Association at 604-291-8831. 🍁



Sister Raquel Bouwmeester with daughter and future OE Sophie, being presented with her Mobile Crane Operator Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal endorsement by Shop Steward Richard Bates. Raquel completed her entire apprenticeship while working at LaPrairie Crane.



Daniel Dennis being presented with his Truck and Transport Mechanic BC Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal endorsement by Training Coordinator Travis Woolford. Daniel finished his Apprenticeship working with the Pacific Coast Heavy Truck Group.



Vladimir Djuric of Oxford Builders Supplies being presented with his Millwright BC Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal endorsement by Training Coordinator Steve Ervin.



Ryan Hawley being presented with his Mobile Crane Operator Certificate of Qualification with Red Seal endorsement by Training Coordinator Gian Grewal. Ryan did his entire apprenticeship while working at Mega Cranes.



Heavy Equipment Operator class L-R: Instructor Don Davidson, Clare Marshall, Jory Mosser, Erick Ouchterlony, and Dennis Cramer.



Fall Protection course with employees from Traxxon Rock Drills. L-R: Cameron MacMillan, Imran Awan, Chris Quinn, Nathan Fengler, Lloyd Jenkinson, Tony Bagaric, and Instructor Hernan Lama.



It's Official!!

The Chairperson of the Board, Brian Cochrane is retiring March 1st. It is not often that I use the term "end of an era" but here we are.

The accomplishments that Brother Cochrane has had on the Pension and Benefits Plans are many. I am not going to get into all of that here as the annual Pension and Benefits magazine will be coming out before Christmas and I want to save some of what I have to say for that time.

"The Pension Plan continues in a very healthy state"

2023 and 2024 were both stellar years for the Pension and Benefits Plans and our members. With many of the projects wrapping up we have seen a decrease in the hours and contributions coming in. There were \$30.5 million in contributions and 6.0 million hours worked up to the end of September. These represent year-to-date decreases of 23.3% and 15.8%, respectively, compared to September 2023. The average contribution rate for the fiscal year 2025 was \$5.06 per hour (a decrease of 5.78% from the average for the entire fiscal year 2024). We can attribute this directly to the pipeline work and some of the other large projects with the higher contribution rates.

The Pension Plan continues in a very healthy state, and the Trustees are meeting to discuss changes that would lower the investment risk to the Plan. We are only able to



Work on large projects like Site C and pipeline work helped grow the Pension and Benefit Plans.

Image courtesy of BC Hydro

do this because of the solid footing that the Plan stands on. Any of these changes will have no effect on how, you as the members, see the Plan but will have an effect on our investment allocations. This will protect the Plan even further while also giving the Trustees the flexibility to give well thought out, sustainable increases in the future.

I would like to remind members that if there has been any change in your family status such as a new child or you got married, please contact our office as soon as possible to make those updates to prevent any interruption in your coverage.

Work safe, play safe, be safe! 🍁

New number? New email?

If we don't have your new email address and phone number, how can we get in touch with you regarding dispatch for work, receiving tax receipts, pensions & benefits, and publications?

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Make sure you give the Local your new address and contact information.
Phone us at 604.291.8831 or toll-free at 1.888.486.3115 or email iuoe@iuoe115.ca



The evolution of the construction industry includes automation

Equipment manufacturers are offering a range of fully automated, operator-assist, and remote-control technologies for numerous applications.

Autonomous construction machines

are under development and advancing quickly. On-road construction, from the pit, through construction, finishing off the road, and ongoing maintenance; automation and Artificial Intelligence will be working with Operators, now and into the future.

Not only are we seeing automation at large mine sites like Suncor's Millennium mine, which expects to have 91 automated haul trucks running day to day by 2025, but aggregate mines are also starting to see this technology introduced. Many manufacturers are focused on construction where they say automation and remote operation will improve safety and productivity.

Let's take a moment to imagine a highway project of the (near?) future....

If you start at the beginning, the aggregate is processed and loaded by an autonomous loader at the mine or pit and then reaches the job site in an automated dump truck. It drives past mobile safety cone robots, coordinated and networked by remotely piloted aircraft systems (drones), a swarm of autonomously moving pylons (cone robots) with object recognition sensors ensuring a safe distance from moving traffic. An automated dozer is finishing some subgrade work, followed by a grader using automated grade control. To get ready for paving, automated packers are synchronized and working through the night in tight precision.

It's time to lay the asphalt and Austria-based Strabag has its autonomous paver on the job. The machine also features object recognition sensors and a global navigation satellite system (GNSS) which refers to any satellite constellation that provides global positioning, navigation, and timing services to keep it on the right course.

Next, you see a fleet of Volvo autonomous finish rollers. These units can work together and communicate not only between each unit but also with other pieces of equipment on the site and even the batch plant. The machines survey the job site, report on the conditions of the mat — things like density, temperature and passes — and determine when and where to compact.

Following paving, small autonomous, three-wheeled robots with paint tanks will mark the road.

An interesting thing you notice is that while the automated paver is creating 'smart roads', it has a newly developed

attachment that integrates a sensor-equipped fibre optic cable directly into the surface course during paving. Along with temperature and movement sensors, they feedback information about the load on the asphalt during use.

The value of embedded sensor technology is that it may predict maintenance and repair before cracks even appear. Once cracks or potholes are detected, a mobile robot with a 3D print head could be deployed: The robot will use its 3D print head to autonomously repair potholes and cracks with a cold asphalt mixture.

The role of the heavy duty equipment technician and truck and transport mechanic will continue to evolve. It will be a struggle to keep up with the changes. One area that stands out is Artificial Reality as a means to share expert knowledge more quickly and deliver the remote support and training needed to get equipment back up and running faster.

The IUOE is quietly and quickly preparing the next generation of Operating Engineers to become skilled at 'running' and repairing autonomous equipment of the future. To that end, we partnered with Built Robotics, which retrofits equipment to run autonomously. IUOE General President, James T. Callahan says, "Together with Built Robotics, we have pioneered a model of engagement between the Union and advanced technology providers to give our members continued opportunities to learn and develop their careers."

As part of the agreement, the IUOE and Built Robotics will continue training robotic equipment operators (REOs) on their autonomous construction equipment.

Built Robotics will be supporting the next generation of IUOE members through its matching program. For every hour of work performed by one of Built Robotics' autonomous construction equipment, the company will contribute \$1.00 to the IUOE National Training Fund. 🍁

IUOE Training for coming innovations

The IUOE Training Center in Crosby, Texas offers training on a new robotic Caterpillar 336 excavator. The excavator uses a high-powered computer, motion and angle sensors, and a laser scanner called a LiDAR (commonly used in self-driving cars) to perform some of the work the Center trains operators to do, such as digging trenches for gas pipelines.

The excavator is the result of a partnership between the IUOE and Built Robotics, a San Francisco startup.



Celebrating our members



Siegfried Baum receives his 60-year membership award.



Jack Webb receives his 60-year membership award.



Financial Secretary Brian Haugen presenting 60-year membership award to William Elphinstone.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 60-year membership award to Asaph Ginte.



Business Representative Brian Lefebvre presenting 50-year membership award to Murray Case.



Robert Stenberg receives his 40-year membership award.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 30-year membership award to Reginald Hicks.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 20-year membership award to Chris Campbell.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 20-year membership award to Mark Jordison.

Celebrating our members



Vice President Wayne Kemp presenting 10-year membership award to Shawn Kirouac.



Vice President Wayne Kemp presenting 10-year membership award to Ernest Morven.



Vice President Wayne Kemp presenting 10-year membership award to Greg Wickstrom.



Vice President Wayne Kemp presenting 10-year membership award to Marcel Bachand.



Vice President Wayne Kemp presenting 10-year membership award to Francesco Apa.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 10-year membership award to Rylan McKimm.

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LOCAL 115

On the job site and during the holidays
ThinkSafety* (It isn't just a slogan, it's a way of life.)

Welcome to our 263 new members

July to September 2024

Jace Abriel	Ryan Coupal	Sean Harriott	Vasyl Ludzian
Brad Adam	Laurence Coxon	T-Jay Harris	Chase MacKinnon
Darryl Adcock	Carl Crawford	Corey Haughian	Clifford MacLean
Benipal Amandeep	Carson Croisetiere	Cole Hedden	Crystal MacQuarrie
Oleksandr Anastasov	Robyn Daignault	Bryan Hemmink	Camille Mark
Marcus Appenheimer	Dyllon Dalke	Pascal Henri	Brayden Martin
Brandon Ariss	Baron Danish	Jordan Henry	Phil Martin
Jamie Arnold	Bernard De Jong	Lucas Hinton	Ryan Martin
Sarah Atkins	Scott Decasmoker	Kenny Hodgins	Hayden Marx
Jesse Bailey	Omelan Decyk	Charles Hollingsworth	Desmond Mashinter
Cole Barber	Larry Defehr	Noah Howie	Mario Matanovic
Colt Barber	Stephen Depow	Braydon Hutchings	Parker McBurnie
Raffi Barsoumian	William Derksen	Geoffrey Hutchison	Logan McComber
Dalton Battye	Ekam Dhaliwal	Clint Hutley	Stephen McKay
Wade Beauchamp	Gurtej Singh Dhaliwal	Mohammed Imraz	Kevin McKee
Christopher Bennett	Sukhdeep Dhaliwal	Michael Inglis	Nicholas McKenna
Ryan Berfelo	Denis Dion	Kevin Jack	James McKinnon
Troy Binsted	Greg Dixon	Nathan Jackson	Colton McLachlan
Julian Bliss	Cleary Donnelly	Kolbe Jacobsen	Scott McMurtry
Kyle Bogath	Alexander Doyle	Davinder Johal	Roberto Mispireta
Jagjeet Bola	Cole Dumont	Manjeet Johal	Michael Mitu
Jaron Bootsma	Aislyn Durham	Matthew Johnson	Robert Moore
Henry Bosch	Jamie Eaves	Mebin Kaitharath Biju	Dante Morandin
Austin Bosma	Stacey Eddy	Simrandeep Kang	Brandon Moskaluk
Kyle Bousfield	Jared Elliott	Troy Kastes	Dave Murphy
Dean Boyko	Cameron Fairholm	Liam Kavanagh	Keifer Murphy
Cormac Bradshaw	Donovan Faithful	Ryan Keckalo	John Murray
Andrew Budd	Logan Favel	Fetno Kemo	Devin Noble
William Buhler	Geoffrey Finnigan	Christopher Kendrick	Ryan Noble
Michael Burgin	Mike Florkevich	Stephen Kerr	Joelle Nontell
Amin Bushe	Trevor Foldy	Denis Kondrashin	Joshua Northrup
Mason Cady	Dacian Fournier	Derek Kootte	Dakota Olsen
Colton Canuel	Kian Fournier	Jeremy Kornelsen	David Olson
Kirk Casselman	Kwame Francis	Rebecca Krueger	Kasey-Lee Park
Brycen Chambers	Brandon Freayh	Noah Krulitsky	Davinderjit Parmar
Kliff Chanco	Steve George	Geoff Kuehnle	Steve Pearson
Nicki Chartrand	Gaurav Gill	Dennis Labrador	Darcy Peat
Clinton Chassive	Joey Gillespie	Daniel Leclerc	Matthew Perkins
Jagroup Cheema	Dean Gmur	Ashar Legault	Norell Pierre
Cody Clark	Krishnil Gounder	James Legrow	Hunter Plathan
Warren Clayton	Ecron Jones Goygoyan	Alexander Lerosé	Crystal Plummer
Matthew Collins	Austin Gray	Brian Lihou	Clayton Pool
Jacob Colt	Andy Guinanao	Jason Linge	Levi Procee
Alexander Cooper	Joe Hall	Dorean Loverock	Kevi Ray Pucyas

Welcome to our 263 new members

July to September 2024

Logan Radstaak	Ryan Sriver	Rakshpal Sra	Geoffrey Walsh
Raul Ramirez	Kristopher Semaginis	Leonard Stacey	Finlay Wang
James Ready	Shubham Sharma	Jesse Stralak	Roy Wang
Mario Reece	Puneet Sharma	Dylan Stralak	Nathaniel Ward
Connor Reid	Stephen Shaw	Austin Strinholm	Adalynn Webb
Abrajahm Reyes	Thomas Shaw	Christiano Suraci	Russell White
Tyler Rice	Clint Shields	Kyra Surry	Kieth Whitecotton
Nicolas Richardson	Kimberly Shortreed	Ronald Suvee	Pablo Wilkinson
Dylan Roberts	Sukhvir Sidhu	Kevin Sylvester	Jordan Wilson
Scott Roberts	Tracey Sieg	Kelsey Taylor	Jada Wilson
Cameron Robertson	Harmanpreet Singh	Travis Taylor	Colton Wilson
Jason Roche	Kuljeet Singh	Kyle Tolsma	Matthew Wiltzen
Grayson Roth-Myndio	Makhan Singh	Jose Toro Higueta	Jason Winslow
Thomas Roy	Manpreet Singh	Mohammad Totonchi	Gregory Winter
Alexis-Jane Ryan	Pardeep Singh	Marek Trojan	Bronsen Wood
Treena Ryan	Sumeet Singh	Goran Trokicic	Cooper Wood
Cole Salewski	Tejpal Singh	Kelvins Ulmanis	Chase Wright
Timothy Sarchuk	Amritpal Singh	Nathanael Urch	Raed Mohammed Yousef
Kaydin Sartain	Gurjit Singh	Joshua Van Der Zwan	Hasan Zein
Matthew Scheffer	Jason Sjoberg	Hayley Vossler	Egor Zubkov
Brigitte Schepannek	Stephen Somerville	Dax Wagstaff	Brandon Zutz
Robert Schneider	Mitchell Spence	Jagjit Wahid	



Pensions Awarded

July to September 2024

JULY

Mark Allen
Francesco Apa
Jeffrey Baldwin
Terry Bassanese
Roy Calcutt
Michael Christie
Douglas Croisdale
Ronald Gartner
Ronald Grandy
Edwin Guise
Daniel Harder
Timothy Hockin
William Jacobsen
Jon Johnson
Robert Kenny
Robert Lepp

Edwin Lewis
James McMaster
Ernest Oliver
Charles Osborne
Tarsem Phagura
Anthony Prosick
William Ralphs
Dwayne Triggs
Michael Watts
Fredrick White
Michael Wilson
Glenn Wood

AUGUST

Brian Berezowski
Robert Catto
Douglas Couttie

Peter Dereume
Garnet Graham
Tammy Harry
Trevor Johnson
Brad Moore
Thomas More
Claude Robertson
David Vanderberg
John Worsley

SEPTEMBER

John Burton
Donald Cook
Denis Farley
Brent Featherstone
Don Hartford
Glen Imbeau

Kelly Ingwersen
Stephen Joe
Jas Khera
Henrik Kragh
John MacIntyre
Dan Main
Russell McCallum
Shaun McLellan
Lynn Milton
Harold Nand
Clifford Roller
Michael Tyers
Shu Yang
Steve Zibin
Gregory Ziebart

10 years

Renato Aufiero
Darell Baldeo
Randall Baxter
Adam Beaton
Bill Bedell
William Bergen
Ricky Bertrand
Cody-Lynn Bickert
Travis Chin
Daniel Chutskoff
Kenneth Cote
Randall Dawley
Martin Demuth
Clayton Dixon
Erin Dodorico
Nickolas Fabbro
Brock Fell
John Galloway
Ryan Galloway
David Giberson
Brendon Grant
Gian Grewal
Andrew Hellon
David Hughes
Beverly Huppie
Steve Illson
Barry Jackson
Cody Jackson
Rebecca Jackson
Stephen Jennex
Clement Kelly
Jordon Kinnear
Michael Kooistra
Gary Kraft
Neal Latremouille
Russell Lea
Arthur Lebel
Michael Leiper
Michael Lewis
Nathan Lillie
Robert MacDermott
Giordano Marchesini
Jason Marsden
Joseph Marzitelli
Christopher McDonald
Joseph McFadyen

Davor Mlinaric
Shelly Moore
Terrance Nash
Kelly Nieman
Justin Ouillette
Ian Palmantier
Nathaniel Palmer
Darren Penner
Searle Philippe
Kale Pietz
Ronald Roe
Jake Romanchuk
Joe Sabino
Artem Safronov
Jim Salanski
David Setterfield
Nathaniel Shalay
Richard Shaw
Daniel Shellard
Cameron Shukin
Phillip Simpson
Don Skipper
Tyler Smart
Hazen Tanner
Ryan Tipper
Chris Trenholme
Chris Turner
Gerry Van Drimmelen
Gheorghe Vijulie
Simran Virk
Cyril Voykin
Jamain Wallen
Colby Weinrauch
Tyler Whalen
Alan Winchester
Nolan Wold

20 years

Andy Anderson
Roger Armstrong
Greg Baier
Cornelio Baldonero
Bill Bochenko
Scott Boydell
Frank Bracklow
Douglas Braden
David Bremner

Johnny Cabral
Colin Crawford
Raphail Decraene
Gordon Deeley
Kenneth Feist
Robert Fennell
Robert Haddrell
Darren Hill
Kevin Hill
Kerry Inkpen
Thomas Kain
Peter Kaushakis
Jeremy Krutop
Aaron Larocque
Lawrence Lewis
Paul Lowther
Russell Martin
David Massullo
Cameron McGrandle
Andrew Mundie
Lyle Musyowski
Reginald Nixon
John Oelkers
Paul Prefontaine
Kelly Rayne
Ryan Reagh
Emile Ross
Craig Stromberg
Charles Teeple
Hai Tran
Brian Trottier
Robert Turner
Joshua Van Der Zwan
Sidney Verigin
Cary Weller

30 years

Dean Adams
Larry Alger
Robert Baker
Freddy Becvar
Ronald Callies
Doug Cottle
Allen Farkash
Christopher Fast
Aaron Gruber
Barry Hurford

George Leask
Damon Leeson
Mervin Milligan
Leonard Pacholuk
Marc Palmieri
John Peters
Jozef Polak
Jarrod Rankin
David Salter
David Saunders
Gordon Thompson
Randy Vander Zalm
Howard Wootton

40 years

Richard Massy
Patrick McLoughlin
Carmen Pascoe
Clayton Prince
Brian Ralston
Daryl Williamson

50 years

Russ Bryson
Isidoro Ciolfitto
Gary Coulter
John Cowin
Carman Dobbs
Erhard Duesterdiek
John Engelland
James Frost
Richard Gill
Richard Green
John Brian Greer
Alfred Gustafson
Samuel Johnston
Benny Kazakoff

Miles Kennedy
Alvin Lesberg
Mark McLean
Roy McNeil
Wesley Neumeyer
Gary Nicholson
Robert Parker
Edward Pazur
Jerry Smith
Walter Steele
Remo Stefani
Albert Stinson
Ronald Tanner
Douglas Terrie
Luciano Terzariol
Calvin West
Michael White
Robert Wright
Gregory Ziebart

60 years

Paul Arishenkoff
Frank Connor
Burton Cook
Santo Dotto
David Ellison
Allan Halme
Lance Jones
Jim Morrison
Andrew Patterson
Gordon Patterson
John Patton
Dave Pettigrew
Lionel Schilling
Mervil Siegrist
Donald Smith
Herb Storey



In memoriam

Members who have passed away July to September 2024

JULY 2024

Richard Adams
Horst Braun
Ken Hong Chan
Dave Hannis
Donald Hill
Harvey Ledger
Wayne Meyer
Adrian Monks
Gordon Morrow
Wayne Mullen
Mario Palcich
John Peterson
Wayne Salmon
Terry Sharp
Phillip Ulrich

AUGUST 2024

Vernon Ball
Thomas Burke
Doug Clark
Harry Cummins
Fergus Denomey
Frederick Eastman
Robert Goudreau
Peter Heide
Edwin James
Adam Jones
Joseph Martin
Joseph McCann
Garry McGarrigle
Edward Melcosky
Lionel Munson

Jerry Nelson

Fred Pavan

Willis Shore

Wayne Trueman

Martin Urchyshyn

SEPTEMBER 2024

Michael Bezaire

Donald Fairbairn

Robert Haccou

John Doug Hiebert

Robertus Kooi

Arne Lauridsen

Lawrence Melnyk

Michael Prystae

CHANGING FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS?

Receiving direct bank deposits from the OE Pension Plan?

Be sure to provide us with your new account information.

604.291.8831 or toll-free at 1.888.486.3115
email: iuoe@iuoe115.ca

iuoe⁺
LOCAL 115

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: Bryan Railton

Assistant Business Manager: Josh Towsley

Director of Organizing: Bryan Railton

Dispatcher: Kyle Egan, 604.473.5230

Organizing Representatives:

Frank Baratto, 604.312.4227

Derek Jost, 604.831.1559

Cody Poirier, 778.980.1380

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 Gavin Cross Michelle Dey
Brian Haugen Leanne Hughf Sean Maurer John Munro
Will Suelzle Simon Thomsen
Phone: 604.291.8831 Toll free: 1.888.486.3115

District 2

Business Representative:

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 8th Avenue, Prince George, BC, V2M 1N1
Phone: 250.563.3669 Fax: 250.563.3603

District 6

Business Representatives:

Rob Foskett 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
7:30 p.m. at 4333 Ledger Ave., Burnaby
Except March & September due to General Membership Meeting
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 3rd Saturday in March &
September 9:30 a.m. at 4333 Ledger Ave., Burnaby

District 2

Monthly meeting locations alternate:

NANAIMO: 2nd Monday of odd months

6:00 p.m. at the Coast Bastion Hotel, 11 Bastion St.

VICTORIA: 2nd Wednesday of even months

6:00 p.m. at the Pro Patria Legion Branch 292, 411 Gorge Rd. 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

7:30 p.m. at the Union Hall, 785 Tranquille Rd.

KELOWNA: 2nd Thursday of odd months

7:00 p.m. at the Teamsters Hall, 185 Froelich Road

District 4

PRINCE GEORGE: 2nd Wednesday of every month

7:00 p.m. at Coast Inn of the North, 770 Brunswick St.

PRINCE RUPERT, TERRACE, KITIMAT, SMITHERS:

Members will be advised of meeting dates and times.

District 5

Monthly meeting locations alternate:

FORT ST. JOHN: 2nd Tuesday of odd months

7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Hall, 10441 100th Ave.

DAWSON CREEK: 2nd Tuesday of even months

7:30 p.m. at the George Dawson Inn, 11705 8th St.

TUMBLER RIDGE:

Members will be advised of meeting date, time and place.

WHITEHORSE: Members will be advised of meeting date, time and place.

District 6

Monthly meeting locations alternate:

CASTLEGAR: 1st Wednesday of odd months

7:00 p.m. at the Super 8 Inn, 651 18th St.

CRANBROOK: 1st Tuesday of even months

7:00 p.m. at the Labour Centre (Boardroom), 105 9th Ave. South
Teck's Line Creek Operation:

Members will be advised of meeting dates and times.

Please contact your District Office to register for
the next meeting in your location.

rise above.

Fuelling Our Economy with BC Operators



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