

Summer 2025

iuoe[🍁]news

L O C A L 1 1 5

What's inside

- How quickly the world can change
- Federal election outlines government priorities
- Brian Cochrane reflects

LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

BUSINESS MANAGER

Bryan Railton

PRESIDENT

Brian Lefebvre

VICE-PRESIDENT

Wayne Kemp

RECORDING SECRETARY

Brian Haugen

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Leanne Hughf

TREASURER

Josh Towsley

GUARD

Doug Allan

CONDUCTOR

Chris Eden

TRUSTEES

John MacKie

John Munro

Will Suelzle

AUDITORS

Steve Barnicke

Chris Dalziel

Leanne Hughf

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD

1-Kyle Egan

2-Kyla McCormick

3-Brian Lefebvre

4-Matt Baker

5-Konrad Tarry

6-Rob Foscett

Publication Committee

Bryan Railton

Josh Towsley

Layout

Shane Dyson—F2F Communications

IUOE News is the official publication of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 115

Website: iuoe115.ca



Special Features

The legacy of Brian Cochrane and his reflections 6

Reports

Business Manager

How quickly the world can change 3

President

Looking ahead 4

Assistant Business Manager

Federal election outlines government priorities 5

Dispatch

Crane operators in high demand 12

District 1

BCIB projects driving Lower Mainland 14

Paving and utility agreement updates 15

Solidarity and resolve 16

Back to the table with Waste Connections 17

Paving mediation in District 1 17

High engagement from bargaining committees 18

Tycrop bargaining first collective agreement 19

CLRA ratifies new Pile Driving Agreement 20

Organizing

Growing our union is a key priority 21

District 2

Your proposals and dedicated stewards make a difference 22

District 3

Project and bargaining updates 23

Districts 4 and 5

More projects upcoming for ICL 24

District 6

Negotiations continue on several collective agreements 25

Training Association

Skills Canada BC Competitions 26

Benefits and Pension

New OEBPP chairperson 28

Labour History

Tales from the past 29



On the cover

Turntable and ship at Point Hope Maritime.

Photo Credit: Daniel Jillings

Regular Features

30 Celebrating our members

34 Welcome to our new members

35 Pensions Awarded

36 Service Awards

38 In Memoriam

39 IUOE Local 115 Offices



How quickly the world can change

The question is: *how quickly can the world change in just a few short months?*

The answer: *pretty darn fast.*

Chaos south of the border has stirred unease, but it's also brought

Canadians closer together. The recent federal election, one of the most contentious I've seen, reflected that desire for unity and stability. Mark Carney and the Liberal Party have formed government, and while opinions vary, many Canadians clearly saw in Carney a steady hand.

On behalf of IUOE Local 115, I congratulate our new Prime Minister and look forward to continuing our work with the federal government. Our focus remains steadfast: advocating for Operating Engineers, supporting vital programs like the Union Training and Innovation Program, pushing for labour mobility enhancements, and fighting for tax policies that put working people first. Through our Canadian Office in Ottawa, we'll keep pressing for real deliverables for our members — and with this government, that door remains open.

Provincial Outlook and Economic Uncertainty

Back here in BC, our work picture remains steady but signs of a slowdown are emerging. Whether we like it or not, our economic health is tied to our American neighbours. As the United States teeters on the brink of recession (if not already there), we're starting to feel the effects: delayed final investment decisions, nervous general clients, and uncertainty clouding large-scale projects.

Meanwhile, both provincial and federal governments are pushing legislation to fast-track publicly funded infrastructure. These efforts, while controversial, are needed. I understand the perspectives of advocacy and Indigenous groups raising concerns (and we must engage respectfully) but we also need to ensure projects move forward. Uncertainty breeds more uncertainty. Canada must project strength and stability if we're to defend our economic and national sovereignty in the years ahead.

No Matter the Project — Operating Engineers Deliver

Whether it's oil, gas, solar, wind, hydro, or geothermal — when work needs doing, Operating Engineers get it done. From dirt 'til done, IUOE Local 115 members build it with pride and professionalism.

Over the last several months, I've travelled across BC from Terrace to Kitimat, Prince Rupert to Kelowna, and Vancouver Island. Everywhere I go, I see members building the infrastructure that keeps our province moving: LNG Canada's

massive scale, port expansions, hydro dam upgrades, water systems, and disaster response efforts. It's inspiring, and it fills me with pride to shake hands with the people who can say, "I built that."

Strengthening Our Front Lines

We've doubled down on training and outreach, delivering shop steward courses and Pension/Benefit updates across the province. So far, we've covered Districts 1 through 3, with more to come in Districts 4, 5, and 6.

Stewards are our first line of defence and our boots on the ground. It's often a thankless job, but one we deeply value. That's why we hold annual appreciation dinners, and we're working on even more ways to recognize their efforts this year.

We also honour our long-serving and retired members, the ones who built this Union. I've enjoyed joining OE Benefits and Pension Plans Administrator Lee Riggs to bring updates directly to these proud men and women. They never hesitate to remind me of where we came from and how we must protect their legacy.

2025 Training Association Open House

The IUOE Local 115 Training Association Annual Open House in Maple Ridge was a resounding success. Thanks to Brothers Gorham, Miller, the entire Training Site team, our dedicated coordinators, and our incredible member volunteers for pulling out all the stops.

The Raid Period: Time to Tell Our Story

We are once again entering the construction raid period. Too many operators and tradespeople remain trapped in "unions" that don't truly advocate for them; earning less, receiving inferior benefits, and missing out on the full protections they deserve.

But these workers are not our adversaries. They're potential Brothers and Sisters — and they deserve to know they have a choice. I truly believe there's an Operating Engineer on every job site in this province, they just don't know it yet.

So tell your story. Whether it's the pension you've earned, the benefits your family relies on, the grievance we helped resolve, or the training that launched your career — share it. People don't connect to facts alone, they connect to real lives and real experiences.

When your story ends with someone asking, "How can I become a member?," point them to an organizer or business representative. We'll take it from there.

In Solidarity, rise above. 🍁



Looking ahead

As summer arrives in full force, we are already seeing the impacts of a low snowpack and widespread drought conditions across much of British

Columbia. With heightened wildfire risk coming earlier than usual, we are incredibly fortunate to have our dedicated members at Conair Group standing ready. Hats off to the members who do such an admirable job keeping us safe while navigating dangerous and complex airspace.

Upcoming Bargaining with CLR

This year marks the start of a new round of Construction Labour Relations of BC (CLR) bargaining. This includes negotiations under the Crane Rental, Steel Erection, Heavy Industrial, and Heavy Commercial Institutional Agreements.

The process begins with the Bargaining Council of British Columbia Building Trades Unions and all 15 affiliated trades reviewing and finalizing a Protocol Agreement to negotiate with CLR. The Protocol Agreement outlines the framework for both Main Table and Trade Level bargaining. We are currently reaching out to members working under the applicable agreements to gather bargaining proposals. Your input will help shape the priorities for the upcoming negotiations.

Work Outlook

While some major projects are beginning to wind down, the overall level of work remains steady, just not as intense as the peak we experienced over the past five to six years. According to Build Force Canada, we can expect 18 to 24 months of stable construction hours before another significant upswing in non-residential construction activity. Key projects anticipated to launch or ramp up include:

- Cedar LNG
- Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Roberts Bank Terminal 2
- \$18 billion in hospital and school builds/expansions
- George Massey Tunnel Replacement
- BC Hydro's \$36 billion capital plan over the next decade
- Revelstoke Unit 6
- \$3 billion Highland Valley Copper Life Extension
- Kamloops & Nanaimo Cancer Centres

These are core Operating Engineers' projects—work that our members are exceptionally qualified to deliver.

Our consistent performance, commitment to safety, and ability to complete jobs on time and to the highest standards continue to set us apart. To protect and expand these opportunities, we must continue lobbying governments, project owners, and stakeholders to secure Project Labour Agreements (PLAs) and maintain work under our Standard Agreements.

This is where you, the member, can make a difference. Please take the time to speak to your local MP, MLA, Mayor, and City Council about the importance of PLAs in your community. Securing more union work benefits everyone, creating more job opportunities for you and your fellow members.

Executive Board & Trustee Updates

We have recently made some appointments to fill vacancies and ensure continued strength in our leadership:

- Brother Josh Towsley has assumed the role of Treasurer.
- Brother Brian Haugen has moved into the role of Recording Corresponding Secretary.
- Sister Leanne Hughf has taken on the position of Financial Secretary.
- Brother Rob Fosskett has been appointed as a Trustee on the OEBPP Board.

I'm extremely proud of our team. Our Executive Board and Benefits & Pension Plans Trustees are composed of experienced, committed individuals from all sectors of our membership. It's a cohesive, capable group that consistently places members' interests at the forefront of every decision.

Stay safe, and thank you for your continued dedication and hard work. 🍁

Check out WorkSafeBC's
pocket guide
to heat stress



SCAN ME





Federal election outlines government priorities

This spring we saw a federal election held on April 28, 2025. While the result doesn't look all that different than the last election—a Liberal

minority government—it is significantly different than what was expected only a few months before. Pollsters had predicted a Conservative majority government as recently as December 2024, just prior to the resignation of Justin Trudeau.

At that time, some polls showed the Liberals falling to 17% support and third place behind the Conservatives and the NDP. On March 24, 2025, the Liberals elected a new party leader, Mark Carney, former head of the Bank of Canada and the Bank of England, and the polls started to shift immediately.

In the new session of Parliament, the Liberals hold 169 seats, the Conservatives hold 144, and the NDP fell to 7 seats, landing in 4th behind the Bloc Québécois, who won 22. The NDP have fallen short of the 12 seats needed to maintain official party status for the first time since 1993. Their leader resigned on Election Day, and the party needs a complete review of their policies to better understand why they failed to connect with working-class Canadians.

While there is some uncertainty about how Prime Minister Carney may lead the country and how (or whether) he is different than Justin Trudeau, one thing is for certain: this election was affected by the politics in the United States. Whether we agree with the choice Canadians made or not, many voted on who they saw as

best equipped to stand up to President Donald Trump. Elections aren't that simple, they involve party platforms (promises) that outline what Canadians should expect from the government. The Liberals made promises to Canadians and how they would support working people, and your union intends to make sure that they deliver on those promises.

Here are some of the promises made:

- New Apprenticeship Grant of up to \$8,000
- Double the funding in the Union Training and Innovation program from \$25 million to \$50 million and allow for support of “bricks and mortar” infrastructure
- Improve labour mobility and expand the Labour Mobility Tax Deduction
- Launch new training initiatives for workers affected by tariffs
- Construct new infrastructure such as railways, ports, airports, and highways
- Prioritizing Canadian businesses when the Government of Canada makes purchases

If the government follows through on their promises, we should see an increased amount of infrastructure construction, putting our members to work. We should also see improved opportunities to train the next generation of Operating Engineers. Your union will push this government to live up to their promises and deliver for members of Local 115. We'll push for infrastructure funded by the federal government to be constructed using Project Labour Agreements, ensuring that Canadians generally and IUOE Local 115 members specifically build our infrastructure.

In order to accomplish anything, the Liberal MPs will need the support of at least two MPs from another party. Working-class Canadians must make their voices heard by all parties to make it clear that they must support legislation that benefits workers. I encourage you to call your MP regardless of their political party and tell them what is important to working people. 🍁



Photo Credit: Kailee Fortin



GRIT

The legacy of Brian Cochrane and his reflections on leadership for Operating Engineers

Throughout his remarkable career, Brian Cochrane has been a steadfast advocate for workers, pushing tirelessly to improve labour rights and safety standards across British Columbia. From his early days representing workers in the waste industry, where he faced fierce opposition from powerful multinational companies, to his pivotal role in securing crane safety regulations after tragic incidents, Cochrane's leadership has been defined by grit and an unwavering commitment to workers. His battles went beyond improving working conditions—he also fought to change legislation, secure better wages, and defend workers' rights against systemic challenges. The campaigns at Kemess Mine and Royal Oak Mines, his role in the introduction of single-step certification, and his decades of relentless lobbying efforts against the BC Liberal government's regressive policies are what make for a lifetime trade unionist. As Cochrane reflects on his legacy, it is clear that his contributions have left a lasting impact on IUOE Local 115 and remain a pillar of workers' rights in British Columbia.

Organizing Workers, Empowering Change

From leading community rallies to organizing waste industry workers, Cochrane's career highlights the effectiveness of grassroots mobilization. His experience with events like the 1994 hot dog fundraiser demonstrates how small, community-driven actions can build momentum for larger labour victories.

Cochrane recalls his early career, where representing members and filing grievances against waste companies from the U.S. in their first foray into BC involved many growing pains.

“Coming from a right-to-work state like South Carolina, companies like Wastech and Kedon Waste Services didn’t really like our labour laws.”

Waste industry members initially lost certification in November 1991 and made an application in February 1993 under Bill 84, securing a 90% strike mandate to speed up negotiations. Around the same time, Wastech spent nearly \$200,000 in legal fees, which Cochrane described at the time as a “rat-bag employer,” just to fight his collective agreement. The company despised him for seeking to raise members’ average pay from \$7 to \$15 per hour. However, the one company that stood out and helped fortify Cochrane’s commitment to workers was Kedon Waste Services.

Kedon Waste Services marked Cochrane’s first Section 55 (first collective agreement mediation) of his career. This company was notorious for committing 20 unfair labour practices—the most Cochrane had ever heard of from one company. He says they completely ignored the labour code, unfairly terminated members without cause, and ran their site with scabs, even while Cochrane and the workers awaited the results of their LRB hearings.

He said the long, drawn-out battle was extremely tough on the workers in Maple Ridge and their families but he never once relented in his pressure and commitment to the members. “You hate to see it go down that way, but those workers were tough and put up with a lot of terrible stuff. The only thing a business representative can do in a situation like that is support them.” That included a Maple Ridge Hot Dog BBQ Fundraiser to raise money for workers who had been terminated without cause, while he worked to get their jobs back, he says.

His commitment eventually paid off. In the picture below he has a big grin, which he says reflects the relief and commitment he made to the workers and the victory he achieved over the company when he hand-delivered



Business Representative Brian Cochrane early in his career, presents member Marlene Goetz of Kedon Waste Services with a cheque following a unfair labour practice that he won.



Brian Cochrane visits with members working on a pipeline project in BC.

the workers’ cheques with their lost wages.

His tough approach was never more on display than when he pushed back on the lack of crane safety and stood up for workers following deaths and injuries suffered on industrial sites. Brian Cochrane’s career-long push to improve crane safety began in the early 2000s, alongside then-Business Manager Gary Kroeker. In many meetings with several BC Liberal governments, they demanded stronger crane certification and regulation. He says, because the deregulation of the industry by the BC Liberals directly led to multiple close calls and a tragic crane-related fatality. As a strong advocate for workers, Cochrane successfully brought public and political attention to the issue, helping to usher in certification and regulation for crane operators and prompting a review of heavy-duty mechanic licensing standards.

But the fight didn’t end there. In 2021, after the devastating tower crane collapse in Kelowna that claimed the lives of five workers and one civilian, Cochrane renewed his call for mandatory certification and regulation—this time specifically for tower crane operators and riggers. Three years later, when RCMP had concluded the results of its investigation, and WorkSafeBC refused to make their investigation public, he clapped back at them – demanding they release the results of the WorkSafeBC investigation. In 2024, a dropped crane load led to another fatality on a construction site in Vancouver, following many close calls on this site and many others throughout the Lower Mainland. In one of his final acts as Business Manager, Cochrane launched a public awareness campaign across social and traditional media, calling on the government, industry, and public to act. His message was clear: another life must not be lost due to a lack of oversight, regulation, or certification. His efforts prevailed, and before he retired, the NDP government announced their intent to make tower crane operation, rigging and heavy-duty mechanics compulsory trades.

Despite changes in government, the evolution of industries, and shifting company operations, Cochrane

says there will always be a low-bid employer, a supervisor who doesn't give a "you-know-what" about safety, and a like-minded team determined to undermine the efforts of the working-class. In moments of doubt, IUOE Local 115 staff and members need to lean on the labour code, be reminded of the battles we've won, and leverage new skills to keep driving that stake harder.

Unions Win by Engaging Members and Staying Committed

Cochrane's victory in the Royal Oak Mine campaign, despite facing challenges from competing unions and company favouritism, highlights that dedication and direct worker engagement are key to winning organizing drives. His story reinforces the lesson that commitment to the cause can overcome resource disadvantages.

In his campaign to secure a Collective Agreement with Kemess Mine and Royal Oak Mines, he endured 30 days of negotiations and mediation. He held a critical two-day strike to get the company's attention and persevered along with his committee through many late nights and meetings with the crew. Being a fly-in and fly-out camp, he posted up at airports throughout BC and Alberta to directly speak to every worker and prospective card signer. "Boots on the ground, a coffee, and a conversation get the job done, better than any phone call or email." Even to this day, he maintains that catching workers away from the prying eyes and ears of anti-union disruptors, in person, was the only way to gain their trust and guarantee their confidentiality when signing an organizing card.

His perseverance on behalf of the membership secured them a critical wage increase of 4.5% in Year 1, 4% in Year 2, and 4% in Year 3. Along with that, a first-ever monthly travel allowance and improvements to the benefit package. He was responsible for changing their quality of life, bringing tradespeople's rates to over \$30 per hour at the mine—a major victory for this time. Recognizing the toll mining can have on a person's body and mind, it was imperative that, in the negotiations, Cochrane also ensured the company recognized drug and alcohol addictions and developed a policy that called for treatment, not termination.

Cochrane recalls that many bureaucrats, governments, and professional industries are quick to forget the victories and advancements they enjoy from the working-class trade unionists. Never one to shy away from doubting his efforts, each of his battles is a reminder of what staying committed to the membership really looks like.

The Importance of Legal Strategy in Union Success

Throughout his career, Cochrane has also emphasized the benefits of in-house legal counsel, not just for cost savings but for strategic advantage. His career illustrates

that unions need skilled legal support to navigate legislative attacks and defend workers against corporate and legal challenges.

"Lawyers have a place in the world," he says, "but the problem is sometimes with the system that they operate in." Even with a strong application, he explains, he was oftentimes met with an inflated employee list, "bringing people onto other people's payrolls, and this all became the nature of the business for the conservative side of labour relations, and they would play games with the system."

Today, he reflects on his strategy and mindset to counter the nasty non-union tactics, many driven by some less-than-likeable corporate lawyers. "My view today is there's nothing worse than watching a lawyer get paid grotesque amounts of money to try and undermine the rights of workers."

Companies and the lawyers they hire work to undermine workers and game the system by forcing delays and deliberations. It's a tactical strategy to push their agenda while using the limits of the existing system to delay decisions that benefit workers.

"Justice delayed is justice denied," he says.

Recognizing that the justice system and the labour legislation have never been fully designed to protect workers, that's what compelled Cochrane to strengthen political advocacy. As long as the system continues to allow employers to engage in this kind of behaviour, you'll find a \$500-\$700-an-hour lawyer working against you within the system.

He says bringing in legal counsel in-house was something he was exposed to early on in his career, and it had an incredible impact on his ability to understand labour law. "Having a lawyer down the hall gave the organization a competitive advantage over employers because quality legal counsel is just a door away."

Throughout his career, Cochrane had enough experience dealing with lawyers that he didn't feel the need to turn to them regularly in his later years. However, as a leader, he recognized that the staff would benefit and grow more confident in their knowledge of labour law if they had regular access to legal counsel.

Having in-house legal counsel helped them develop new skills and additional knowledge, similar to what he learned from his years of working with lawyers. "It gives the staff a chance to bounce ideas off someone who has the experience, aptitude, and historical knowledge to help them be more effective in their jobs."

He says, the legal problem also becomes a legislative solution. Which brings him to his next lesson.

You need to support and advocate for governments that support the interests of workers. Working with legal counsel can help work within the law, but only improving legislation can ensure greater protection of workers' rights.

It Starts with Political Advocacy to Protect Workers' Rights

Lawyers are a great resource and ally to have on your side, but they can only do so much. Electing governments and supporting politicians who understand the struggle of workers and the challenges facing Operating Engineers will improve the lives of the working-class.

During his time, Cochrane recalls the tough times under the BC Liberal Gordon Campbell government of the early 2000s.

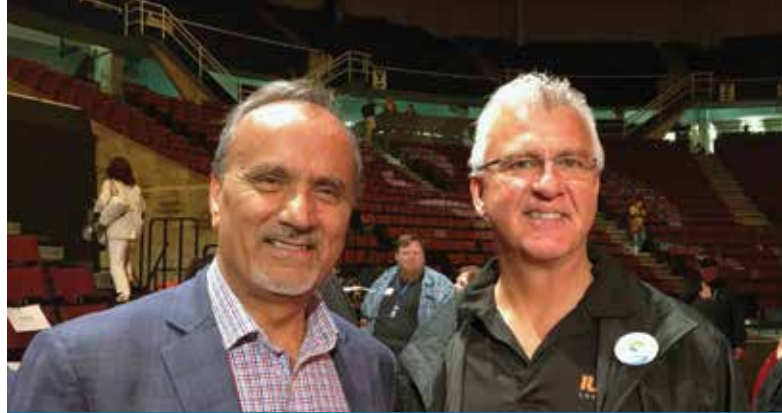
"They gutted everything! All of the changes the NDP made in the 90s to create greater rights for workers were all stripped away within 90 days of Gordon Campbell taking office."

By the time the NDP was wiped out after the 2001 election, the only MLAs remaining from the Glen Clark NDP government were Joy MacPhail and Jenny Kwan. It was a significant turning point for the province and the organization, as all the cards and chips fell completely on the corporate side.

In the early 2000s, the Campbell Liberals reversed much of the great work and protections that had improved the lives of the working-class, including removing construction raid windows in summer and single-step certification; gutting the labour code, making it harder for workers to organize and harder for unions to negotiate better terms for their members. On top of that, they cancelled the Highway Construction Labour agreements that provided decent wages, health and pension benefits, and millions of hours of employment for Local 115 members. To make matters even worse, they made workers and pensions cover the costs of the BC Medical Services Plan. They also revised the Employment Standards Act to reduce the minimum wage to \$6.00 per hour, which resulted in reductions in time and overtime provisions for all workers. These changes, somehow, did not improve the efficiency of the Labour Relations Board; they just made the process slower. Go figure, Cochrane



Brian Cochrane and Bryan Kedziora while on a visit at the Site C dam.



Then-Labour Minister Harry Bains with Brian Cochrane at a Labour Day event in 2017.

says, "applications that would take six months sometimes took two years to be concluded."

Lobbying government is very much like excavation he says.

Both require careful groundwork, persistence, and the right tools to remove barriers and achieve success. Each demands strategy, patience, and knowing when to push forward or when to stabilize for lasting results.

Never one to wait for others to speak up or effect change, Cochrane often found himself pushing the barriers of the BC Liberals' unpopular government models that sidelined unionized labour. The projects that forged his attitude and grittier style of lobbying included scrutinizing the Public Private Partnerships delivery of the Port Mann Highway 1 and Golden Ears Bridge projects—both of which initially excluded Operating Engineers. His persistence helped lay the groundwork for future Project Labour Agreements by highlighting the risks of undermining locally skilled Operating Engineers and refusing to pay family-supporting incomes.

On projects like TMX, LNG Canada, Coastal GasLink, and Site C, when "rat unions" were favoured because of their "cheap" and often foreign labour, Cochrane acted swiftly—taking the BC government to court in the case of Site C and rallying public support, securing a fair share of the work for IUOE Local 115 on all of those projects. Perhaps his biggest challenge came when facing down a billionaire-owned Chinese mining company that attempted to operate outside BC's labour code and flood worksites with temporary foreign workers. Rather than back down, Cochrane used legal tools, public pressure, and sheer grit to protect workers' rights and win local jobs for members.

Even in his final years as Business Manager, more than two decades later, Cochrane was able to lobby government, and a sympathetic former Labour Leader, now Minister of Labour Harry Bains. The two of them saw eye to eye on reversing the devastating changes the BC Liberals made. One by one, Cochrane worked to lobby to bring back single-step certification and raid windows in



Brian Cochrane and former Premier John Horgan hold up their IUOE Local 115 challenge coins.



Gary Kroeker congratulating Brian Cochrane on the day he was sworn in as Business Manager of IUOE Local 115.

August. This is a contribution and effort that Cochrane embarked on nearly 23 years ago, and his leadership and ability to change legislation will have a lasting impact on Operating Engineers and all BC workers for decades to come.

Cochrane played a pivotal role in restoring fairness and balance in BC's labour landscape by championing the return of single-step certification and reinstating summer raid windows in the construction industry. Understanding the barriers workers faced—such as employer intimidation and the difficulty of organizing in winter—he pushed the government to ensure that if a clear majority (55%) of workers supported unionization, they could be certified automatically. The reintroduction of July and August raid windows gave workers the much-needed freedom to escape rat unions and join ones that truly represent their interests. These changes, long advocated by Cochrane, helped level the playing field for working people and strengthened the voice of Operating Engineers and all workers in BC.

His success in pushing for change at the legislative and political level exemplifies how unions, particularly IUOE Local 115, must remain active in shaping labour laws to prevent employer exploitation and create fairer workplaces.

While reflecting on the victories and battles he endured, he leaves us with more work to do—to continue to push for change, lobby the government, and improve legislation for Operating Engineers and all workers.

"The penalties have never been strong enough to deter a strong corporate agenda when they violate the labour relations code, and yet that still holds today. The penalties are not strong enough for employers that end up just playing games with the labour relations code and treating it like a court that can't really enforce its own permissions."

So while he heads off down the road on his motorcycle, it's time for the rest of us to get to work he says.

"You'll never win a battle by being passive." 🍁



Business Manager Brian Cochrane was a strong advocate for workers, valued a solid pension as a means to support members in retirement, and believed organizing was critical to the growth of IUOE Local 115.



Throughout his career Brian Cochrane took time to visit worksites, meet with members, and push industry and community to support Operating Engineers and the issues that mattered to them.

iuoe 
LOCAL 115





Crane operators in high demand

Spring work started later than we anticipated however, activity has significantly increased since the Easter long weekend. The

crane industry demand is robust, resulting in unfilled orders for both taxi and water-based crane operators. While the demand for heavy-duty mechanics is not what it was previously, there are still more opportunities available to members. We've observed a surge in orders for the Fraser Valley Highway 1 Corridor Improvement Program and the Surrey Langley SkyTrain Project. The increased spring workload suggests a busy summer ahead.

Please contact dispatch if you are looking for work. We wish everyone a productive and enjoyable summer, taking full advantage of the favourable weather. For a copy of the dispatch rules, text DISPATCH to 63115. 🍁



We are looking for:

- 🔧 Certified Tower Crane Operators
- 🔧 Crane Operators (taxi work)
- 🔧 Concrete Pump Operators

Dispatch: 604-473-5230

FOR DISPATCH RULES

IUOE Local 115

TRAINING ASSOCIATION

The training, skills, and experience you need

In-Person Courses

- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Mobile Crane Operator Level 1, 2, and 3
- Tower Crane Operator Level 1 and 2
- Tower Crane Rigging
- Tower Crane Refresher
- Rigging Level 1 and 2
- Grader
- Asphalt Paving Laydown Technician
- Fall Protection
- 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
- Site Ready

Scan to find course
schedule information



SCAN ME



BCIB projects driving Lower Mainland

It has been a busy start to the construction season this year with the ongoing Project Labour Agreement and Community Benefits Agreement

projects within the Lower Mainland. BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc. (BCIB) currently has the Pattullo Bridge Replacement Project, Broadway Subway Project, Vancouver Community College (VCC) – Center for Clean Energy and Automotive Innovation, and currently out for tender is the BCIT Trades and Technology Complex Project.

Vancouver Community College

VCC is currently being excavated by BelPacific for the second vertical project under the BCIB umbrella. It is located across the street from Broadway Subway Project—Great Northern Way station. Bosa Construction has been awarded a portion of the work.

Broadway Subway Project

The Broadway Subway Project is continuing production. The track-works in the tunnel is working behind the excavation crew doing the 10 cross passages between the inbound and outbound tunnels. They have three left to excavate, shotcrete, and waterproof. As the earthworks portion starts to wind down, we're seeing more layoffs.

Pattullo Bridge Replacement Project

The Pattullo Bridge had a big push on putting girders in with two shifts running at the beginning of the year. They are now focusing on getting the North side (New Westminster) of the bridge joined, and hope to have that completed by October. Once the Old Yale overpass is complete, which the civil crew has been working tirelessly at, they will move Highway 17 traffic over so they will be able to join the off-ramp bridge deck to the main span. Fraser Crossing General Partnership anticipates the bridge to be open by December with traffic.



SCAN ME

Scan the QR Code
to see the latest
progress of the new
Pattullo Bridge

BCIT Trades and Technology Complex Project

BCIT has five small locations on their campus that will be the Trades and Technology Complex Project. The build will include mass timber and a passive house for energy-saving incentives. The scopes are quite small and cannot all

commence at the same time because many buildings that are set to be demolished have offices. Those workers can't simply be displaced until one of the buildings in this project is complete. This makes it hard for Haebler to be able to retain a contractor to do any of the civil and excavation work, as the scopes are short-term. We are still currently helping Haebler with their procurement planning and identifying smaller contractors to bid on the work. I am supporting interested contractors by answering questions they might have regarding the BCIB agreement and procedures.

Financial Secretary

I would like to thank Business Manager Bryan Railton, the Table Officers, and the Executive Board for appointing me to the position of Financial Secretary. I look forward to continuing to strengthen our Union and bring in new ideas to keep our Union going strong for decades to come. 🍁



Gastaldo Concrete pumping concrete in tunnel on the Broadway Subway line at Arbutus Street.



Paving and utility agreement updates

I would like to thank Business Manager Bryan Railton for the opportunity to serve as the Director of Organizing for Local 115. This is an

honour, and I embrace the responsibility as I work with the organizing team to continue the growth of the local union. I would like to welcome Tyson Boyce as a new organizer on staff. Tyson will be working closely with Organizers Frank Baratto and Cody Poirier over the next few months.

We recently held an organizing course with rank-and-file members and business representatives from IUOE Local 115 and Local 882. This was my first time taking part in this course, and I was blown away by the engagement from our members. It made me proud to see members engage in the understanding of labour laws and the ins and outs of an organizing drive. Thank you to International Representatives André Chenier and Jeff Rakebrand for putting on the course.

"We recently held an organizing course with rank-and-file members and business representatives from IUOE Local 115 and Local 882."

On the bargaining side, Business Representative Will Suelzle and I ratified the Roadbuilding Utility Agreement. The members working under this agreement received increases to wages, pension, and benefits.

The Roadbuilding Paving Agreement negotiations are going to mediation in June. At the time of writing, I am optimistic that a mediator will help us find an agreement that is supported by our members.

Over the past few months of bargaining the Roadbuilding Agreements, it has come to my attention that we do not have all of our members' email addresses, correct mailing addresses, and phone numbers. I would like to ask the members to please call-in to the Burnaby office 604-291-8831 and make sure the Local has your up-to-date contact information. Having the correct information makes it easier for the Local to communicate with you when it comes to getting your proposal sheets, providing you with bargaining updates and Union information. 🍁

Participants of the organizing course in May





Solidarity and resolve

The members from Harbour International Trucks Ltd. (Diamond Truck Centre) have been standing strong and united while fighting for their rights with a very difficult employer. During the past few months, Local 115, along with our retirees, have been supporting eight of the most determined and strong-willed mechanics on the corner of 96th Avenue and 200th Street, marching on the picket line. A very special thank you goes out to “Grader” Bill Hencheroff for his tireless dedication to the cause and our affiliated Brothers and Sisters from various other labour unions that have joined us on our picket line. It was moving to see the labour community come together and support the Harbour International Trucks members as they continue to push for a fair deal with their employer.

Trimac—Company Drivers and Owner Operators have engaged in negotiations with their employer. Negotiations started in March and we pushed hard for a deal that would advance the interests of the members during an

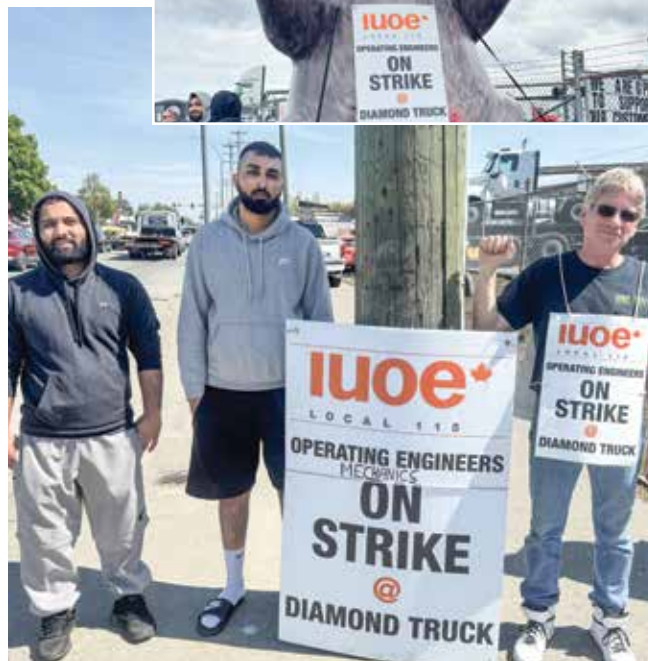
unprecedented economic climate. The union will continue to move forward with the employer and seek a deal for the members to vote on over the upcoming months.

Pacific Coast Heavy Truck Group and the union are currently at the table negotiating the Chilliwack agreement, and the Langley and Annacis Island members are currently submitting proposal sheets as their Collective Agreement nears expiry.

Over the past few months, I have had an opportunity to engage and work with so many proud union members, whether it's a bargaining committee member, a shop steward, an affiliate trade unionist, or a Local 115 retired member. I'm reminded of the power of our labour movement when we stand together. The support of our members has been on full display, and I have been humbled by the number of good people who rally together when the call goes out. Looking forward to what is next as the good fight continues.

rise above. 🍁

Diamond Truck Centre members on strike





Back to the table with Waste Connections

I would like to start by congratulating Brother Bryan Railton on his new position as Business Manager of Local 115. I have worked

closely with Brother Railton for the last few years and know that he will do a fantastic job as the Business Manager of our Local. The future looks bright for Local 115.

Bargaining has continued since my last article. Business Representative Kyla McCormick and I negotiated a tentative agreement with Waste Connections in Victoria which was brought to the crew in mid-May. The agreement was rejected by the members and we will be back to the bargaining table soon.

We just finished our third organizing course facilitated by International Representatives André Chenier and Jeff Rakebrand. The ten members in attendance participated in a busy three-day course with lots of information presented. Thank you to all the members who attended and to André Chenier and Jeff Rakebrand for taking the time to come and share their knowledge and experience.

I would like to congratulate Francis Chand on his retirement from Waste Management. Francis is a 33-year member and one of the first people I met when I started at Waste Management. He was always willing to help out anyone that needed it and always had a smile on his face.

Enjoy your retirement, Frankie, you deserve it! 🍁

District 1 Will Suelzle



Paving mediation in District 1

As mentioned in my previous article, lots of contracts expire this year and bargaining new Collective Agreements has been my priority. I am pleased to announce that Business

Representative John Munro and I have concluded bargaining with the companies involved in the Road Building Utility Agreement. This agreement includes the Gilley Quarry site managed by Heidelberg Materials and operated by Greenbelt Excavating.

The proposal for the Utility Agreement was taken out to the crews and successfully agreed upon. On the valley quarry side, bargaining with Lafarge Pitt River, Land Rock, and Ward Road has concluded and has been successfully ratified by our members. We have reached a new agreement with Fraser Valley Aggregates, giving the members three years of consistent wage and pension increases. Paving bargaining continues, and one of the biggest obstacles is setting wage and compensation levels for our members. Our members feel that they have been undervalued. The companies involved have now asked for mediation, which will start at the end of June.

In May, I attended the Jurisdictional Assignment Plan course put on by SkillPlan. A key takeaway from this course was the importance of a concise and

clear pre-job, ensuring all trades are outlined and jurisdiction is applied. This course was facilitated by Lee Loftus, a long-time trade unionist and was attended by Business Representatives Konrad Tarry and Shawn Irwin, along with various representatives of BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.

I would like to thank all the members in the Fraser Valley that attended our first Fraser Valley meeting. This was held at the Clarion Hotel in Abbotsford and was well attended.

At the time of writing, I am in Toronto to represent BC and Local 115 in Pipeline Distribution bargaining. IUOE Locals from every province will be responsible for bringing the issues of our pipeline-employed members to the Pipeline Contractors Association (PLCA) and the companies involved under this Collective Agreement. Hopefully, we will have this out for ratification in the upcoming weeks. 🍁





High engagement from bargaining committees

Taplow Feeds ratified their Collective Agreement in February. This five-year agreement includes wage increases of 13–14.5%, depending on members' classifications.

We held a proposal meeting in March with members of the University of British Columbia and bargaining is scheduled for later this year.

This spring, the members of Central Fraser Valley Transload and Sales ratified a one-year Collective Agreement that includes a 4% wage increase.

Bargaining has concluded for United Rentals Coquitlam Branch (Lower Mainland and Prince George) and the members ratified their agreement. The new agreement includes increases to wages, pension contributions, and boot and tool allowances. A big thank you to bargaining committee members and Shop Stewards Kelly Di Tomaso and Chris Jackson for their hard work and dedication.

At United Rentals Burnaby we have received the members' proposals and we will be scheduling a proposal meeting soon.

We have had proposal meetings with members at Clearbrook Grain & Milling, and bargaining will begin this summer.

Training Coordinator Travis Woolford and I visited the Eagle Mountain-Woodfibre Gas Pipeline Project in May. We were fortunate to travel by boat to the Woodfibre site to meet with members. Unfortunately, due to water issues, we were unable to view the tunnel.

This past spring was a busy time for me, meeting and engaging with members. Early in April, it was great to see the members who attended our first Fraser Valley meeting. The meeting was a great success, and I look forward to more in the future.

I attended the Annual Day of Mourning in Vancouver on April 28th, alongside IUOE staff. This will always be a sombre event, and it was especially poignant this year due to the tragic events at the Lapu Lapu Festival in Vancouver just days prior. My heart goes out to everyone affected by this tragedy.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy summer—stay hydrated and keep cool! 🍁



IUOE Local 115 staff are joined by current Minister of Labour Jennifer Whiteside and past Minister of Labour Harry Bains for this year's Day of Mourning event on April 28th.



UBC members at the proposal meeting.



United Rentals Coquitlam branch proposal meeting.



Tycrop bargaining first collective agreement

I am proud to share that negotiations at Tycrop Trailers Inc. are closer to completion. Following a strong organizing campaign last year, the bargaining committee is working hard to complete its first Collective Agreement.

Negotiations with Westerra Equipment are well underway. This is their first renewal of their Collective Agreement, and our goal is to work off the foundation that has been set.

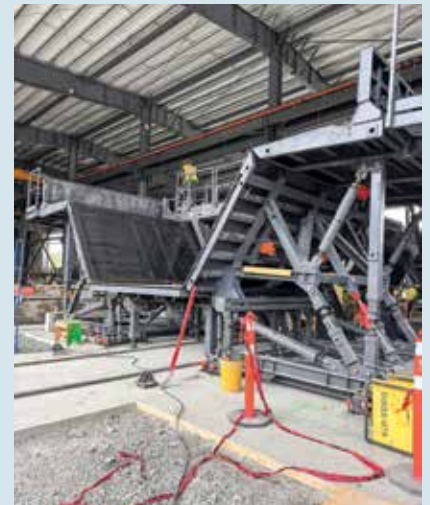
John Deere Specialty Products is a very mature agreement full of rich history, which adds complexities to the discussions. It is inspiring to see the involvement from the bargaining unit and bargaining committee, as we unpack some of that history through proposal meetings and discussions to set the direction for these negotiations.

Outside of the bargaining table, we're seeing the effects of rising costs from the tariffs and industry slowdowns, creating tighter conditions across many workplaces. When employers cut back, we work hard to ensure the costs don't come at the workers' expense.

In this environment, organizing remains a top priority. That's why the protections offered by strong union agreements are more critical than ever. If you know of a workplace where workers are ready to make a change, don't hesitate to reach out to your business representative or an organizer. Every conversation matters.

Stay safe, and enjoy your summer. 🍁

Members working on the Surrey Langley SkyTrain precast yard in Langley





CLRA ratifies new Pile Driving Agreement

Our new Pile Driving Agreement with the CLRA has been ratified with an overwhelming majority. A huge thank you goes out to the bargaining committee, Brothers John MacKie, Adam Makowski, Ken Jorgensen, and Ryan Leroux, for their leadership, long hours, and commitment to the membership throughout these negotiations. This agreement moves us forward and reflects the power of members standing together.

Here are some key highlights from the agreement:

- Zero concessions
- Wage increases are protected against inflation, giving real economic security
- Achieved one of the highest pension contributions in our Local
- Improvements to crewing requirements, providing more opportunities for members
- B-Ticket operators will now be signed up as apprentices
- Mechanics in school will see Supplemental Unemployment Benefit plan top-ups to support their income during technical training

Proposals should now be in for the Industry Standard Collective Agreements, Crane Rental included. Thank you to those members who have submitted your proposals. Your feedback is crucial to shaping what we bring to the table in upcoming bargaining. Strong participation leads to stronger proposals, and ultimately, stronger outcomes.



Mammoet members working on the Oakridge Centre Redevelopment site.

We recently filed for federal conciliation for the members at Amix Marine Services after reaching an impasse with this employer during our first agreement negotiations. Members are understandably frustrated. We're pushing to resolve key outstanding issues: wages, pension parity with Amix Marine Projects, and shift structure. We're now awaiting mediation dates. The bargaining committee remains solid and focused on getting a fair deal.

Last month, we hosted a weekend International Organizing Course for our members, led by International Representatives André Chenier and Jeff Rakebrand. The training was excellent, and participation was outstanding. A big thank you to everyone who gave up their weekend to take part; your commitment to growing our movement is what keeps Local 115 strong.

If I haven't visited your work site recently, let me know. I'll do my best to get there, on land or sea. I appreciate every opportunity to speak with members directly and hear what matters to you. Stay hydrated this summer, and I look forward to seeing you all soon. 🍁



Vancouver Pile Driving members working a night shift moving cranes across Highway 99.



Growing our union is a key priority

We head into the summer season led by our new Director of Organizing, John Munro.

Brother Munro has been with IUOE Local 115 for 11 years and brings to his new position experience as a seasoned organizer along with a strong record as an accomplished business representative.

His experience and institutional knowledge of Local 115, combined with his unwavering commitment to organizing will ensure our future vision of growing our membership

and presence in our respective industries and craft, remains strong.

We have also grown the organizing team with the addition of a new Organizer, Tyson Boyce. Brother Boyce was previously instrumental in our organizing drive with Weldco Beales in 2019. He has experience in the paving industry most recently, but has also worked in the pile driving and dredging industry.

Since the spring article, our team has won a number of certifications or signed Collective Agreements helping to expand our Union. This includes: Rob Barret Contracting Ltd. (an industrial maintenance company based out of Kamloops), Net Zero Waste Eastgate Ltd. (a compost

producer based out of Princeton), Abbotsford Gravel Sales Ltd. (who are opening a new soil washing business based out of Burnaby), and Brenta Crane Operators Ltd.

Due to organizing over the last year, Local 115 has welcomed over 540 new members into our Union. With the construction raid windows just around the corner, we are locked and loaded with new targets to ensure our organization continues to grow.

Our organizing efforts come from many sources, some online, some from call-ins or emails, and many from our current members. If you know of anyone looking for better opportunities and would like to connect them with us, let us know. We are able and willing to help workers take that first crucial step.

The organizing team at Local 115 would like to thank International Representatives André Chenier and Jeff Rakebrand from the Canadian office for coming to our Local and facilitating the organizing course in May. The attendees included union staff as well as members that showed an interest in our union's organizing efforts. The three-day course taught participants the skills, tactics, and strategies needed to become a successful organizer. 🍁



New Organizer Tyson Boyce out in the field helping to organize workers.



Participants at the organizing course in May.



Your proposals and dedicated stewards make a difference

The first half of 2025 has been an incredibly busy time for bargaining in District 2, and we're now approaching the final stages of bargaining for agreements up for renewal this year.

Despite economic uncertainties posing challenges at the table, we've achieved some significant wins.

Our greatest successes come from proposals that push the boundaries of our current Collective Agreements. One standout achievement this year was securing five days of paid leave for the birth of a child at Victoria Cement Terminals—a step forward in recognizing the needs of working families.

These victories not only strengthen our agreements but also shape the future of our trade union. That's why I want to express my deep appreciation to the members who introduce these bold ideas and stand behind the employment terms that drive meaningful change for our movement as a whole.

"Our greatest successes come from proposals that push the boundaries of our current Collective Agreements."

The importance of shop stewards

I'd like to take a moment to recognize the invaluable role of shop stewards in keeping our union strong. Throughout this year's bargaining, I've leaned heavily on our stewards, relying on them to stay on top of the ever-evolving activity in the district. Business representatives simply couldn't do their jobs effectively without the dedication of stewards.

Serving as a shop steward is no easy task—it often requires navigating difficult situations and committing personal time outside of working hours. That's why I urge every member to show appreciation for the hard work stewards do on their behalf.

Earlier this year, I had the pleasure of attending the shop steward training and appreciation event in Nanaimo. This event reinforced the deep sense of solidarity and family within our union. I look forward to many more events like it, where we can celebrate the vital contributions of our stewards. 🍁

Members working at Salish Sea in Victoria

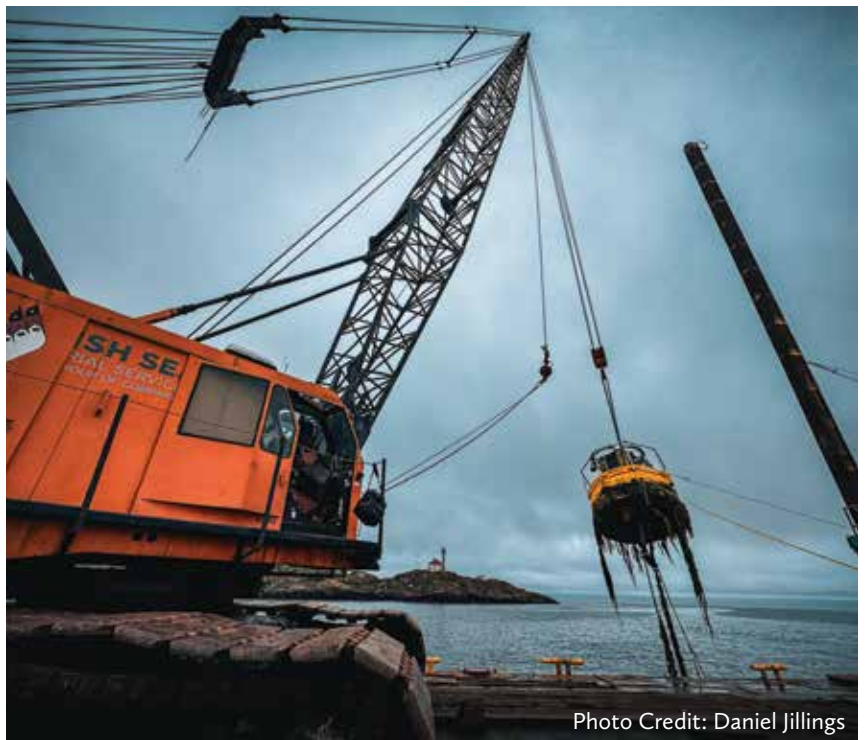


Photo Credit: Daniel Jillings



Project and bargaining updates

So far this year, we've seen an increase in orders across all types of construction; with roadbuilding, crane rental, and heavy construction all leading the way. Our contractors have steadily been picking up more work as the year progresses, and we hope this leads to a very busy year in District 3.

On the BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc. front, projects like Ford to Tappen Road, the R.W. Bruhn Bridge, Jumping Creek, Chase East, and the Selkirk Mountain Project have been keeping our members busy.

Under the Highway Reinstatement Program PLA, the Tank Hill and the Highway 8 Flood Restoration Projects, led by Emil Anderson and Aecon Construction's General Partnership, are still going strong.

The Highway 8 Project spans 22 site locations, with 12 either completed or nearing completion, and the remaining

10 in the planning and design phase. Soon, the traffic will return to normal, almost like the flood never happened, which will certainly make the locals in that area very happy.

Many of our crane rental contractors are busy, some are still looking to hire journeyperson operators.

In our industrial shops, bargaining has kept us active. United Rentals in Kamloops and Genelle have ratified a new four-year agreement that includes better wages, pensions, and working conditions.

Bargaining is upcoming for RJames Management in both Kamloops and Kelowna, as well as for AtkinsRéalis and our members at the William R. Bennett Bridge in Kelowna.

On the organizing front, we've successfully organized Rob Barrett Contracting Inc. and Net Zero Waste Eastgate Ltd. Net Zero is a composting company just outside of Princeton that produces some of the finest black earth we've ever seen.

If you know anyone working in a non-union shop or industrial setting who could use the Local's help organizing, please have them call the District 3 office; we'd be more than happy to help. 🍁

Heavy Metal Rocks in Kamloops



Dawson Construction members Paul Whitmore, Josh Shank, and Harley Rail at Heavy Metal Rocks in Kamloops, BC.





More projects upcoming for ICL

Members in the roadbuilding industry are preparing for another busy season. There will be a lot of work in and around Districts 4 and 5 to improve our highways and city streets, please slow down and observe all speed limits and keep everyone safe.

ICL has been busy working in Prince Rupert, building several housing units for Indigenous peoples and crucial infrastructure for the community. The company has also had their hands full with the rail yard expansion for the Prince Rupert Port Authority, in which they have been keeping a large number of members busy throughout the year. With the warmer weather, we expect to see more projects open up for ICL.

LNG Canada has completed its cool down of the facility, with regular flaring while finishing up the commissioning and anticipates shipping gas out

by June. At around that time, we will be seeing a change from construction to maintenance. We are awaiting the announcement of the second phase of the LNG Canada project. As of right now, there have only been rumours. Once the Union knows more and who is awarded the construction for Phase 2, we will publish updates in the IUOE News.

Great news for the labour movement, the Labour Relations Board (LRB) came back with a decision to keep Velocity Truck Centres in Prince George as a certified union employer. Thank you to all for the hours put in from our organizing department to help answer questions for those coming over, and to our legal counsel working diligently in the background researching and putting together the countless submissions to the LRB on the Unions' behalf.

Lastly, with the slowdown in large project work, this offers a great opportunity for members to reach out to the Training Association and ensure all your tickets are up to date, as well as take one of the many courses offered to you through our training site. Now is also a great time to look online into what the IUOE International Training and Education Center in Crosby, Texas, has to offer.

Finally, we must acknowledge the shop stewards and safety representatives for all the extra time they put into helping the membership and being our eyes and ears on site. They contribute countless hours, providing support for the members in the workplace, which in turn makes the workplace safer and our union stronger. 🍁



Business Representative Matt Baker with Shop Steward Dave Varner while on a site visit at LNG Canada.

Members working on ICL projects in District 4





Negotiations continue on several collective agreements

As we cruise down the highway into the warmth of the summer season, we must keep our wits about us being that we also need to slow down for the road construction season. Some of those paving crews are our members and we all want them to get home safely after every shift.

Terus Construction (Selkirk Paving) is well on their way into the paving season and has their eyes on various projects within the Kootenays along with some northern work up near Prince George.

On the bargaining front, we are actively negotiating with several different companies for renewed Collective Agreements.

Maxam Explosives contract negotiations are progressing along with the appetite from the parties of getting down to the “nitty gritty” for the renewed agreement. However, the membership was recently quite bitter towards the company due to a number of frustrations with the proposed document that was voted on during the meeting. The members unanimously rejected the document sending a clear message to the company that they were not happy with it.

Pacific Abrasives and Grand Forks Reclamation bargaining is moving along well, with the initial proposal being well received by the employer. Understandably, wages and pension are the main items at the forefront. This seems to be the common item most groups have at the top of their list due to the recent years where the spike in the cost of living was considerable.

Grand Forks Concrete's bargaining proposals are also heavily weighted towards wages and pension increases. Members also prioritized a number of additional items including vacation entitlements in order to catch up with and keep competitive with other contractors.

Work safe, but remember to play safe too!! 🍁



Shop steward course in May with members from District 3 and 6.



Skills Canada BC Competitions

Skills Canada BC (SCBC) helps prepare British Columbia's youth for the highly skilled economy of tomorrow through skills competitions, hands-on programs for students, and resources for educators. With approximately 30 years of experience, SCBC is a province-wide organization with grassroots connections across the province. The organization constantly fosters connections within communities and facilitates exposure to trades, technology, and career opportunities for our youth.

SCBC holds regional competitions around the province. Over 500 competitors moved on from the regionals to compete in one of the over 60 provincial competitions held at the Tradex in Abbotsford on April 16th. The winners of these competitions went to the National competitions in Regina, Saskatchewan, this year on May 29th and 30th. The competitions serve two main purposes.

- To celebrate and reward students for excellence in their mastery of skilled trade & technology skills in a manner that directly involves industry in evaluating student performance and that keeps training relevant to employers' needs.
- To create an interactive and engaging environment for the thousands of young people who attend the competitions as spectators.

Thousands of people attended this year's provincial competitions as competitors, students, and spectators. Many stopped by the IUEOA Local 115 Training Association's (IUEOA) booth and tried their hand at operating our electric mini digger or observed the mobile crane operator competition being held outside in the parking lot.



IUEOA Administrator Jeff Gorham and BC Crane Safety Executive Director Clinton Connell presenting gold medal winner Zachary Hogan with a Liebherr LR1300 Technic Lego Set.

In the next 10 years, it's estimated that a million job opportunities are expected to open up in BC, and trades & technology careers are high on the list. These types of events are extremely important in exposing today's youth to the career opportunities that are available through IUEOA Local 115.

The hydraulic mobile crane operator competition was a hit for many of those that attended this year's event. This year we had six apprentices put their skills to the test. The apprentices were tested on their theoretical knowledge, rigging, pre-operational inspection, and crane operation.

IUEOA would like to congratulate Brother Zachary Hogan from Kansen Crane Service for winning this year's competition and the gold medal. Zachary is doing very well with his apprenticeship and is well on his way to becoming a highly qualified crane operator.

To ensure that the competition is a success requires extra effort from volunteers. This year IUEOA volunteered their time to support with the competition and we are grateful for their contribution. Special thanks goes out to Mammoet for providing their Liebherr LTM 1055 for the competition and to Patrick Cotnoir, and Brothers Jason Lever and Emil Kolarov for the contribution of their time and equipment to make the competition a success.

BC Crane Safety (BCCS) was also in attendance at this year's event and shared our booth space inside the Tradex, where together we promoted careers



The final medalists at the 2025 Skills BC hydraulic mobile crane competition: Justin Richter – silver medal, Zachary Hogan – gold medal, and Andrew Ricard – bronze medal.



Mammoet's Liebherr LTM 1055 being used for the practical portion of the 2025 hydraulic mobile crane Skills Canada BC competition at the Tradex in Abbotsford.

in the crane industry. BCCS was formed in 2005 and is the Provincial Authority for crane operator certification in British Columbia. BCCS donated a Liebherr LR 1300 remote control crane Technic Lego set to this year's gold medal winner. This prize has a value of \$1,000. Thanks to BCCS Executive Director Clinton Connell and the rest of the BCCS team for supporting this year's event.

At this year's event, over 60 different competitions occurred in one day. For those who attended, they would have had a great opportunity to see first-hand the many career opportunities in the trades. This year, IUOE Local 115 had the most members ever compete in two different competitions. We had six apprentices compete in the hydraulic mobile crane competition and two apprentices compete in the heavy vehicle competition. 🍁



Rigging class delivered for members working for Dawson in Kamloops. L-R: Landen Ramsey, Tristan Trowell, Paul Friesen, Jordan Ciriani, Michael Indelicato, Instructor Hernan Lama, Erik Mikkelsen (in cab), Ethan Blacklock, Scott Leask, and Cody Andrykew.



Brother Matthew Warner-Blumhagan from Winvan attending the grader class being taught by Instructor Garry Jabs.



Jordan Turner being presented his BC Asphalt Laydown Technician Certificate of Qualification with rake, paver, screed, roller, and milling endorsements by Training Coordinator Steve Ervin. Jordan completed his apprenticeship while working for Pavex Paving Ltd.



Heavy equipment operator class. L-R: Michael Picken, Stewart MacKenzie, Chase Doniak, Matthew Griffith, Markus Jacobson, and Instructor Don Davidson.



Asphalt Laydown apprenticeship class. L-R: Instructor Branimir Shibilev, Gaige Goodacre, Sergii Zheliezko, Nathan Farnum, Conner Chorpita, Spencer Goodliffe, and Cameron Belansky.



Level 1 mobile crane apprenticeship class. L-R: Jesse McLeod, North Cummins, Taylor Dungate, Andrew Wyatt, Gaibriel Glatiotis, Dallas Fiddler, and Instructor Brad Heddle.



Dawson Brunet being presented her BC Heavy Equipment Operator Certificate of Qualification with excavator and loader endorsements by Training Coordinator Travis Woolford. Dawson completed her apprenticeship while working for Southwest Contracting.



New OEBPP chairperson

A new day is dawning as the Benefits and Pension Plans has a new Chairperson in Bryan Railton. The Chairperson and I have already been working on several new initiatives, including ensuring that all of the Trustees of the Plans are fully prepared to carry out their fiduciary duties. Chairperson Railton has advised me that Trustee-in-Training Simon Thomsen will be transitioning into a Trustee role. That means that Brother Thomsen will now be a Trustee with all of the rights and responsibilities of the other Trustees. A new Trustee, District 6 Business Representative, Rob Foskett has been appointed to the Benefits and Pension Plans Boards. Brother Foskett is eager to start in his new role and take on the additional responsibilities of becoming a Trustee. His education as a Trustee has already started and believe me when I say that it is quite a process—one that all the Trustees take very seriously.

The new Trustees' education starts with a meeting with the Administrator, where I walk them through their role and responsibilities as a Trustee. I ensure they have all of the documents and information they will need to fulfill their duties. They also get the previous three years of meeting minutes to help them to understand where the other Trustees are at in any process that we have ongoing. Right out of the gate I have Rob scheduled along with some other Trustees for some formal education that is provided specifically to Trustees of Plans. It will be a lot to take in all at once but I know that Rob is up for the task, just as Simon and all of the other Trustees were when they first started.

Chairperson Railton has also asked me to establish an educational component in every meeting going forward for the Trustees. We have a vast network of resources to draw from and we have got that lined up right out of the gate at our next board meeting in June.

I talk a lot about the Plan, returns, and of course, all of those topics are important, and I will continue to report on these issues. I think it is also important that the members understand that Trustees go through intensely significant educational programs to help better themselves, but also so that they can work effectively for the betterment of the Plans and, ultimately, the betterment of the members. It's a win-win!

Your Benefits and Pension Plans team all work together collectively as a team. That includes all of the Trustees, Administrators, advisors, actuaries, lawyers, providers, staff, and many others.

We have a strong group of Trustees who have guided the Plans to where we are today and I know that will continue under the leadership of Chairperson Railton.

For those of you who have waited patiently to get to the end of my article, at the end of March 2025, there were \$63.6 million in contributions and 12.8 million hours worked. This represents year-to-date decreases of 16.6% and 9.7%, respectively, compared to March 2024. The average contribution rate for the fiscal year 2025 was \$4.99 per hour (a decrease of 7.1% from the average for the entire fiscal year 2024).

While these numbers are a decrease from last year we can definitely see more members going back into the field as we return to a more normalized level of work, and ultimately contributions into the Benefits and Pension Plans.

It is that time of year again, the Pension Plan office will be sending out the Pension Confirmation letters as soon as we have certainty that there will not be a mail disruption with Canada Post. As you are reading this, you may already have our letter in your hands. We ask that you send your original signed and witnessed, Pension Confirmation back to us before the deadline so that there is no disruption in your pension payment. Please note that multiple reminders will not be sent. Thank you in advance for your close attention to this matter. Sending in your response quickly saves the Plan considerable money in postage and administrative time that could be better utilized elsewhere.

Works safe, play safe, be safe! 🍁



OEBPP Administrator Lee Riggs providing a Pension Plan update to members in District 1.



Tales from the past

Over the last number of years, I have received great feedback from the membership who read my articles and also shared some of their own with me. Your feedback and additional insights really help to shape my historical understanding of the work our members have done and the contributions you have made to BC and to Local 115. With the busy nature of the job, and the odd thing about time seeming to go faster and faster, I don't often get a chance to acknowledge and state my appreciation for the messages. Here are some recent stories I received.

Roland Brown finished school at age 15 and was an apprentice mechanic up until a new flat rate wage system was brought in, and the company responded by firing all the apprentices. Never sitting idle, he got on with Saguenay-Kitimat Co. (Alcan's construction division) in the mail room, looking after the three teletype machines. Twice a day, he would walk and deliver the various messages around the camp.

He finally got back into the heavy duty mechanic shop, mostly steam cleaning D8 Cats and other equipment coming in for major work, and he also worked on automobiles. One fall, after hand-pumping a 70-foot trailer full of 45-gallon anti-freeze drums into equipment for the winter, the boss came in and gave the crew 15 minutes' notice of layoff. He became an Operating Engineer in 1973 when IUOE Local 115 was voted in.

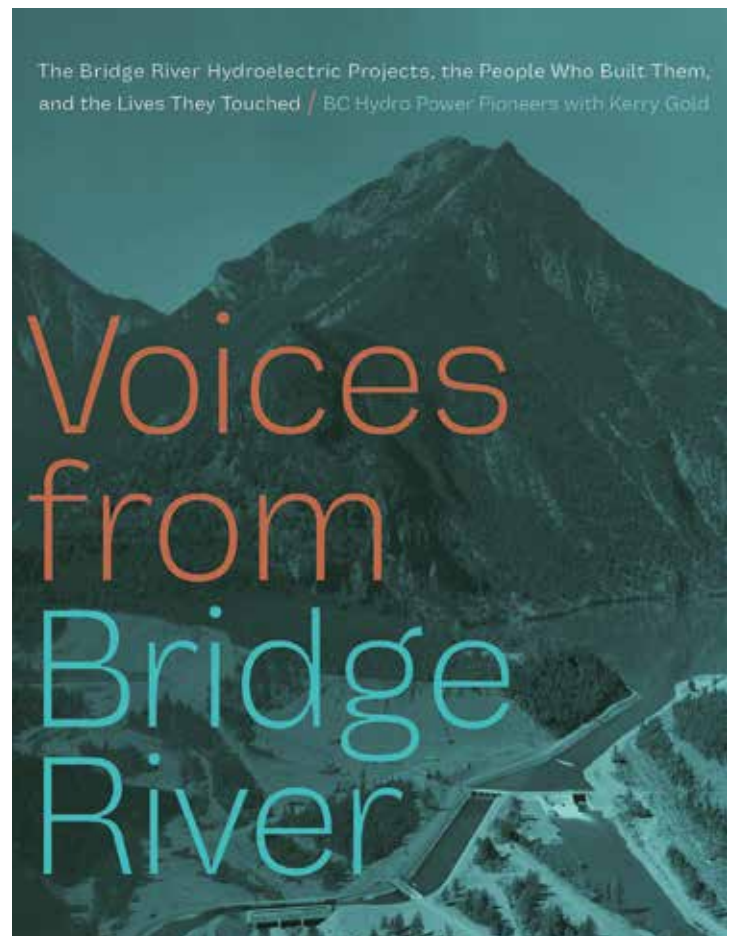
Later, Roland was working for a GM dealer and was in a tow truck outside of Houston at 3:00 am when its manifold blew, leaving him stranded in the middle of winter. He was found at 5 pm, frozen with next to no vital signs. He was taken to Smithers for care, where the staff was unsure what to do. He recalls, a healthcare worker said, "Let's try putting him in a bedroom with the windows open." Three days later, he opened his eyes to a specialist who told him he would be in a wheelchair if his legs and arms didn't recover. He carried on with mechanics' work until 1985, when he was forced to retire due to the injuries sustained in this incident; he was only 45.

Now he says the only thing that keeps him going is his volunteer work at the BC Forest Discovery Centre. He often puts in four to five hours a day working on equipment. Roland shows the true grit of an Operating Engineer.

Another member I have been in contact with on and off since 2002 is Brian Elder. He put in a lot of work helping to capture the history of the Bridge River Hydroelectric

Project. This was a history that spanned from the first idea of capturing the potential power of diverting water through turbines from Lake Carpenter to Seton Lake, and then from Seton Lake, through another set of turbines. The water then flowed past Lillooet into the Fraser River. Brother Elder gave pictures to the Local back in 2002, which were published in the IUOE Local 115 Firing Iron history book, and also in one of my articles. In 2018, I got a call from Brother Elder, who worked tirelessly for many years and contributed to a great book titled *Voices from Bridge River*.

Once again, thank you all for the comments and feedback, and thanks to all of the members who have shared their great stories of Operating Engineers on the job. You keep our history alive. This is a great organization because of you. 🍁



Celebrating our members



Merv Siegrist with his 60-year membership award.



Business Manager Bryan Railton presenting 60-year membership award to Gordie Patterson.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 60-year membership award to Doug Stowe.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 60-year membership award to Anthony Wood.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 60-year membership award to Burton Cook.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 60-year membership award to Lee Schille.



Andrew Patterson with his 60-year membership award.



Walter Steele with his 50-year membership award.



William Wells with his 50-year membership award.

Celebrating our members



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 50-year membership award to Douglas Terrie.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 50-year membership award to Claude Rochon.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 50-year membership award to Michael Iannidino.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 50-year membership award to James Frost.



Business Representative Shawn Irwin presenting 50-year membership award to Wayne Orcutt.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 50-year membership award to Fred McMurray.



Mark McLean with his 50-year membership award.



Mike White with his 50-year membership award.



Peter Baillie with his 50-year membership award.

Celebrating our members



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 50-year membership award to John Brian Greer.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 50-year membership award to Douglas Vandekerckhove.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 50-year membership award to Lenard Lippert.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 50-year membership award to Richard Gill.



President Brian Lefebvre presenting 50-year membership award to Gary Kinnear.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 50-year membership award to Russ Bryson.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 50-year membership award to Alfred Gustafson.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 40-year membership award to William Lawson.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 30-year membership award to Leonard Bowman.

Celebrating our members



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 30-year membership award to Allister Meinen.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 30-year membership award to Kevin McMurray.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 30-year membership award to Aaron Gruber.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 30-year membership award to Jack Peebles.



Business Manager Bryan Railton presenting 30-year membership award to Ken Jorgensen.



Business Representative Kyla McCormick presenting 20-year membership award to Dwayne De Col.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 20-year membership award to Lyle Musyowski.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 20-year membership award to Raphael Decraene.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 10-year membership award to Adam Beaton.



Business Representative Curtis Laverty presenting 10-year membership award to Kelly Nieman.

Welcome to our 288 new members

January to March 2025

JANUARY

James August
Justan Belanger
Russell Bligh
Robert Boyd
Adam Brandt
Harveer Brar
Ciaran Breen
Jessica Brown
Shelby Brown
Cody Bruce
Joshua Cowie
Christopher Davidson
Brandon Doreen
Darren Dow
Adam Edge
Ryan Fedorak
Chris Felske
Gagandeep Gagandeep
Levon Garton
Wayne George-Modeste
Neikolas Giannakos
Jacob Gisborne
David Gonzalez
David Hance
Jacob Hanna
Blair Hansen
Steve Hessein
Henry Holden
Zaylie Jones
Gordon Josephson
Harkirat Khosa
Anil Kumar
Gavinpreet Lalli
Brandon Magas
Brian McDonald
Santana McElravey
Rob Mercredi
Tristan Metcalfe
Colton Murgel
Pascal Nestor

Steve Novak
Mitchell Ogden
Giovanni Onucky
Mike Payne
Jesse Perala
Taylan Pigeau
Cody Poggenpohl
Andrew Powell
Bryce Quirk
Victor Ramirez
Ronald Ranger
Simon Ravart
Brent Rayner
Gordon Robertson
Bradley Robson
Maxwell Roe
Dakota Russell
Chad Ryan
Balwinder Saini
Tony Schellenberg
Danny Schultz
Kyron Scott
Glenn Shamley
Clint Shelton
Terrin Shergill
Travis Silbernagel
Iman Gustavo Slivia
Stanley Starratt
Steven Stojakovic
Nicholas Stoyeff
Spike Street
Parker Stringer
Arshaan Toor
Ryan Van Kuik
Navjot Warring
Ben Wasmuth
Anthony Webber
Chris Whitehouse
Aiden Willis
Cedar Winston
Joe Wionzek

FEBRUARY

Raneem Adazwak
Scott Albrecht
Gilford Anderson
Dylan Angers
Joshua Beaulieu
Brendyn Beck
Nicolaas Beers
Sydney Bennett
John Bernardo
Damanjeet Bhatti
Lauryn Black
Eric Blackburn
Erika Blackburn
Johnathon Bryan
Lucas Burgoyne
Mark Cabiladas
Joshua Caillet
Silvio Capone
Sophie Chalaki
Pradeep Choudhary
Jadon Cook
Rick Correia
Alexander Costa
Nolan Davis
Fraser Dodwell
Ross Eden
Makayla Ellis
Mor Entezari
Jimi Fedorek
Christian Fischer
Jacob Fisher
Mehdi Ghader
Amrit Gill
Jacqlynn Gilmour
Gauge Goodacre
Sébastien Grenier
Brodie Gwillim
Gavin Hanuse
Terry Harrison
Jodi Hawkins

Jose Hernandez-Henriquez
Timothy Hinschberger
Gregg Hunter
Gilbert Isadore
Maria Joinson
Abhijeet Kamboj
Yehor Karpenko
Allen Kiernan
Jesse Kiss
Vadym Kurman
David Lai
Brad LaLonde
Rodney Legare
Gregory Lepko
Dean Lewis
Daniel Littlewood
Richard Lye
Travis Mann
Darrin Manns
Morgan Manuel
Helder Martins
Simon Matthews
Cody Meraw
Anthony Migneault
Igor Miocevic
Artem Morkin
Michael Morris
Jordan Morrow
Ryley Murray
Dilpreet Nagra
Truong Nguyen
Henriques Nhanala
Brad Noble
Sam Oliver
Jason Ooms
Dillon Orr
Rodney Otteson
Nicola Pavanello
Mark Penner
Dylan Pombert
Jaskarn Rai
Avishak Rao
Dakota Reid
Amber Reno
Shalom Rezene
Sean Richardson
Jean-Marc Richer
Rohan Rikhi
Jose Roco
Tyler Rowland
Michael Rupert
Andrew Saunders
Jaron Scotton
Calvin Scully
Curtis Shelby
Arvind Sidhu
Sukhwinder Sidhu
Ernest Simpson
Jagsir Singh
Manpreet Singh
Landon Smith
Shae Sparks
Dean Stanke
Noah Stephenson
Jamie Stones
Joseph Tennesco
James Tereschyn
Daniel Tesfay
Leonard Theisen
Chloe Urbanowski
Ian Wagner
Nicole Wagner
Erastus Waira
Braydon Wharton
Rodney Whitford
Vahid Younesi

MARCH

Charina Agapito	Keegan Delaney	Reid Heykamp-Smith	Jim Matthews	Brock Self
Byron Amorantos	Maria Cristina Destor	Tanner High	Landen McLeod	Rajdeep Sidhu
Tiffany Anderson	Richard Dixon	Shequel Hospedales	Michael Morgan	Jagdeep Singh
Eric Andrews	Curtis Doke	Sabrina Howse	Jason Naish	Raneil Singh
Brayden Baher	Richard Doucette	Nick Hubley	Tyrrel Ned	McLaren Smit
Brandon Ball	Chimezie Duru	James Hurcum	Matthew Neis	Cameron Smith
Joey Bankier	Noah Earle	Bradley Inglis	Alexandr Nevzorov	Levi Spencer-Fell
Robert Barrett	Adam Evans	Laurie Isenor	Matthew Nyman	Keagan Spink
Joseph Benastick	Jillian Folvik	Bradey Jackson	Michael Page	Shane Stefanek
David Blackmore	Gino Gagne	Chris Johnson	Gavin Papworth	Chris Stojak
Brandon Blank	Brandon Giuliano	Rory Kastak	Ernie Penas Jr.	Carson Thibert
Bavin Bonn	Martin Goudzwaard	Kody Kirkpatrick	Colton Potts-Redman	Tyler Tindill
Iddo Botha	Timothy Green	Kale Knutson	Joe Price	Benjamin Van Deventer
Tim Brown	Brian Gregg	Jan Koch	Steven Pringle	Jeff Walker
Mauricio Cespedes	Laurel Griffith	Patrick Kremer	Brendan Roberts	Brad Webb
Gregory Cole	Matthew Hallett	Derek Kurpuweit	James Robertson	Colton Webster
Caleb Colgan	Duane Hanson	Lucas Kwitkoski	Brayden Sanford	
Robert Collins	Craig Henderson	Mykyta Lavrentiuk	Samuel Schreiber	
	Jose Hernandez	Gurpreet Lehal	Spenser Sedgwick	



Pensions Awarded

January to March 2025

JANUARY

Alan Christiansen
Wayne Enair
Keith Evans
Terrence Finlayson
Omar Grinblats
David Hammett
Ralph Kruell
Bradley McIntosh
Antonio Paolino
Ian Reynolds
Patrick Tyson
Leonard Van Boven
Eric Vogl
Steven Wiens
William Woods

FEBRUARY

Thomas Albersworth
Robert Bain
Robert Carnie
Francis Chand
Eric Dodorico
Warren Eheler
Gary Gillespie
John Jmayoff
Leslie Johnson
Michael Kooznetsoff
Alan Lang
William MacIver
Michael Matfin
Richard Odne
Ross Pollen

Brent Spaurel

Andrew Urschitz
Bruce Usui
Lester Watts
Robert Weich

Robert LaFleur

Larry Lento
Barry Padownikoff
Brian Parfeniuk
Joseph Ruest
Andrew Wiebe

MARCH

Ian Bradburn
Leslie Brinton
Tony Brown
Brian Cochrane
Douglas Fisher
David Golaiy
David Henderson
Keith Irvine
Willard Johnson

10 YEARS

Michael Alexander
Ryan Anderson
Fernando Aparri
Aaron Banks
Christina Beekink
Dave Belanger
Michael Bodnaruk
Darren Boisclair
Bon Bonzon
Christopher Cairns-Tannler
Rhett Croft
Darren Dillman
Lucas Domingos
Nolan Doornberg
Chris Drozdik
Randal Evans
Richard Fagela
Steven Farrell
Shawn Fox
Valentino Fronda
Denis Godard
Scott Gordon
Andrew Hiebert
Bradley Holt
Randy Hudson
Ryan Jenkins
Gerd Jochimski
Aaron Kaartinen
Ashwat Khan
Marek Kozaryn
Steve Lavigne
Kuldip Lehal
Rolando Mabilog
Christopher MacDonald
Kevin MacDonald
Nicholas Maida
Curtis Mercereau
Erik Mikkelsen
Jeffrey Morrison
Kelvin Nahm
Bradley Neros
Johnathon Newton-Slavin
Michelle Oakes
Johnson Ochieng
Tom Ohisa

Dustin Pospolita
Eric Prison
Michael Ramirez
Robert Ramsay
Kulbir Singh Randhawa
Eric Rayfield
Calloway Roller
Kristopher Ross
Stephen Sandar
Colin Scheck
Brian Sorokan
George Vander Deen
Chris Visser
Clarence Waugh
Georg Weidner
Joshua Winchar
Joe Yacovelli
Evan York
Shawn Zorn

20 YEARS

Helder Amado
Wayne Anderlini
Alan Balatti
Allen Beaudoin
Steven Borg
Michael Bowcott
John Bradley
James Bryant
Paul Cameron
Bill Cannell
Russell Cline
Oliver Cordts
Galet D'Aoust
Cliff David
Jeff Degenhardt
Ken Dobb
Don Dockstader
Robert Foskett
Cameron Garrison
Glenn Gladman
Dallas Hagerud
Curtis Harold
Justin Heathcote
Steve Hebert
Christopher Hill

Charles (Andrew) Houlden
Kevin Hucal
Darryl Huwyler
Steven Jefferson
James Klun
Jerry Legault
Clayton Levy
Greg Lewis
J. Travis Lightfoot
Parminder Luddu
Gordon MacKlin
Joshua Pettigrew
David Pilkey
Marko Sandri
Chad Schill
Kevin Shaw
Chad Smith
James Spence
Brad Tallman
Barry Thompson
A J Vroon
Mark Wallbank
Michael Weber
Richard Zakrzewski

30 YEARS

Ken Armstrong
Brian Blair
Darrell Chard
Len Den Boer
Shane Drombolis
Kirk Eastman
Tom Erickson
Len Francis
Michael Gaudreau
Terry Gaudry
David Geleta
Ronald Heinrichs
Deian Iankovs
Norman Knowles
Bruce Korsvoll
Mike Kostal
Doug MacKereth
Allen Marchi
Jason Marshall
Ronald McIntyre

Kenneth McNeil
Remo Pastro
Ray Ricard
Patrick Schulek
Murray Trefry
Don Willard
Stefon Wojtala

40 YEARS

David Blayney
James Hubert Burnell-Higgs
Steven Neil
Doug Peters

50 YEARS

Fred Alexander
John Aliprandini
Clifford Baer
William Baron
Lawrence Belanger
John Bowers
Graham Boyd
Louis Branchi
Leonard Brown
Angelo Di Persico
Robert Glennie
Jim Kinnear
Lloyd McKay
Charles Mountain
Michele Pontillo
James Rankin
Ian Robertson
Gregg Spencer
Jung-Boun Um
Dennis Uphill
William Varley
Andrew Westwood

60 YEARS

Tom Galbraith
Paul Lefebvre
Michael McGuire
R. McNutt
Gerald Weatherston



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.

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 \$2,000. 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 \$1,000

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 BC 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

iuoe 

L O C A L 1 1 5



SCAN ME

In memoriam

Members Who Passed Away January to March 2025

JANUARY 2025

Robert Arnott
Clarens Bjorknas
Jerry Blake
Robert Blythe
Roy Briscoe
John Campsall
Douglas Casselman
S. Conley Castle
Yvon Essiambre
George Gibson
Lambert Head
Doyle Johnson
Robert MacDermott
Ed Mayer
Gerald McDonald
Rob McLatchy
Gary Mill
Douglas Richardson
Daniel Thomas
Edward Tuckwood
Wayne Vickner
Jack Webb
John (Jack) Whittaker
Gunter Zick

FEBRUARY 2025

Larry Alger
Earl Alyward
Robert Billey
Emile Breton
Marvin Brightman
Ronald Deptuck
Marcel Dupuis
Robert Faasse
James Freeman
Dick Friesen
Lloyd Gieselman
Jon Goforth
Nick Giuliano
Daniel Jones
John Kmiecik
Doan Le
Wade MacQueen
Howard Majeau
Ivan Matthews
Matthew McKerlich
Chuck Millikin
Jim Moskalyk
Gerald Penner
Wayne Ross
Frank Saunders

Allan Weber
Peter Werbeski

MARCH 2025

Allan Baron
Clifford Chaston
Creighton Deakin
Stanley Fediuk
Ronald Gaudet
Alixé Godwin
Adolph Halbauer
Kevin Keenan
Max Lanceley
Robert Mailer
Robert McGladdery
Larry Oakes
John Oelkers
Giovanni Olivieri
Duane Palmer
Robert Ray
Fred Remple
Charles Teeple
Maurice Trudeau
Gary Wason
Bradley Wickham



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?

iuoe 
LOCAL 115

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

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: Bryan Railton

President: Brian Lefebvre

Assistant Business Manager: Josh Towsley

Director of Organizing: John Munro

Dispatcher: Kyle Egan, 604.473.5230

Organizing Representatives:

Frank Baratto, 604.312.4227

Tyson Boyce, 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:

Shawn Irwin 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
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 Rd.

District 4

PRINCE GEORGE: 2nd Wednesday of every month

7:00 p.m. at Prince George Civic Centre, 808 Canada Games Way

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.

Operating Engineers building BC from the ground up

iuoe 

L O C A L 1 1 5

Publication Mail Agreement No. 40011378