

IBEW LOCAL 230

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

www.ibewloc230.bc.ca

LOCAL WEBSITE BECOMES OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

UPgraded service and enhanced functions are available at the Local 230 website, since becoming an Official Publication. The Domain Name **ibewloc230.bc.ca** is registered to I.B.E.W. Local 230, since April 28, 2000. The residing website's content and concept are the brainchild of Local 230 Members, John Pierce and Phil Venoit. The well developed, informative, and stylish site, receives an average 296 hits per day.

Source Of Controversy

Since inception, the site continually transformed, and occasionally became the center of controversy.

Removal of the "Opinions Page" occurred during an onslaught of contentious opinion, surrounding closure of the Local's business office, at the Victoria location.

During the 2002 Local elections, the entire site was struck down by the former Business Manager, and an official complaint registered to the elections judge.

It's Official

The inevitable collision of policy, function, opinion and technology, outpaced dated guidelines. New guidelines are underway since the sites' commencement as an official publication.

Rich Media Content

Site media elements keep technological pace, employing Flash™, Quicktime™ and Acrobat™ capabilities.

Deployed within the front page is a flash element's rendering of electrical tools rotated over an icon of Vancouver Island. The verve of motion and dramatic sound byte, underscore our century as a Local Trade Union.

Selecting the 'About Us' tab element, calls a media rich page depicting the Local's early days. Museum caliber video narration provides a historical synopsis of the Local's origin.

The 'Links page' provides a table with access to hundreds of Local Union web sites. Other informative links include Island Colleges, Workers Compensation Board, Unemployment Insurance, and other sites of interest to working families.

A cool grey tabbed interface provides logical navigation throughout the site. Interaction with off site elements cause separate windows to spring open, as do the pages with high bandwidth video clips. Moving through the site, it's easy to notice some vacant sections. A clear indication of things to come.

Personal Management Features

The 'Member Statistics' section is a template for what will soon become the most dynamic element within the Local's Domain.

Currently under development is an accessible database function. Upon completion, Local 230 members will gain



password access to personal information, including hiring status and qualifications.

The database function is of special benefit to traveling members interested

in tracking their position on the work list, as well as updating the business office when address and contact methods change.

Clearly Ahead

Taking a close look at the offerings of other Trade Locals, we see that Local 230 is setting the standard for a new class of integrated services.

SUMMER 2002

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NEWSLETTER GETS FACE LIFT

The purpose of this newsletter is to better inform you by covering a wider range of topical issues.

The informative content and creative design results in a new level of service to Local 230 members.

Please tell us what you think!



Did Someone Say, "Free Dues"?

Local 230 members can win the equivalent of one months working dues. Simply enter our Photo Story Contest and have it printed in the next newsletter. You can start paying down that digital camera. See page 3 for details.

LOCAL 230 QUARTERLY BUSINESS MANAGERS' REPORT



BUSINESS MANAGER/ FINANCIAL SECRETARY PHILIP M. VENOIT

This is my first correspondence as your new Business Manager, I wanted it to be distinct. In today's world, we are constantly bombarded with fractional second images. I saw our old newsletters, as media impoverished. So, hand in glove, with Brother John Pierce, we established this newsletter, to easily format directly onto the Local's website. At the same time, intending to catch your interest, with across the board reporting. I hope it's worth the wait! During the August Unit Meetings the Local voted resoundingly to reopen an office in the Victoria area. We were fortunate enough to have our past secretary return. Although, most of the members know Michelle as the pleasant voice on the other end of the phone. She is also our bookkeeper and market recovery analyst, she maintains our "out of work list" and so much more. We're very lucky to have her back.

Our 100th year anniversary Celebration has been rescheduled for November 9th, this Dinner/Dance will prove to be a memorable evening. There's seating for 300, these tickets will sell fast, so stop in at one of our offices, unit meetings in September/October or simply send in a cheque payable to the Local. I hope to see you there! We have two important items in full discussion today, which threaten our very standard of living. The first, is the deregulating of our Hydro Power Authority. For approximately 80 years, regulation of the Electric Utility Industry in Canada, has been based upon a mutual agreement between customers and the Utilities which generate, transmit and distribute electric power. This Agreement was to consider safety, reliability and affordable power while respecting the environment. After all the examples before us, emphasizing, this "deregulating experiment", to be nothing less than a calamitous explosion in the lab!! It is insanely illogical, that our Provincial Government continues down this road. This is British Columbian's public power, if we don't do something to save it, in the next few short years, we will all see an obvious increase to our electricity bill. Shutting down and scaring away business, to simply fatten some private corporation CEO's already obese salary. If you have the ability, go to our website, on the media page you can sign the online petition. Last time I looked there was close to 60,000 signatures. We need more. Secondly Medicare, our Canadian Medicare system is currently under review. Headed up by former Saskatchewan Premier, Roy Romanow. Every day in Canada, our public health care system delivers accessible, quality health care to millions of

people. I believe our Provincial Government claims health care to be in crisis, so they can justify massive cutbacks in funding, jobs and services. Private interests promote this myth, because they're looking for lucrative business opportunities. We simply have to look a few miles south to clearly see. Our Health Care spending is not out of control. In Canada we spend less than \$0.44 compared to every \$1.00 in the U.S. for the same services. Canadians get much better value for their health care dollar. At every opportunity speak out against privatizing Health Care, it's time our Governments realize, Canada is rated the 2nd or 3rd best place to live in the world, because for years, we have put people before profits. Last year on September 11th, many of us were devastated by the surreal circumstances, as we sat glued to the tragedy as it unfolded that day. We lost 20 brothers that morning from Local's 3 and 1212, while they were working at the World Trade Center, New York City. I would ask you to stop for a few short seconds, this Wednesday like any other, and say a prayer for those of us, that were senselessly struck down. The Canadian First District raised \$110,000 to go to those members families. For now, Philip M. Venoit."

IBEW LOCAL 230 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**November 9th, 2002
Princess Mary Restaurant
358 Harbour Road, Victoria, BC**

Drinks and Appetizers at 5:00 PM
Buffet Dinner at 6:15 PM
Desert and Presentation at 7:30 PM
Comedian at 8:30 PM
DJ and Dance from 9:00 till close

One hundred years is a long time in the life of a Local Union. We have that great honour this year. On behalf of all the past Officers and Brothers that have rolled up their sleeves to make this Local work, I would like to cordially invite all our members and friends, to this momentous occasion. The Princess Mary in her own right is a fixture of old Victoria. Built 1911 in Scotland, she sailed the rough BC coastline for 40 years. Serving many of our islands communities, who patterned their weekly activities around her arrival. In 1951 she sank, then was recovered and her main deck converted into a restaurant.

The cost to our members for this memorable night out is: \$15.00 per person or \$30.00 per couple (tax and gratuity included)

For those coming from up island or would simply like a night out away from the kids, we have negotiated a special Hotel rate.

Tallyho Motor Inn 1 (800) 663-5660

1 Bed - \$34.00 or 2 Bed - \$39.00

Chateau Victoria 1 (800) 663-5891

Suites at - \$82.00

Also, a small block of rooms in each Hotel have been reserved until Oct. 9th, so when booking with the Hotel please indicate you are with the IBEW.

CURRENT LOCATION INFORMATION FOR IBEW LOCAL 230

OFFICE	CONTACT INFORMATION	METHOD
Business Manager/Financial Secretary	bmfs@ibewloc230.bc.ca	Email
Assistant Business Manager	abm1@ibewloc230.bc.ca	Email
Administration	admin@ibewloc230.bc.ca	Email
WebMaster	sitecraft@shaw.ca	Email
Nanaimo Office Address	#11 - 327 Prideaux Nanaimo, BC.	
Nanaimo Office Voice	250 716 5748	Phone 9:am - noon & 1-5:pm
Victoria Office Address	#3 - 802 Esquimalt Rd. Victoria, BC. V9A - 3M4	Post
Victoria Office Voice	250-388-7374	Phone
Victoria Office Fax	250-388-6313	Fax

PROVINCIAL APPRENTICESHIP UPDATE



Apprentice featured above, one of many affected by the changes

The demise of ITAC creates major problems for apprentices, the industry and stability of trades training in this Province. The Provincial Liberal Government hiding behind their "core review" have gutted the Industry Training and Apprenticeship Commission. This move clearly is a pay off to political allies, mainly the ICBA (Independent Contractors and Business Association). This organization has been pushing for years to de-skill our trade claiming "anyone can pull wire." ICBA's answer is, modularize American style. Those in favor of modularized trades have the ear of the government, a privilege they paid for. Their vision, would see workers awarded certificates for completion of a designated skill within the trade. The results of this are obvious, workers will not achieve complete training and will be unable to qualify

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ELECTION RESULTS

ENclosed are the results of the most recent Local Elections by position. Your participation, confirms the interest in our Organization and the Labour movement in general. Thank you for your support and we hope we can count on it in the future. Your Executive Officers.

OFFICE	CANDIDATES		
Business Manager Financial Secretary	Phil Venoit 316	Mike Kirby 132	
President	Len Rosseau 231	Paul Hoshal 81	John Barns 122
Recording Secretary	Laurie Jordan 321	Jim Doby 113	
Vice President	Mike Vandervoort 220	Bill Cornell 210	
Treasurer	John Pierce 256	Ron Kilby 177	

SECTOR REPORT

Construction

The Standard Inside Wiremans Agreement has been ratified, proof read and the Provincial Bargaining Council has sent the "clean" copy back to the Construction Labour Relations Association (CLRA) for approval and signing. If all goes well, after four years, we will finally have a new Collective Agreement in print. The Spring and Summer have been particularly slow this year. However, the work picture is starting to turn around with many projects coming out of the ground, (Nanaimo Convention Centre, Colwood re-fueling Jetty, Marriot Hotel in Victoria, and many currently being tendered, up and down the island. It is beginning to look like a busy fall and winter. Locals 424 and 1003 are still keeping some of our members working.

Marine

DND was extremely busy through the spring readying the Frigates, but has slowed for the summer. At the Victoria Shipyard, the Coast Guard order for twenty new Aluminum Search and Rescue Vessels, have just got underway, four Cruise Ships are due to come in September and the Exxon fleet contract has been renewed. But, the Provincial Government's decision, to tender millions of dollars of BC Ferry work off-shore, will have a negative economic impact on the BC Shipbuilding Industry and the Province as a whole. After viewing the tender documents, several obvious shortfalls makes bidding this work highly biased against Canadian Shipyards, like no equivalent statutory deductions (WCB, CPP or UN-Employment Insurance). Judith Reid, Minister of Transportation's comments, BC workers, "should be able to be competitive," are mind boggling when you consider BC Shipyards will have to bid against Countries where child labour still exists and shipyard workers are paid \$100 per month, further subsidizing their Industry by 40%. This is the first time in 43 years this global

LOCAL HIRES TOP GUN AS NEW ASSISTANT MANAGER

AS Business Manager, it is my pleasure to introduce the Local's new Assistant Business Manager, Dave Thompson.

We have worked closely together, on several occasions over the past seven years and I consider ourselves fortunate, to have an experienced right hand to assist with the Local's business.

Dave comes from our sister Local 213 in Vancouver. As an Assistant Business Manager there, he was responsible for their very successful Organizing program, Union Education and Safety.

Dave also has a thorough understanding of Negotiations, and the Federal and Provincial Labour Relations Boards. He was one of five labour representatives on the Workers Compensation Board, Health and Safety Advisory Committee and assisted in writing the WCB Regulations.

Dave is an inside wireman. A past City of Vancouver Policeman, graduated from BCIT with a Diploma of Technology in Broadcast Communication.

He is the Chairman of the BC Construction Safety and Health Committee and currently serves on the



ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER DAVE THOMPSON

Faculty of Labour Studies at Capilano College.

Dave says, "the opportunity to come over to the Island and work for Local 230 is an honour, I am extremely impressed as a result of prior work with Phil, his quiet confidence, innate ability to see the big picture and sheer commitment to the IBEW, makes things happen."

"This will be an exciting time for Local 230."

tender has been considered seriously, and runs completely in the opposite direction to the Federal Government's new National Shipbuilding Strategy, promoting a Canadian built program. The Metal Trades Council is currently looking at tactics to make the public more aware, as we believe it is the Governments responsibility to study and report back to it's citizens, the economic and social benefits of keeping this public / private work in British Columbia.

Cablevision

The Campbell River TV Association have applied to the BC Labour Relations Board, to sever the Technical and Office Foremen positions out of the Union. In turn, we have met with the Employer, written submissions to the BC Board and have applied to the Canadian Industrial Relations Board to move our certification there.

Motor Winders

Wismer and Rawlings have, bought the High Voltage Testing Co. from Seimens-Westinghouse and is short listed for the Provincial Contract with Norske Canada. While Duncan Electric Motor is staying busy with the saw, pulp, and paper mill industries.

Health Care

Along with Public Hospital closures there has been an application to consolidate a Provincial Seniority scheme allowing the transference and bumping of junior employees. This has had no impact on our workers thus far at the Royal Jubilee. The other Victoria Hospitals employ casuals on a small Capital Projects basis.

Municipal

The City of Victoria Agreement is nearing the open period and although they have a "me too" clause, piggy backing our members working at BC Hydro, this Agreement has not been opened up in decades and is overdue to be re-visited. There are also upcoming problems in the Radio Shop culminating from the start up of a new City

and Regional Communications Strategy.

Railway

After months of evaluation and public scrutiny under the process of the Round Table discussions, the creation of the Vancouver Island Railway Development Initiative (VIRDI) and now, a Human Resources Development Canada sponsored, Industrial Adjustment Committee, Rail America is poised to leave the Island at the end of September. We have been meeting with, what is looking like the new owners / operators, (Vancouver Island Railway Co.). This has been a roller coaster ride for our members at the E&N. With luck, they will have some job stability come the end of the year.

FREE DUES?

Local 230 members can easily qualify for the equivalent of one month's full dues payment. Simply enter our Photo Story Contest. To enter, submit a photograph and a one hundred word story, for use within the Locals' newsletter or website.

The competing stories can range in interest; from work sites, events, politics, Local trade issues, or general membership interest.

Each quarter, one of the stories and an accompanying picture will be selected as the qualified winner.

Winners will be paid \$82³⁴ the equivalent of one month's full dues, by the Local.

All entries must be submitted by email to the Local 230 webmaster at (sitecraft@shaw.ca). Story text must be pasted into the body of an email. The picture must be attached to the email as a 'high resolution' jpeg image.

Good Luck!

RON CALLAGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ron Callaghan was the President of Local 230. While working at his trade as a lineman in 1973, he was electrocuted on Parker Island, one of the small Gulf Islands. Ron was a young father and husband at the time of his tragic death. He was a safe, heads-up tradesman, well-liked by all who knew him. We are proud that we can extend his memory and, at the same time, assist young people with their formal education. This Scholarship is open to all children and grandchildren of local 230 members.

This Years' Award Winner
Scott Robert O'Neil

Scott is the son of Ken and Linda O'Neil. Ken is a member of Local 230 SINCE 1975.

Apprenticeship Continued From Page 2

for the Inter Provincial "Red Seal". This would create a whole class of sub-trades. In the words of Bob Blakey, the head of the Canadian Building Trades Council, "it will create wage slaves". According to Blakey the plan will leave workers unskilled or at best semi trained. The problem, is this is exactly what the ICBA and anti-union organizations want. If they have unskilled workers, they can keep the wages low and effectively capture the workforce. Workers will not have skills to offer other employers. "If all you can do is bang boxes on the wall, you will have to rely on one employer for your lively hood. The strategy of de-skilling seems to have run into a few problems. Most major industry, who rely on electricians and other trades, do not train apprentices. They rely on the Trade Unions to do that job. Large industry needs well trained and fully qualified trades people, to run their mills, plants, and mines etc. Modularization isn't going to provide the skills that industries need. Further, major Canadian industry doesn't like the idea, because workers in BC won't be able to qualify for the "Interprovincial Red Seal". Without a Red Seal, you can't work in the Alberta oil plants. Industries throughout Canada need well trained BC workers with Red Seals. Pressure on government from industry, has prompted them to slow down and strike a committee to review trades training in this Province. Labour has two representatives on this committee, Philip Legg (BC Fed) and Rod Goy (IBEW). The general consensus in labour circles is, the government will resurrect an ITAC model that will resemble the old ITAC, dominated by employers. In the mean time current apprentices will be processed until completion of their programs, receive their Trades Qualification, and be eligible to write the Inter Provincial Exam. The cost to apprentices rises, up to \$75.00 per week, to attend school. This is the highest in the country. E.I. will still be available if you qualify, with a slight change, by the Federal Government, benefitting apprentices. They will only be subjected to one waiting period in the four years of schooling, instead of the old system where each school term required a waiting period. We are following developments very closely and will be making sure your voice is heard. Apprenticeship is the life blood of our industry and we intend to protect it. Expect more updates on this vital issue in the future and check our website for bulletins.

Dave Thompson

TAR SANDS YIELD BLACK GOLD FOR LOCAL MEMBERS

Long work shifts and big pay cheques are status quo for Trade Union Members at the oil sands projects. Companies such as Syncrude, Suncor and others have provided employment opportunities for dozens of Local 230 members. Alberta's electrical contractors have come to rely on the skilled manner and strong work ethics of our members. Local 230 members upon return often refer to the safe and efficient methods used by Local 424 members and their contractors. "Their members really know the meaning of brotherhood", and "We were well looked after", are typical statements regarding the membership of Albertas' Electrical Trade Union. Alberta oil deposits are the largest on earth. Industrial expansions regularly dwarf the already monolithic sites. The Tar Sands construction projects look good for the long run.

MOTION CARRIES

An oversight creating the lack of a business office in Victoria, stands corrected. The motion carried within Local 230 unit meetings, resulted in a ballot box with 109 votes cast by attending members. The results are: (yes = 98) (no =10) (ineligible = 1)

DVD PROJECT RESUMES

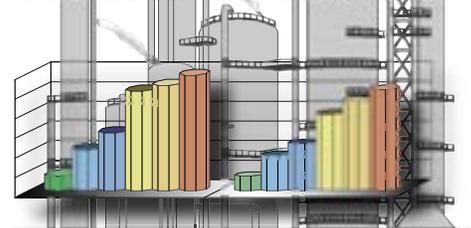
Efforts to more accurately reflect the membership of Local 230 in a commemorative keepsake, resulted in continuance of the Project 100 DVD, intending delivery to the membership at the 100TH Anniversary Party on November 9th, 2002. Attempting to capture the standing of our Local Trade Union has proven to be a challenge. Our vastness of geography and diversity of membership requires a fleet of videographers, instead we had one, working on a volunteer basis, for a period of 18 months. The production at this point is striking, and promises to achieve excellence. Evident throughout the DVD production is the same quality and effort displayed within the new quarterly newsletter and our popular website. The Visual Communication skills forwarded to this Local serve to preserve with our rich heritage. This 100TH Year, is our opportunity to demonstrate to ourselves, the inherent right to 100 more years as a Trade Union.



Brother Pierce Overlooks Syncrude Site

According to a Petroleum Economist, "Although tar sands occur in more than 70 countries, the bulk is found in Canada in four regions: Athabasca, Wabasca, Cold Lake, Peace River; together covering an area of some 77,000 km²". In fact, the reserve considered to be technically recoverable is estimated at 280-300 Gb (billions of barrels), larger than the Saudi Arabia oil reserves estimated at 240 Gb. The total reserves for Alberta, including oil not recoverable using current technology, are estimated at 1,700-2,500 Gb.

LOCAL 230 QUARTERLY FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



The purpose of this Section is to present a Quarterly Financial Overview of the Local's finances as a whole. Periodically individual accounts will be featured. Our Local has four (4) main funds as described in Article X, of our Bylaws, they are:

- The General Fund
- Defense Assistance Fund (strike fund)
- Electrical Industry Advancement Fund (market recovery)
- Legal Defense Fund.

We also have, the Cheer Fund, which is used to help out members in need. The Financial Secretary is charged with the duty of collecting all monies, transferring them into their appropriate accounts, then producing a record of their deposit to the Treasurer. The signing Officers for these Funds are, any two (2) of the three (3), the President, Vice-President, or Treasurer. However, all disbursements must also be "warranted" by the Recording Secretary first. We also co-manage the; Bursary Fund, Promotional Fund and Western Jets. Local 230's trustee to these accounts, by virtue of his Office is the Business Manager, in conjunction with other Provincial managers and Employers.