



Significant Growth in Tourism Spurs Construction Activity

The Island's tourism industry has suffered since the economic melt-down of 2007, however due to a resurging U.S. economy and rising greenback in contrast to our loonie, is resulting in an increase to the south Island Visitor Economy. Greater Victoria's tourism industry should be celebrating the fact 2015 experienced incredible growth over previous recent years, and should set the tone to continue driving further visitation and economic impact to the south Island region for 2016.



Some of the Houle Electric crew at the Empress Hotel.

The current push is to expand tourist stays into traditional off-peak season times.

What does this mean to us? An interest in upgrading and renovating to the areas hotels to provide a better visitor experience during their stay, that's where we come in. Better heating and cooling systems, and environmental controls, an emphasis on better room security, as well as typical lighting upgrades, kitchen and dining renovations as well. Houle Electric is currently working on many of these systems at the Empress Hotel, while Canem Systems is installing a new room key security system, and the lighting upgrade at the Hotel Grand Pacific on the south side of the



Brother Dave J.

inner harbour.

The south Island Tourism Industry is a Billion dollar industry, directly employing over 23,000 greater Victorians, serving about 3 million visitor stays, (reserved hotel room nights). This is likely a larger cash number if you consider distant family stays, you know the cousin from Seattle or Calgary who stays in you spare bedroom, and therefore has never been considered in any tourism study. I don't believe the indirect supplier/contractor spin-off jobs have ever been calculated for the industry, but this year we can include a good number of Local 230 members renovating local hotels and benefitting from the upswing in Tourism.



Brother Scott A.

Winter 2016

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News & Notes

The Local 230 Office is now open through lunch

Day of Mourning

11:00 AM Steps of the BC Legislature Building

Blue Print Reading Course

Victoria April 23 & 24
Nanaimo & Courtenay/ CR
Still being set up for May
Call Ken in the Local 230 Office to reserve a seat for the up-Island Courses

Baskin/IBEW Pig Roast

Save the date July 16th



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Business Manager's Report



Philip M. Venoit
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Before the Christmas break we started working with the new Federal Liberal Government to take a fresh look at a Federal Fair Contracting Act. A revamped Federal Fair Wage Act that will allow union construction contractors to be more competitive to maximize our market share. With the concept that pre-qualifying for federal infrastructure projects should not come on the backs of the non-union employees, our view is that pre-qualified contractors would have to pay a regional average wage for any particular classification, as well as a retirement scheme (pension or RRSP), and provide medical and dental benefits, along with a proven track record of supporting a learning environment for apprenticeships. We also wrote the Ministers of Transportation and Infrastructure on the proposed Provincial tariff relief for BC Ferries on the Polish built vessels tying any contemplated relief to new ferry construction jobs. In other words continue to send BC Ferry work off-shore and continue to pay federal tariffs, have the work performed in BC and get tax relief.

We wrote and shot our latest TV Commercial focused on Apprenticeship. With all levels of government interested in trades training, we are letting the world know the IBEW are the subject matter experts, which pairs nicely with the interview I did with the International Office which was printed in the fall edition of the Electrical Worker publication.

At the Maritime Sector Advisory Group we developed and approved our Terms of

Reference, went through the Labour Market Investment which created some good discussion amongst the Advisors. Many of whom are industry players like new Victoria Shipyard Manager Joe O'Rourke, past West Coast MARPAC Commander Alex Reuben current Director of IMTARC, Ian Baxter Supervisor at Esquimalt Dockyard, as well as representatives from Lockheed Martin, Babcock Canada, BC Ferries, Vancouver Port Authority, as well as Des Rogers President of the Dockyard Council and George McPherson President of the Canadian Boilermakers Lodge 1. This is a good mix of marine representatives and I'm sure we will develop a continued high standard of Trades Training for the Industry Training Authority and the marine industry. I was elected by the group to act as Co-Chair with John Beckett (who is also the Chairman for WorksafeBC). The Metal Trades unions have finalized the Marine Industry Stabilization Fund, and will be moving the monies set aside to an account



Dennis from DC Installations

with DA Townley. The five (5) Trustees to the Fund are;

- Dale Dhillon from the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 324
- Mark Curtis from the Sheet Metal Workers Local 276
- Gord White from the Boilermakers Lodge 191,
- Ron Wickett from the Machinists Local 3, and
- Phil Venoit from the IBEW Local 230.

I've floated the idea out to the Council

that the first use of the funds should be a promotional video showcasing our combined craft skills. As most ship owners have no idea what our capabilities are, they simply stop in because it's convenient to their route or in the event of an emergency. If we are truly going to rely on commercial vessels to pay our bills and raise our families, we have to raise the awareness to those who own commercial vessels, and the best way to do that today is through a visual medium.

In the Island work picture Houle recently picked up the Dockyard package as well as the first phase of the six acre Concert Properties project situated behind the Legislative Buildings, this project is a mixed use office and residential condominium complex spanning a major city block, the 3rd phase of the Uptown project, last year Houle also opened up a north Island Branch and they now employ ten members on various small project work, I would like to thank Nathan Huson for all his hard work to bring that work

back in the Union; while Canem has picked up two new Seniors Living in Saanich and Langford, the Nanaimo Memory Centre a new addition to the Nanaimo hospital designed to study the effects of Alzheimer's and Dementia, and two new Canadian Tire stores in Courtenay and Victoria, as well as the Legato a Condo, and are currently working on a Dockyard construction package as well; Island Temperature Controls picked up the controls package on the Concert Properties project above as well as the large project across from Victoria City Hall; FMI has a shut-down in Harmac; Black & McDonald is back on the Island picking up the Rocky Point munitions centre;

while Western Pacific has the slow moving and controversial bridge project; the City of Victoria has done some casual hiring with a few different projects starting up. With more large projects being tendered over the next few months, with the projects continuing to fly off the drafting table we are looking at being fairly busy in 2016.

I would also like to welcome new IBEW Local 230 Contractor DC Installations, working out of Ladysmith, with a focus on residential and light commercial work.

Statistics Canada: Bottom 20% of Households Spending Over Half Their Budgets on Basic Necessities

WE'RE MAKING AN IMPACT

How hard is it to make ends meet these days?

New data released Friday by Statistics Canada shows low-income Canadians are spending over half their budgets on food, shelter and clothes – basic necessities.

“The 20% of households with the lowest income spent an average of \$31,974 in 2014,” Statistics Canada reports. “Of this total, 51.2% was allocated to shelter, food, and clothing and accessories.”

On average, the bottom 20% of Canadian

But although households in the bottom 20% spent an average of \$31,974, they're likely spending more than they're bringing in.

The latest available data on incomes in Canada shows the ceiling for being grouped in the bottom 20% of households was \$26,200 in 2013.

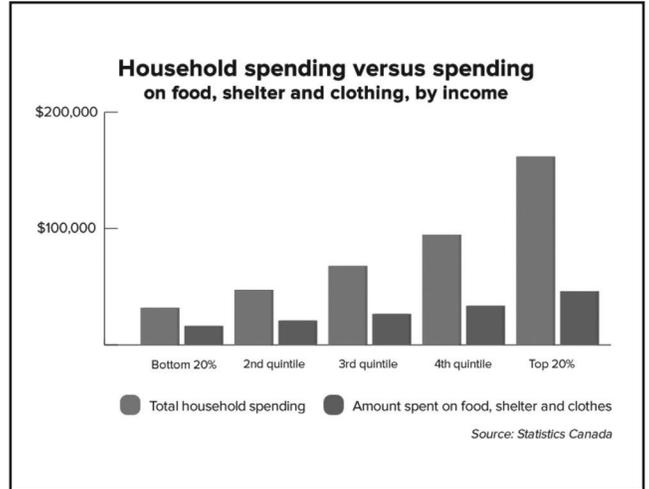
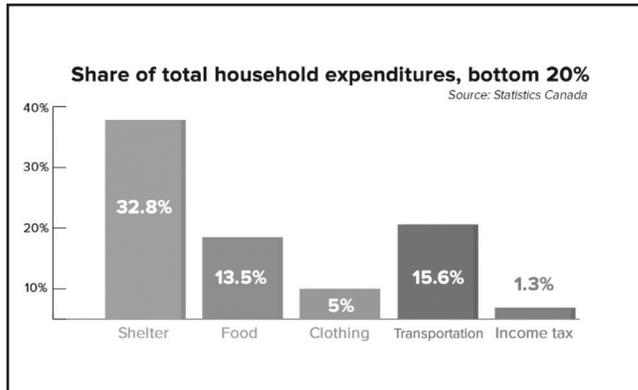
Households in the bottom 20% spend on average \$16,384 on food, shelter and clothing alone, representing 62.5% of the highest possible income one could earn while still being grouped in the bottom 20%.

While households in the bottom 20% spent over half their budgets on basic necessities, Statistics Canada's data shows the top 20% of households spent “28.5% of their budgets on shelter, food, and clothing and accessories.”

Higher incomes mean bigger budgets, of course – top households spend an average of \$46,167 on shelter, food and clothing each year, compared to \$16,384 for the bottom 20%.

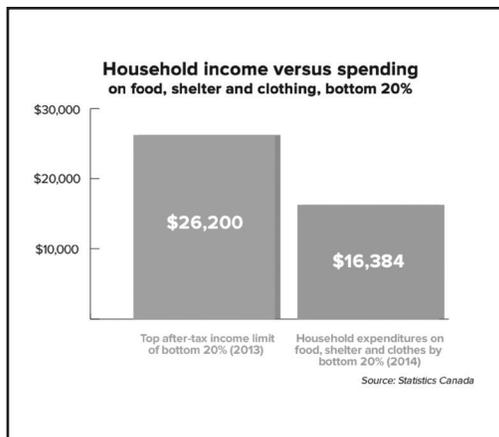
But the gap between what top (and

middle) income households spend on their budgets versus what they spend on basic necessities only underlines the squeeze Canadian households at the bottom are feeling these days with the rising costs of housing and food.



households spent \$10,484 on shelter, \$4,315 on food and \$1,585 on clothes.

Other big expenses for households in the bottom 20% include transportation (an average expense of \$4,984 in 2014), household operations (\$2,259), healthcare (\$1,232) and education (\$1,035).



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DRAW FOR
2016 Harley – Davidson
FL-Street Glide Special

\$100
 Per Ticket

Early Bird Draw

\$5000.00

May 18th, 2016 at the
 IBEW All Canada
 Progress Meeting
 in Winnipeg, Manitoba



Main Draw



2016 Harley – Davidson FL-Street Glide Special

Draw for the Bike will take place as soon as all tickets are sold.

Must be an I.B.E.W. Member to Purchase and Win

Tickets \$100.00 each • Only 500 tickets to be sold

Winning Tickets go back in for the next draw.

A second \$5000.00 cash prize
will be drawn as soon as all tickets are sold.

Proceeds to assist in funding of the reception at the
 IBEW International Convention in 2016.



Attention All Sisters:

The BC Business Manager's met last year to discuss the development of a Women's Committee in each of the five BC Locals. In early February Local 230 President Greg Gyorfi established the Local 230 Women's Committee and our sisters responded with an inaugural "Meet-Up" in late February.

This year Local 230 agreed to hold the 2016 BC Women's Conference in Victoria to be held on October 21st and 22nd. In preparation of that event there will be monthly Meet-up's until summer. Female members, If you would like to help out with this event or just get to know some of your sisters in the electrical field please call the office and Jen or Nicole can let you know the date of the next meet-up.

39th IBEW International Convention Call

The IBEW reviews its Constitution every five years; the International Convention is the body which decides what any amendments would look like, and how they will guide the IBEW through the next five years and beyond. The 39th Convention will be held from September 19th - 23rd, 2016. The Delegates and Alternates are nominated, decided and appointed consistent with these Bylaws, as well as the IBEW Constitution in Article 2, Section 10, and Article 17. The Business Manager and President serve as Delegates to the Convention by virtue of their respective offices. While any further Delegates and Alternates are elected at large and must be members of the Local Union with at least twenty-four months in "continuous good standing" in Local 230. Nominations for Local 230 Delegates and Alternates will occur under New Business at the Regular Unit Meetings during the month of May 2016. If an election is required it will be by a mail-out secret ballot vote, and those receiving the highest number of votes will fill the allowable number of Delegates representing Local 230, which will be determined consistent with Article 2, Section 8 of the IBEW Constitution. All ballots must be returned in the designated post office box by noon on July 8th the Vote will be counted that afternoon under the direction of the designated Judge as appointed by the Local Union President. This year the IBEW turns 125 years old and the Convention will be held in St. Louis home of Local 1 the birthplace of the IBEW.

2015 Retirees

Warmest Wishes to our 2015 Retirees after a lifetime of work we are proud to have had them in our midst, many gave back to their local union and the trade is better for having them in it.

Jack Quarnstrom	45 year member	Lloyd Gregory	13 year member
Merv Holowka	16 year member	Dennis Rye	14 year member
Soon Loo	36 year member	James Condon	15 year member
Stanislaw Godek	21 year member	Len Malette	17 year member
Gerald McDonough	46 year member	Fred Ormiston	46 year member
Mike McPherson	43 year member	Lorne Wright	33 year member
Gary Graham	50 year member	Frederick Gunn	39 year member

