



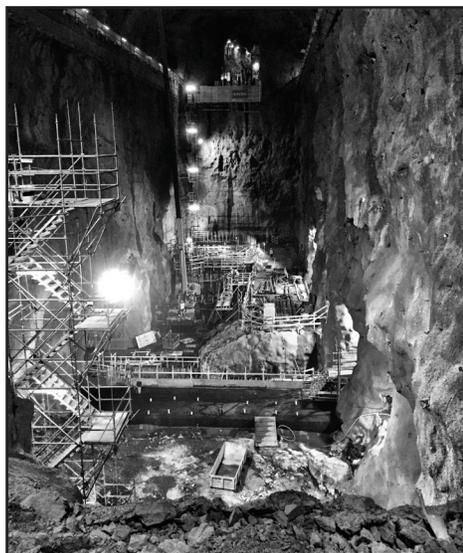
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Vancouver Island

Quarterly Newsletter

Since 1902

John Hart Dam Project

John Hart was a Victoria businessman, a long distinguished career politician, Finance Minister and BC Premier of (oddly enough) a Liberal-Conservative coalition government, from 1941 to 47. Premier Hart created the BC Power Commission, the predecessor to (BC Hydro), and developed the Commission with the concern to bring Electricity to BC's rural communities. The John Hart Dam Project was completed in 1947. Water is currently carried by three penstocks to the six unit, 126 MW power-house located downstream from Elk Falls. Three large surge towers are in place to prevent the penstocks from bursting during periods of low production when the flow gates are closed. John Hart Dam, along with the Strathcona and Ladore dams further upstream, make up the Campbell River Hydroelectric system. Today, these three dams produce approximately 11% of Vancouver Island's electrical supply, making John Hart one of Vancouver Island's most important electrical generating facilities. After 70 years of operation, the existing generating station is in poor condition. A new facility, with new equipment, will be more efficient and more reliable. It was also recognized in the event of a moderate earthquake the facility and pipelines are likely to fail. In early 2014, BC Hydro awarded SNC-Lavalin a contract to design, build, finance and maintain the John Hart Generating Station Replacement Project. SNC was just wrapping up the Brilliant Dam expansion with the Building Trades members working under the Allied Hydro Constructors, and saw the opportunity to partner up with us on Vancouver Island for the John Hart Dam. We met over two very long days to draft a project labour agreement (PLA) that made sense for SNC and our Island's members. To date, we have had three Local 230 Contractors onsite: FMI, who



constructed the two temporary Sub-stations, offices and grounding (they have also been awarded the power-house work), Frontier-Kemper who bored the tunnels (our members maintained the boring equipment), Alstom will be installing the generator portion of the project, and Houle will be onsite installing the controls portion. The de-contruction of the existing power-house and temporary sub-stations will also be Local 230's work and will be awarded later. The new facility will create a more reliable, environmentally friendly generating station with an installed capacity of 132 MW, increasing capacity to 17 percent of the Island's needs. This project will also involve the removal of three penstocks and the existing station to reduce the site's environmental footprint. Included in the project will also be a new water bypass facility to provide flow continuity below the generating station and protect the downstream fish habitat. This is a great and green project for Local 230 members to be part of, and helps to ensure the Island becomes a little more self-sufficient in our electrical generation needs.

Spring 2017

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Union Officers

News & Note

Baskin-IBEW Pig Roast
July 22nd, 3:00 PM
301 Peterson Road
Campbell River

IBEW Local 230
Building Society AGM
Will occur immediately after
the regular Unit Meetings in
the month of July

BC Provincial
General Election
May 9th, 2017
Get Out and Vote!



FIND
US ON
FACEBOOK

Business Manager's Report



Philip M. Venoit
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Asbestos File Ban and Awareness

We wrote Prime Minister Harper, every MP, Canadian Premier, BC MLA's and Mayors, advocating for a governmental effort to tackle the issues of Asbestos.

- A Canadian Building and Vessel Registry.
- A youth/ public awareness program declaring the last week of April each year as Asbestos Awareness Week.
- A higher provincial standard of education in remediation work so when we get to the job those who made our environment safer for us

to work in know exactly how to perform the work.

- A complete ban on the importation of products which contain asbestos, as there was no regulation prohibiting the importation of products containing asbestos.

Our story was printed on the front page of the National Issue of the Globe and Mail, I was interviewed by local and national CBC radio broadcasts, as well as local Island Newsprint.

The Provincial NDP has agreed to raise several motions in the BC Legislature advocating our position paper on Asbestos Awareness. CAREX (CARcinogen EXposure) asked me to contribute to a multi-institutional research project that combines academic expertise and government resources to generate an evidence-based carcinogen surveillance program for Canada, and to present at Simon Fraser University's Workplace Carcinogenic Symposium. We recently had the federal Liberals legislate a ban on importing asbestos into Canada beginning January 2018, and more recently we have had a verbal acknowledgement from the BC Liberals, if they are Government after the BC Election in May, that they will develop an Asbestos Awareness Program to be taught to all ELT classes for all construction and marine trades. We still have some way to go on this plan, but we are moving in the right direction.

Industry Training Authority, Technical Training & Bursary

I was elected as Co-Chair of the ITA's Maritime Sector Advisory Group made up of a good mix of marine representatives devoted to ensuring a high standard of Trades Training for the marine industry. At a recent meeting with all 11 sector chairs I was appointed by the Deputy Minister to participate in a five-person committee to explore the interests or needs of industry in compulsory certification of a trade. This will be very pivotal to maintaining the safest work environment for all electricians in BC. We ramped up our Western JETS technical training, as well as our soft skills, and blended learning courses. We purchased an enclosed utility trailer which has traveled the Island carrying all kinds of equipment and material to provide courses like; Conduit Bending, Frontline Leadership Training, Blue Print Reading, Bucket Truck Training, Low-voltage Cabling, Building Automation, and more, while Courses like WHMIS and Fall Protection are provided online.

The Bursary Committee met prior to our last construction negotiations and recommended a two-cent increase, which went through, creating a good cushion in the Fund. The Committee has instituted an increase to the Bursary paid out to our construction member apprentices to \$500 per school year. Apprentices must continue to attend four Union Meetings per year.

BC Safety Authority

After three years of warning the BC Safety Authority that the IBEW would not stand idle if they were to implement an Electrical Work Practitioner, which would allow the market to be flooded with semi-skilled/trained workers. I filed our Affidavit as the IBEW's Provincial Council Chairman to take the BCSA's Decision to a Judicial Review in the BC Supreme Court. We won that case, the Judge awarded us our legal fees, which the BCSA appealed, and we won that too. We will be going back to Court this summer.

Although the job of BC's Safety Authority is to keep British Columbians safe, we believe this move, if allowed, will put the public, our members and consumers



Western JETS truck and trailer visits Capital Park project



Three generations of Baskins. This years IBEW Baskin Pig Roast is July 22nd in Campbell River

at risk of electrocution, infrastructure damage, diminish consumer confidence, and drive up liability insurance for the industry, costing legitimate contractors more, to do the same work we do today.

Multi-sector Bargaining

Although we settled IBEW Provincial Construction Bargaining within 3 weeks of our last Agreement opening, we are waiting for other trades to finish their bargaining a year later. Over the last fourteen years, and since I've been the IBEW Chair for Negotiations, we settled again for \$.50 every six months of each year, bringing our Wage rate to \$38.54 for our ICI work as of May 1st. Dockyard negotiations resume in April, and Victoria Shipyard returns to the bargaining table in May. City of Victoria Negotiations will begin soon as well. We wrapped up the Motor Winders Agreement providing our members there a \$.65 increase each year over the next two years. The Railway negotiations are stalled. The balance of our collective agreements are settled.

Work Picture

The John Hart Dam will be ramping up over the next couple of months and should put 70 members to work. Victoria Shipyard has the HMCS Calgary in for flight deck modifications, crypto install, and Generator replacements, the HMCS Winnipeg, and the New Zealand Anzacs will be coming in as well as the first of the new Coast



COMET Class in Courtenay

Guard vessels, we will be back up to around 200 members there by early August. While construction around the South Island will continue to ramp up at the City Centre, Capital Park and many other smaller projects, the billion dollar south Island Sewage Treatment project is aggressively moving ahead to meet project deadlines to ensure federal and provincial funding, Harbour Resource Partners were the chosen team and WesPac is their electrical contractor.

Federal & Provincial Politics

The defeated Harper Conservatives resurrected Bill C-377 which was declared by Senate as over-reaching, simplistic, discriminatory and un-Constitutional. The Bill, if passed, would have allowed the world to see what type of medications you were on, would have required us to financially display how much we had in our strike funds. The CLAC and ICBA would be able to see our market recovery and legal funds and then decide if we are an easy financial target, if we could be easily defeated in bargaining and more. This was nuclear union busting, and due to those vicious attacks on Canadian workers and their unions, our International Offices directed us to become more politically involved. Since being elected in October 2015, the federal Liberals have repealed a number of anti-union Bills, enacted positive increases to the Canadian Pension Plan, working to restoring a balance for workers on Employment Insurance, and have put forward a recent budget containing a good deal of Infrastructure work designed to put our members back to work. Meanwhile, Stephen Harper has signed on to help Christy Clark win her Election this May. The IBEW Business Managers have put our heads together to develop our **2017 Provincial Position Paper** which was sent out in early April.



Women's Committee attends Women's March to protest Trump

Medical and Dental

We increased our basic dental coverage to \$2,500 per family member, and increased the physio/massage/ etc. to \$1,000 per family member. We did have to increase the subsidized self-pay to 50%, and the 25% of the non-subsidized self-pay accounts.

Late last year we tested **Debit** in the office so our members had a more convenient option to pay their dues, and now that we are confident it creates no technical issues with our banking, it has been available at the Nanaimo & Campbell River/ Courtenay Unit Meetings this year, and will be available at the Victoria & Marine Unit Meetings as well later this year.

Mourn for the dead
Fight for the living



APRIL 28, 2017
VICTORIA, BC

Memorial Procession - 10:30 AM
Starts at Victoria Conference Centre

Ceremony to follow - 11:00 AM
BC Legislature



Co-hosted by CUPE BC and the Victoria Labour Council

The Day of Mourning is coming up on April 28th- keep an eye out for our TV Commercial running on CHEK 6. The Day of Mourning was initiated in Canada as a “worker’s day” to remember those who have died at work, at the same time to continue to fight for the living worker through education and training, and by making young workers aware of potential dangers to their jobs. The Construction Industry is the worst contributor to fatalities and the second worst contributor in workplace accidents causing injury. This year’s Day of Mourning ceremony will be held at the BC Legislative Building, where many of the Island’s unions will be in attendance. If you are able to attend, please contact Jen in our office. Take a moment out to reflect on those we have lost, and how your workplace could be made safer.

MARCH 1 - OCTOBER 31

**WIN WITH
UNION SAVINGS**

CANADA'S ONLY NOT-FOR-PROFIT, UNION RUN, MEMBERS' BENEFIT PROGRAM

**ATTENTION UNION MEMBERS!
\$10,000 GIVEAWAY**

Union Savings is giving union members the chance to win a grand prize of \$10,000! Visit WinWithUnionsavings.ca for your chance to win. No purchase necessary.

Nomination Call for IBEW Local 230 Union Officers

Nominations for Officers of Local Union 230 will be held as follows:

Anyone desiring to be nominated must be present during the nominations or provide a written and signed statement of willingness that they will accept the specific nomination. No member may be a candidate for more than one Office. Anyone nominated to more than one Office must choose the Office for which they will be a candidate.

In order to be nominated, a member must have a minimum of two (2) years of continuous good standing in Local Union 230. Good standing means that the member is current in their payment of dues and has been for the two (2) years preceding the nominations. Apprentices are not eligible to hold Office in the Local Union.

Nominations will proceed in the order of Offices as listed in the IBEW Constitution whose term of Office shall be three (3) years.

IBEW Local 230 Nominations for the positions of President and delegate to the International Convention, Vice-President, Treasurer, Business Manager/Financial Secretary and delegate to the International Convention, and Recording Secretary will occur at the following Unit Meetings during the month of May 2017.

Marine Unit Meeting, May 10th
5:00 PM Esquimalt Legion
622 Admirals Road, Victoria

Victoria Unit Meeting, May 11th
7:00 PM Pro Patria Legion
411 Gorge Road East, Victoria

Nanaimo Unit Meeting, May 17th
7:00 PM Nanaimo Office
306-477 Wallace Street Nanaimo

Campbell River Unit Meeting, May 18th
7:00 PM Halbe Hall
8369 Island Highway, Black Creek

Marine Unit Meeting, June 14th
5:00 PM Esquimalt Legion
622 Admirals Road, Victoria

Campbell River Unit Meeting, June 15th
7:00 PM Halbe Hall
8369 Island Highway, Black Creek

Nanaimo Unit Meeting, June 21st
7:00 PM Nanaimo Office
306-477 Wallace Street Nanaimo

Nomination Call for Unit Officers

IBEW Local 230 Nominations for the positions of Unit Chairman & Executive Board Member, Vice-Chair and Recording Secretary for each of the Unit Meetings will occur at the following Unit Meetings during the month of June 2017.

Victoria Unit Meeting, June 8th
7:00 PM Pro Patria Legion
411 Gorge Road East, Victoria

The Election

Date: June 29th, 2017

Time: The Election Judge and Tellers will pick up the ballots from the designated PO Box at 10:00 AM.

Place: The ballots will be counted in the Local 230 Boardroom located at Suite 103-2823 Jacklin Rd. Victoria BC.

Any ballots coming into the Post Office Box later than stipulated above will not be counted.