



## BC General Election Results



**Party Leaders : David Eby, Sonia Furstenu, John Rustad**

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<b>NDP</b>	<b>47 seats</b>
<b>Conservatives</b>	<b>44 seats</b>
<b>Green</b>	<b>2 seats</b>

*Premier Eby will be swearing in his cabinet and electing a Speaker for a fall sitting of the legislature. The fall sitting will depend on the automatic judicial recounts in Kelowna Centre and Surrey-Guildford.*

Our provincial election is another example to add to a growing global Billionaire Business Shift (BBS) or simply BS. Like the US, Latin America, and Europe, Canada has followed suit in giving these reactionary, cynical and individualistic parties more power. Political analysts are trying to understand why this BS phenomenon is happening, and while there is no consensus on the defining characteristics of these parties or what to call them, there are a few similarities. These groups tend to share xenophobic, nationalistic traits, aggressive leadership and anti-elitist messaging with deep pocket financial backings.

Analysts agree there has been rapid social, economic and cultural change globally. To make things more difficult, the COVID pandemic exacerbated issues by damaging peace and political stability. Historical evidence shows that pandemics, like Polio and the Spanish Flu, strain the relationship between government and its citizens by breaking down the trust with restrictive measures. Opportunistic politicians take these fears and use them tactically. They tell voters they should be afraid and point fingers at the government of the day using "us" vs "them" rhetoric. This division is easy to create because citizens see only one smoothly spun alternative model for reform, the BS. What we forget to acknowledge is that these problems cannot all be attributed to the government of the day. Some of these issues, like the price of fuel and groceries, are well beyond our government's control and are prominent issues prevailing across all countries. We need to keep

in mind what is truly important: a meaningful job and wage, health care, and retiring with dignity.

The 2024 BC General Election has proven to be a historical one with over one million advance votes cast and razor-thin races between NDP and Conservative candidates. It took 9 days to get the results counted as 66,000 mail-in and absentee ballots needed to be hand counted, and 3 jurisdictions by law required a recount: Juan de Fuca-Malahat, Surrey City Centre, and Kelowna Centre. The final results are pending judicial recounts set for November 7-8.

Vancouver Island remains an NDP stronghold winning 12 out of 15 seats, the Conservatives took North Island and Courtenay-Comox while the Greens took Saanich North and the Islands.

The Green Leader, Sonia Furstenu has had an initial conversation with Premier Eby and has not returned Conservative Leader, John Rustad's call. Rustad's leadership has been all but a disappointment thus far and the Greens will not engage in a conversation until Rustad answers to the "truly disturbing, racist, dehumanizing, homophobic and conspiratorial" comments made by candidates of his party.

The election results show the NDP will need to pivot or work harder on issues such as addictions and mental health, housing and affordability. There also needs to be outreach to the rural areas. Lastly, when we reflect on leadership, all we need to do is pay attention to who is trying to work for Canadians rather than promoting civil disorder.

## Volume 4 : 2024

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### Member's Dues Auto-Deposit

To send dues payment via e-Transfer, email [dues@ibew230.org](mailto:dues@ibew230.org)

Nonworking dues rate as of January 1st, 2025 :

- "A" Members = \$57/month
- "BA" Members = \$33/month

### December Meetings

**Marine Unit - December 11th @ 5:00pm** Training Centre, 859 Viewfield Rd

**Victoria Unit - December 12 @ 7:00pm** Training Centre, 859 Viewfield Rd

**Nanaimo Unit - December 18 @ 7:00pm** Nanaimo Office, 306-477 Wallace St.

**Courtenay/CR Unit - December 19 @ 7:00pm** Halbe Hall, 8369 N. Island Highway

**Port Alberni Info Meeting - December 17 @ 7pm** Best Western Barclay Hotel, 4277 Stamp Ave

### Business Hours

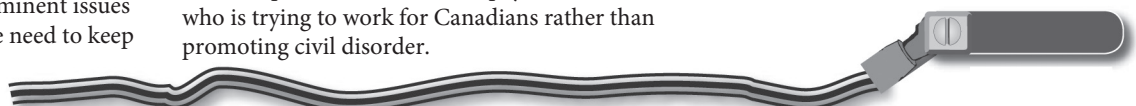
Main Office: 8:00am - 5:00pm  
 Training Centre: 8:00am - 5:00pm

### Holiday Closure

Closing on Tuesday, December 24th @ 12:00pm  
 Re-opening on Thursday, January 2nd @ 8am

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# BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT



**Business Manager Phil Venoit**

With Remembrance Day around the corner, I would like to remind the members, this is a day devoted to honoring our Nation's Veterans who gave the ultimate sacrifice to ensure Canada continues today to be a free and democratic society. Let us Never Forget the atrocities war brought upon our nation, and attend a Remembrance Day event in your area, or at the very least spend a few moments to open your heart and mind to those who courageously fought oppression, and those around the world today who are being ground down by geo-political displacement, by profit driven oligarchs, and by religious persuasion.

That was the design of this Day. The IBEW Provincial Council is sponsoring the event coverage again this year being held on the B.C. Legislature lawn in Victoria.

I wrote Prime Minister Trudeau concerning the upcoming negative changes to the Incentive and Completion Grants coming March 31, 2025. Making it tougher on Apprentices across the country to set aside enough money to attend school. We also requested he consider increasing the allowable non-taxable limit on student bursaries as well.

I also wrote our WorkSafeBC Submission on Better Sanitation for the construction industry, which came into effect October 1st. This gets us one step closer to seeing flush toilets on our job sites all over B.C. If you are on a jobsite where management is still using a locked flush toilet, and the crew are still having to use a plastic covered, chemically treated, feces bucket, please let me know so we can have WorkSafeBC drop by the job and correct this by taking the locks off for all workers to use.

The construction locals in B.C. engaged with the contractors who work in the High-Voltage testing and calibration market, in what is abnormal negotiations. But because our last round was both rushed for the Trades, and protracted for the main table negotiations, both IBEW and the CLRA electrical contractors agreed to meet with each other through the closed period of the collective agreement to discuss some specific marketplace adjustments. Our next

meeting date with this group is scheduled in November. I'm pushing for our next group to be the Residential market group, and Data/Tel market after that.

We continue to meet with the contractors to drill down on the expected standards of safety training and a list of the currently employed members who are credentialed in the Job Ready Dispatch Construction Safety Training courses.

We will likely begin training for those in need of Fall Arrest and Arial Work Platform Training in early 2025. Meanwhile, members who have not renewed their WHIMS ticket and Confined Space Awareness, both are offered online through the Western JETS website. These courses will become mandatory at some point soon, so sign up if you need to renew your certificate as soon as they become available.

We are also requesting immediately all construction members take on the responsibility of having your hearing tested annually. This is a free service for construction workers, and as you age and your hearing diminishes, you will need hearing aids. These annual tests can help pinpoint when and what jobs you were working on when you experienced the hearing loss, and therefore be covered for the costs of your hearing aids.

We attended a COMET (Construction Organizing Membership Educational Training) Train the Trainer event with Reps Scott, Mangat and Kiernan. This past October, they facilitated classes up Island for potential member organizers. We'll be hosting additional courses for the South Island on February 27th if you're unemployed and March 1st for those employed. If you are working or plan on working non-union anytime soon, you will be required to take this course as soon as possible.

We organized the workers at SRD Controls out of Victoria and are currently in the process of negotiating their first contract. We are hoping to have a quick agreement in place soon with a better wage/benefit package for the workers, while respecting the company needs the time to bridge their current work and clients. This is Local 230 being committed to long-term relationships with employers that provide opportunities that benefit our members for years to come.

## Local 230 Veterans Committee

**Committee Chair:** Jeremey Switzer

**Email:** [vetcom@ibew230.org](mailto:vetcom@ibew230.org)

We ask for all Local 230 veterans to please contact the Chair and participate in the committee.

Thank you





# TRADES WOMEN BUILD NATIONS



**IBEW Local 230 Delegates with IBEW Canadian IVP Russ Shewchuk**

Brent Booker, General President, Laborers' International Union of North America.

The Honorable Julie Su, Acting Secretary. U.S. Department of Labor. And The Honorable Joe Biden, President of the United States of America. Followed by a Banner Parade where these proud 5,000 tradeswomen marched through a pre-determined Parade Route.

Some of the classes our 230 delegates took were; Bias and Belonging, Bystander to Up-stander, and Public Speaking, at the IBEW conference, then they took, Tradeswomen Helping with Suicide Prevention in Construction, Union Leadership Structure and Why It's Important, and Building a Sisterhood.

Early this Fall we had four Local 230 Sisters join over 5,000 other female union construction workers at the North American Building Trades event, Women Build Nations Conference.

Prior to this conference, they joined over 800 IBEW women for two days for a range of speakers and educational workshops.

Sister Lauren S.M. Executive Board Member, Local 230 Recording Secretary, past Chair of the Youth Committee, and current Chair of the Local 230 Women's Committee; Desere S. of the Dockyards Fleet Maintenance Facility and Chair of their Apprenticeship Committee; Alexandra R. this year's Golden Pliers Award Winner as Local 230's top apprentice; and Alexandria L.W. new Journey Service Electrician.

Local 230 Sister Lindsay K. attended as a guest on behalf of the BCCWITT. This event is held every two years and this year it was held in New Orleans. Opening speakers for this event were Sean McGarvey, President, NABTU. Dr. Christine Yu Moutier, Chief Medical Officer American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Blanca Diaz, Construction Executive for Turner Construction the

largest Construction Company in the world working in over 60 countries, with revenue over \$17 billion in 2023, finishing notable projects like downtown Dubai's Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest skyscraper. Anne Ackerley, Managing Director, BlackRock is the world's largest enterprise asset risk manager with over \$10 trillion under their management.

I can honestly say, every step of the way, they made me proud and served the entire Local 230 membership in an exemplary fashion. All in all, our sisters learned a great deal and came back pumped to make Local 230 a better union.



**IBEW Local 230 Sisters at Banner Parade, TWBN Conference 2024**



# Congratulations to our new Red Seal Electricians!



**Top Left:** Matthew B., Kaden S., Kevin A.  
**Middle Left:** Lucas L., Thomas V., Alexandra L. W.  
**Bottom Left:** Seamus S., Cameron D., Sean D.