



SHEET METAL WORKERS LOCAL 8 NEWSLETTER

Meeting Dates 2020

JANUARY	
Ft. McMurray	07-Jan
Edmonton	14-Jan
Calgary	16-Jan

FEBRUARY	
Ft. McMurray	11-Feb
Edmonton	18-Feb
Calgary	20-Feb

MARCH	
Ft. McMurray	10-Mar
Edmonton	17-Mar
Calgary	19-Mar

APRIL	
Ft. McMurray	07-Apr
Edmonton	15-Apr
Calgary	17-Apr

MAY	
Ft. McMurray	12-May
Lethbridge	14-May
Edmonton	19-May
Red Deer	20-May
Calgary	21-May

JUNE	
Ft. McMurray	09-Jun
Edmonton	16-Jun
Calgary	18-Jun

SEPTEMBER	
Ft. McMurray	08-Sep
Edmonton	22-Sep
Calgary	24-Sep

OCTOBER	
Ft. McMurray	06-Oct
Lethbridge	08-Oct
Edmonton	13-Oct
Red Deer	14-Oct
Calgary	15-Oct

NOVEMBER	
Ft. McMurray	10-Nov
Edmonton	17-Nov
Calgary	19-Nov

DECEMBER	
Ft. McMurray	10-Dec
Edmonton	17-Dec
Calgary	19-Dec

Meeting Dates 2021

JANUARY	
Ft. McMurray	12-Jan
Edmonton	19-Jan
Calgary	21-Jan

Government Update

As predicted the UCP has gone after the lower and middle class with budget cuts. These cuts will affect Unionized Health Care Workers and could cost Between 3,900 and 4,900 union jobs in the health care sector alone and with cuts to education the Public schools may have to cut up to 300 teachers. These cuts will obviously result in increased class sizes and on top of that they will probably increase school fees. University tuitions will also be going up drastically. These cuts are to help compensate for the decrease in the corporate tax which they we be dropping from 12 per cent to 8 per cent by 2022.

What do these cuts mean to you? Well for starters, one of the first things The UCP did was cancel The \$600,000,000 dollar Super Lab, which the ground work was already well underway. This would have employed a large number of trades people for several years, plus many full time positions would have been created. These cut will also affect any new or planned expansions for Hospitals, Universities or Schools.

After having the PC party in for 44 years, everyone should know by now, Conservatives are not a Labour friendly Government and never will be. They have already reversed several of the Labour laws that the NDP changed which were beneficial to the Unions. One of the hot issues was the carbon tax, the carbon tax in 2018 cost the average family between \$500 and \$1000 for the year, that's \$42 to \$84 dollars per month, and that was before any rebate you may of received. This seems like a small price to pay when you consider that now our health care system will be even more over burdened and our children will be less likely to receive a proper education.

*Shawn Griffin
Business Manager
Financial Secretary Treasurer*

Rumor Mill

- As most of us have heard the 2020 Shutdown/Turnaround season is rumored to be a busy one.
- At this point we don't have any concrete start dates or manpower numbers but we do expect there to be 2 or more shutdowns starting at the same time or at the very least overlapping. This is raising concerns regarding ability of the BTA to supply manpower.
- If the season does in fact unfold the way it is rumored to it would certainly be an opportunity to not only have our members on site representing local 8 but, also working as permit workers through other BTA halls as well.
- As more information becomes available we will of course let the membership know through the website, Facebook page and columns such as this one in the newsletter.



When betting goes bad

*Shaun Koropchuk
Business Representative*

Southern Update

Hello brothers and sisters, for those of you who don't know me my name is Chris Taylor, and I'm the newly elected business rep in the south. I would like to thank everyone for their continued support as I move forward in this new role.

As the New Year begins, the work picture so far has been moderate with talk of it picking up into the spring.

Modern Niagara is the busiest of our Contractors at this time with projects such as the Calgary Cancer Centre, South Center mall and multiple smaller projects confirmed and moving forward. Crosstown has been holding steady with the Telus Sky and West Village Tower projects. Reggin has been steady and have had multiple meetings regarding their contract negotiations. As well, the CBE has been holding steady with a new contract signed. Igloo has been steady and looking for apprentices and pre-apprentices to join their team.

With projects such as the BMO Centre out for tender (breaking ground this fall) and with the New Flames Arena coming up for tender (2021), Calgary has some major projects to look forward to; and our contractors are all focused on securing the work.

*Chris Taylor
Vice President
Southern Business Representative*

New Swag Coming Soon

So after some feedback from the Members we have decided to change suppliers for our T-Shirts and Hoodies, we are more then likely going back to our old supplier Novel Notion (NNA). Most of the complaints were about the durability and the printing process for the large patch on the T-Shirts not breathing.

We have met with NNA and they are working on a quote and some new ideas for promo items and ideas for the Service Awards.



Issue

4

1st Quarter
2020

SHEET METAL | AIR | RAIL | TRANSPORTATION



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Tax Receipts

If you have moved in the last year please call or email LeeAnn@local8.ca and update your address so you will receive you T4.

We don't close off year-end until early February to give all Members and Companies time to get their dues submitted. We have to finish year end, so please avoid calling about the T4's they will be mailed out as soon as possible.

Thanks.

Election Results

I would like to congratulate Chris Taylor on his Election win. As of September 1, 2019 he has replaced Steve Satter as the new Southern Rep working out of the Calgary Office.

I would also like to congratulate our new Trustees and Executive Board Members

Executive Board South
Andy Kadatz

Union Trustees
Gerry Melcosky
David Duczynski
Casey Delay

Pension Trustee
John Archer

The Newsletter

Going forward we will be releasing the newsletter every quarter. They will mail out mid January, April, July and October.

Remembering the Ones We Have Lost 2019

Bill Gabert 79 years old (54 year Member) Ron Frank 81 years old (28 Year Member)
Nathan Persel 79 years old (45 year Member) Danial Prefontaine 59 years old (20 year Member)
Gray Thompson 71 years old (45 year Member) Sean Harrison 40 years old (5 year Member)

Happy New Year

I would like to start by wishing everybody a Happy New Year and a thanks to all the members who have stood by the hall over the past year. I know its not always easy when there isn't a lot of work available.

2019 was a challenging year for the Unionized Trades in Alberta. With the economy continuing to be slow and the new Government creating lots of uncertainty, we could see this year, being relatively slow also. Several of our contractors are bidding smaller jobs, just to keep people working.

The Building Trade Unions have been pushing the Government for the approval of the Frontier Project which at peak should employ 7000 Trades people and create 2500 full time positions.

Negotiations Update

As most of you are aware we started negotiation for our new Provincial Construction Agreement on September 5, 2018. Since the start we have made very little progress, we have not been able to come to an agreement on wages. We haven't met in months but should be resuming soon. We will try and keep you posted as much as possible but unfortunately we are very limited on what we can report on.

New Software

I am glad to finally announce that we will be updating the union management software in the second quarter of 2020. This has been a long time coming and should greatly increase the ability to communicate with the Membership. There will also be an app which is available for both iPhone and Android. The app will allow for members to check and pay their dues online and for us to post Important news updates. The software will also send mass text and emails which will make it much easier to update Member on important events. For members who don't have smart phones, the old way of paying dues will still be in Place.

Working Non-Union

We currently have been hovering around 20% to 24% unemployment, yet when we have calls go on the board we quite often have a hard time filling them. We understand that everyone has bills to pay, so we don't want to punish anyone for looking after their families. If you do have to work Non-Union please let the Hall know. The information you provide will help us in organizing new companies and help with negotiations.

When you do have to work non-union please try and keep your monthly dues paid. We have been enforcing the no job solicitation or name hirer for Reinstatements and new members. This is to help ensure Members who have been waiting and keeping their dues up to date, get the first chance at any jobs that are available. This By-law has been in place for years but has not been enforced.

Hourly Per Capita Dues

I received notice from the international that they will be raising the per capita dues July 1st, 2020 from 0.17 cents per hour to 0.19 cents per hour. According to the constitution the per capita dues should have been raised on July 2017 to 0.18 and again on July 2018 to 0.19 and January 2019 to 0.20 but they waved the increase each year and kept it at 0.17 cents. Although nobody like to see an increase this should only make a 3 to 4 dollar per month difference.

The new constitution will be available online by the end of the month. In it you will find the per capital dues increases until 2024. Keep in mind, that the International may wave the increases again.

Service Awards

Starting this year there will be a selection of items for certain service award years. We are currently waiting on pricing for some of the possible items. Once we have finalized them we will have them on the website and in the next newsletter.

Ft. McMurray Meeting

Same time new place:

They are located just across the parking lot from the Stonebridge by Montana's. They are giving us a better price and the facilities are much nicer.



Clearwater
Suite Hotel

4 Haineault St, Fort McMurray, Alberta