



MARINE WORKERS & BOILERMAKERS INDUSTRIAL UNION LOCAL 1

FEBRUARY 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

FRED SIMMONS

The last year has been challenging for all. The initial uncertainty of the spread of the virus and what we all needed to do to protect ourselves caused anxiety for many members struggling with the decision to go to work and increase their risk of exposure or face the financial hardship of unemployment. If there was a silver lining in all of this, most of our certifications remained open. There continues to be many workers whose only option was to apply for government assistance or look for employment elsewhere as businesses closed their doors.

Some certifications have slowed over the year and had to implement workshare programs to avoid layoffs. We credit employees who agreed to participate in the Work-Share program, for keeping their co-workers employed.

Several general business meetings have been cancelled due to COVID-19. We hope the current restrictions will end soon so we can return to holding those meetings and encourage the members to get involved and attend the monthly meetings once restrictions are lifted.

One of our smaller certs had to close for two weeks as a number of workers tested positive. We are happy to report that it has since reopened with everyone recovering quickly.

The union office remains on Canada Way for the immediate future as the Maritime Labour Centre is rented to capacity. The occupancy permit for the kitchen has finally been approved and we welcome Len's Catering as the newest tenant.

Contract negotiations have recently been completed at Lochhead Haggerty, Enermax Manufacturing, Earls Industries, and DBC Survitec. Osborne Propellers negotiations are currently underway and Allied Shipbuilders will soon begin. Allied Shipbuilders has secured some Federal work, which will keep them and the dispatcher busy for several months ahead.

A reminder to all, if you become unemployed, please contact the Union as it is important that you are updated in the system and we are aware that you are available for work. Some of our employer's fail to inform us of layoffs and if you are not registered you may be missing out on work.

In Solidarity,

Fred Simmons

IMPORTANT

**GENERAL BUSINESS
MEETINGS CURRENTLY
CANCELLED DUE TO
COVID RESTRICTIONS.**

**UNION OFFICE
136-4299 Canada Way
Burnaby**

**COVID RESTRICTIONS
ENFORCED**

**8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed noon to 1:00 p.m.**



MEMBERS SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS WHEN POSTING TO SOCIAL MEDIA. THESE SITES COULD BE ACCESSED BY YOUR EMPLOYER. DISCRETION IS ADVISED.

SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT Lyall Freeman

The finances of the Union remain strong as we maneuver through several litigations while enforcing our collective agreements, including ensuring proper vacation pay to be paid, seniority rights, wrongful termination, improper drug and alcohol testing.

We are grateful for George MacPherson's participation in these proceedings as well as our current and retired members who assist us with their testimonies.

Dispatch has been very busy; we ask that at the very least, you return calls promptly and keep us up-to-date regarding your availability.

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE REPORT Denyse Dekler

PORT ALBERNI – CANADIAN MARITIME ENGINEERING

The company continues investing in its infrastructure and now has three sites in Port Alberni including one at Canal Beach. Below is an ice boat being constructed in Port Alberni.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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 604-299-7482
 Toll Free 1-800-663-1356

VANCOUVER DRYDOCK Last year started out as hectic as 2019, until of course March when the reality of COVID struck. While shipyards were classified an “essential service”, with much of VDDs future work coming from outside Canada, the impact of a closed border and the reluctance of workers exposing themselves came into play. After a few months, the employer with the guidance of WCB and Public Health, implemented a plan on risk reduction which continues to evolve as we see the business getting busier again. A few unrelated positive cases did surface in the last six months with no further transmission found through contact tracing of co-workers. The issue for those identified by the Public Health Authority as having close contact (more than 15 mins, no mask, within 2 metres of positive individual) is the financial effect of having to resort to CERB when they are ordered by Public Health to quarantine.

Management and the Union faced each other again at arbitrations in 2020 debating key issues, resulting in favourable outcomes for our members. We have a key arbitration scheduled for May to deal with our unresolved grievance on contracting out work traditionally performed by our painters and sandblasters.

MAVERICK HYDRODEMOLITION SERVICES Since Maverick joined us in 2019, we have been working through some challenges in ensuring the relationship works for all parties. Several of our painters and sandblasters have been trained on the ultra-high equipment, opening doors for those members.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Marine Workers & Boilermakers Industrial Union Local No. 1 will be awarding scholarships to a maximum \$1,000.00 for FIRST YEAR applicants for University, College or Trade School to children or grand-children of the Marine Workers Local 1 members in good standing.

The criteria and applications will be available on our website. Applications are to be submitted to the attention of the Marine Workers Union’s Secretary-Treasurer and will be referred to the Scholarship Committee, which will determine the successful applicants and amounts to be awarded. The application must be received at the union office by July 31 of the current year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The scholarship committee noted that: ***All applicants easily met the requirements and have engaged in numerous extra-curricular activities that are of continuing social values to their communities. Their parents can be truly proud of them.***



Brian Park, father Jason Park
Vancouver Drydock



Christine Singh, father Nijay Singh
Osborne Propellers



Vanessa Rivard, grandchild
Thomas Gray, Allied - HLM

IN MEMORIAM 2020

Anthony Eberhard	Allied
Leonard Hodgson	Burrard Drydock
Roy Haraga	Burrard Drydock
Raymond Eades	Canon
Brian Emslie	Allied
Brian Shepherd	Allied
Bill Gilmore	Allied
Bo Lonquist	Allied/VDD
David Bell	Allied
John Stanley	Allied
Raymond Chan	Versatile



IF YOU ARE INJURED AT WORK

- ✓ Report to employer immediately;
- ✓ See First Aid;
- ✓ Seek medical attention if directed by First Aid (or employer) or if you do not have First Aid and feel it is needed; and
- ✓ Report your injury or occupational disease to the WCB 1-888-967-5377.

If you are on WCB OR Wage Indemnity, advise the Union and DA Townley Pension Department to have your credits to pension adjusted.

WELFARE AND PENSION

T4A's

DA Townley, the union's welfare and pension plan administrator are sending out the T4As. They will **also send your pension statements later in the year**. We remind you to ensure your beneficiaries are correct for both your pension and life insurance. Please note that your union death benefit beneficiary is separate from pension and life insurance beneficiaries. Any changes to your death benefit beneficiary must be provided directly to the union. Remember to keep your addresses and phone numbers updated with both the union and the Administrator. **DA Townley Toll Free: 800-663-1356 Phone: 604-299-7482**



MANY WORKERS TODAY HAVE NO APPRECIATION OF THE STRUGGLES ENDURED BY PREVIOUS GENERATIONS IN ORDER TO GAIN THE FAIR WAGES, OVERTIME, HEALTH AND PENSION PLANS, VACATION AND SAFER WORKING CONDITIONS THEY NOW AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE FROM A UNION JOB. SUPPORT YOUR UNION AND ITS HISTORY. VISIT FOR MORE ON BC LABOUR HISTORY.

UNIONS RAISE WAGES FOR BOTH UNION AND NON-UNION SECTORS.