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The Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario
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Brothers and Sisters,

With 2017 coming to a close, this year has proven to be productive for our Union. Employment opportunities for members throughout 2017 have been strong, resulting in several Locals across Ontario requiring new members, specifically in the areas of formwork and scaffolding. The remainder of 2017 and 2018 for construction is forecasted to continue at the current pace, and in some areas of construction, the need for skilled workers will increase. With employment strong, there are opportunities for new members to become part of the Carpenters’ Union.

As most members are aware, the Carpenters’ across both Canada and the United States have implemented the Training Verification Card (TVC) to enable access to training records and certificates for both members and contractors. The TVC has simplified the process for members and contractors. No longer does a member need to carry paper copies of training certificates and certifications. Rather, a member can provide their TVC to a contractor and through scanning the QR code training records are easily displayed and accessible.

Earlier this year the Carpenters’ in Canada bid farewell to Brother Jim Smith, the Canadian District Vice President and longtime member of Local 27 in Toronto. Jim retired after serving as Canadian District Vice President since 1995. I have had the pleasure of working with Jim for over 3 decades and witnessed his rise within the Carpenters’ Union. We wish Jim a long, happy, healthy retirement.

With Brother Smith retiring, I am happy to announce that Brother Jason Rowe has taken the position of Canadian District Vice President. Jason is also a longtime member of the Carpenters’ Union and started his journey as a member working in scaffolding and formwork. We congratulate Brother Rowe on his new position and look forward to working with him.

Across the province, there have been numerous events and initiatives focused on supporting communities and recognizing members. The Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario held their annual golf tournament earlier this year, and through the generation support of those who participated, I am happy to announce that over 100,000 was raised to support numerous charities in Ontario including the United Way and Scleroderma Ontario. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to making the tournament a success.

For the last several years, the Carpenters’ have been supporting Renos for Heros (www.renosforheros.org). Renos for Heros is a non-profit organization that provides building services for injured returning soldiers and their families. Through the initiative of Durval Terceira, the Carpenters’ in Ontario supported Durval and a team of enthusiastic supporters who walked 300 km from the Canadian Airforce base in Trenton to Parliament Hill in Ottawa. The walk took place over 11 days and raised over $114,000. On behalf of the District Council, thank you Durval for leading this initiative and making a positive impact in the lives of returning military.

Political action continues to be an important focus for the Carpenters’ across Ontario. A critical component for our Union is to ensure that the government, from the municipal to federal levels, understands the needs of our membership and the contractors who employ thousands of members across the province.

As you all know, formwork is very important to our Union and our members. The skill, ability and productivity of UBCIA carpenters doing formwork is second to none. However, for many years we have faced unfair competition in the ICI Sector.

When the system of ICI Provincial Bargaining was first established in...
the 1970s, the Labourers got a special Exemption which allowed them to represent all employee formwork crews (including carpenters) in the ICI Sector. At that time the Labourers’ all employee formwork crews were limited to a small number of Toronto based residential builders and formwork contractors that occasionally did work in the ICI Sector but then the problems started to grow. In 1991 we were able to solve this problem in the GTA through a Peace Treaty with the Labourers. Since then formwork in the ICI Sector, in the GTA, has been done by members of the Carpenters Union but in other parts of the province, the problems with formwork remained and have, over the years, become larger.

Some LIUNA Locals, particularly in southwestern Ontario, have used the special exemption which they got in 1979 in completely inappropriate ways. They have unfairly undercut the standard ICI rates and conditions and have tried to shut our contractors out of the market. Dealing with this has been a priority for the UBCJA for at least the last four years and in 2016 we were finally able to persuade the Minister of Labour, the Honourable Kevin Flynn, to take action. Minister Flynn appointed Kevin Burkett, an expert in this area, to study the problem and make recommendations about what should be done. Mr. Burkett issued his final report in late September.

The whole of the Burkett Report is 40 pages long but here are the highlights. Just like we have always said Mr. Burkett found that the Labourers have been using their special Exemption in ways that were never intended. They have been using their Exemption to undermine the Provincial ICI Bargaining System and to give them an unfair advantage over the Carpenters, and other unions, and contractors that are trying to work under the Provincial ICI Collective Agreement. Because of this, Mr. Burkett has recommended that the Labourers’ Exemption be removed for certain critical areas of the province (from Kingston to Waterloo) and also that the UBCJA be given a similar exemption to allow us to represent all employee concrete forming crews in southwestern Ontario.

The Burkett Report, and his recommendations, don’t give us everything we wanted but I believe it is a major step forward for us as a union and for our industry. If the recommendations are put in place, then the ICI Bargaining System will be protected in most of the province and we will have the chance to compete with the Labourers on a level playing field in southwestern Ontario for the first time. We understand that Minister Flynn has made this issue a priority and are hoping and expecting that action will be taken quickly to put the Burkett Recommendations in place. When and if this happens, I will obviously update you on the situation.

Within this edition of Tradetalk, you will find content that refers to member retention. Once you become a member, it is important to continue to keep your membership in goodstanding throughout the duration of your career. Ensuring that you remain in goodstanding is important to future pension payments when you choose to retire. Please take the time to read the content on retention and the impact of ensuring your membership stays in goodstanding while a member of our Union.

On behalf of myself, the Executive Board and staff of the Carpenters’ District Council, we would like to wish all members and their families a safe holiday season and a healthy and joyous new year.

In Solidarity,

Tony Iannuzzi
Executive Secretary Treasurer
Politics is a long game. Governments make announcements introducing programs that are to last forever and/or for long periods of time, but governments are only elected for 4 year mandates in Ontario. With fixed election dates, the certainty of an election is as certain as construction project having a completion date. While the programs and decisions of a government can last longer than their mandate, the mandate is time stamped. It is important to be informed about politics on all levels in order to have input and say on future policies, bills and programs. Ensuring that our voices are heard throughout all levels of government is one of the main objectives of political action within the Carpenters’ Union. Although you may not think about the political process and the impact of political decisions on your life daily, the political action team at the Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario (CDC) is focused on making sure each and every members voice is heard when it comes to government and political decisions that impact our industry.

With the provincial election just around the corner - June 7, 2018, the CDC is continuing to push forward with some of our key asks that are important to sustaining and growing the construction industry in Ontario.

For over 25 years, the Carpenters’ Union has been advocating for a Prompt Payment Act to ensure our contractors and sub-contractors are paid in a timely manner, thus ensuring members get paid on time as well. Bill 142 was introduced this past spring and passed second reading with a unanimous vote at Queen’s Park on October 4th, 2017. Once the 3rd and final reading of the Bill takes place, the Bill will become law, ensuring constructors and sub-contractors are paid within a government mandated time frame of 45 days. This Bill is something that the Carpenters’ Union is looking forward to becoming a reality in the coming months. We are very proud of the partnerships we have established with other trade unions and contractors to help promote the necessity of this legislation. In addition to Bill 142, the Political Action team is continuing to work with the government to implement the Burkett Report on the formwork exemption.

Another piece of legislation that you may have heard about in the news is Bill 148. The most discussed part of the Bill since it was presented is focused on increasing the minimum wage. Although all members of our Union make above the suggested increases for minimum wage, this Bill reiterates the importance of collective agreements and the role collective agreements play in determining wages. The government is also currently reviewing the Fair Wage Policy. Through reviewing the Fair Wage Policy, it allows us to stay competitive as a Union. In addition to the reviewing the Fair Wage Policy, the Land Planning Act is currently under review as well, which could ultimately benefit members across the province.

Your political action department has been active and engaged on all fronts. We have 6 months until the next election. 6 months to keep advocating and pushing to keep our political priorities moving forward.

Becoming more politically active is one of the many ways you can get involved in your Union. If you are interested in getting involved in political action including advocacy and campaigns, we would love to hear from you. For more information on how to get involved, please email Susan Nicholson at snicholson@thecarpentersunion.ca.

In Solidarity,

Nikki Holland
Director of Public Relations

Follow the Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario on Twitter at: @CarpentersONT

Visit the Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario website at: www.thecarpentersunion.ca
WHY YOU SHOULD CARE ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS WITH THE CARPENTERS’ UNION

When you made the choice to join the Carpenters’ Union, you gained access to the support and benefits available to members including access to employment opportunities that provide good wages to be able to provide for yourself, your family and dependents.

In order to maintain your membership with the Carpenters’ Union, one of the easiest ways to ensure your membership remains in good standing is through paying your monthly counter dues on time to the Local you are affiliated with. It is important to note that membership status with the Carpenters’ Union relating to being in good standing is important to both apprentice and journey level members. Through paying counter dues, you ensure that your membership remains in good standing and that there are no negative consequences to other union contributions made by you including pension contributions and health and welfare benefits.

Within the Carpenters’ Union in Ontario, there are several types of membership status:

Levels of Membership:

Good Standing:
When a member is up to date on paying counter dues.

Arrears:
When counter dues are not paid for more than 3 months, membership status changes to arrears. Being in arrears indicates that a member has not paid their counter dues for at least 3 months. When a member is in arrears, their membership status may impact their employment if working with an employer affiliated with the Carpenters’ Union.

Suspended:
When a member has not paid counter dues for 6 months or more, the membership status that is given is suspended. Suspended membership indicates that an individual’s membership is no longer active with the Carpenters’ Union. For members to have their membership status changed from suspended to good standing, a member would need to pay the outstanding dues and fees owing in order to be updated into good standing.

It is important to be aware that counter dues are separate from working dues that members contribute while working on job sites affiliated with the Carpenters’ Union. Counter dues are typically paid by members directly to the Carpenters’ Union. For some members who work for employers who are bound to the Carpenters’ Union, the employer may pay the counter dues on behalf of members who are working for them directly to the Carpenters’ Union through deducting counter dues off of regular pay.

Through keeping your monthly counter dues up to date, you are able to keep your membership in good standing, regardless if you are currently working with a union employer or not. By remaining in good standing, it ensures that there are no long term financial consequences to you related to your membership fees and your pension contributions. If you have questions about your current membership with the Carpenters’ Union, please contact your Local for more information.

Tips on Paying Counter Dues:

Stay Informed:
Open mail from the Carpenters’ Union and attend your Local monthly meeting.

Pay Ahead:
Consider paying several months of counter dues ahead.

Payment Options:
Reach out to your Local to find out the payment options (over the phone, online, etc.).
Joining a union is one of the best things you can do for yourself, your family and your future. The benefits of joining a union are more important than ever. Having access to good paying jobs along with the ability to contribute to a pension, access to health and medical benefits and recognition through annual pay increases, are some of the benefits union membership provides to those who make the choice to join a union. Throughout the non-unionized sector, it is common for workers to be underpaid and overworked while not having opportunity to contribute to a pension or have access to health and medical benefits. Many may ask the question: what is the purpose of a union in the 21st century? When unions were first established in the late 1800’s, unions fought for many things that we take for granted today. Unions were the ones who fought for an 8 hour work day, unions were the ones who fought to end child labour practices, and unions were the ones who fought for safer workplaces. Unions continue to represent workers and their rights in an every changing employment and economic environment.

As the gap continues to widen in society between the 1% and everyone else, ensuring good wages and benefits is becoming increasingly difficult in today’s job market. Once you join our union and become a member, maintain your membership and take advantage of the supports and resources available to you. Weather you came to the Carpenters’ Union through an organizing drive, your own initiative or through the encouragement of members or staff, the Union is here to support you and provide opportunities that will improve the quality of life for you and your family. To find out more about organizing and how to get involved, please attend your monthly Local meeting for more information. An involved member is an informed member.

In Solidarity,

Carlos Pimentel
Director of Organizing

Benefits of Union Membership

1. Higher wages. On average unionized workers are paid 23 per cent more than those who aren’t members of a union.

2. Pensions/benefits. Union members have more access to health benefits and opportunities to contribute to a pension than non-unionized workers.

3. Health and safety. Unionized workplaces tend to be safer, with studies for the construction industry showing 30 per cent lower critical injury claims, 17 per cent fewer mobility impairments and 23 per cent lower lost-time claims.

4. Training and education. Training and education is a major priority for unions. Within the Carpenters’ Union, we pride ourselves on being the most trained and productive union in Canada.
Over the past 11 days, volunteers and supporters of Renos for Heroes have marched 300 kilometres from Canadian Forces Base Trenton to Parliament Hill to increase awareness and raise money for Canada's wounded veterans. Included in this group of supporters were Carpenters’ Union representatives. Veterans Affairs Minister Seamus O’Regan and other government officials were also in attendance. Founded in 2010 by HGTV host Jim Caruk, Renos for Heroes enhances accessibility through home renovations to improve the lives of wounded veterans and their families. 

"Canada’s veterans have done so much for our country. Renos for Heroes is about showing our appreciation for their service by ensuring that when they come home, moving around the house doesn’t have to be another battle," said Durval Terciera, lead organizer for the 2017 walkathon and Carpenters’ Union representative. “This is the fourth year that I’ve made the walk. I’ll keep going for years to come if I can help make the lives of our wounded warriors easier.”

More than 100 Canadian military personnel have lost limbs since the Afghan mission began in 2002 and hundreds more have been seriously wounded. Many of them return home and face significant difficulty, especially with their decreased mobility.

The Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario is a proud supporter of Renos for Heroes. Its union members have dedicated their materials, skills and labour to help transform the homes of more than a dozen wounded veterans.

“Coming home, Renos for Heroes was there for me from the very beginning,” said Mike Trauner, Medal of Military Valour recipient and Invictus Games' gold medalist. “The home renovations they provided gave me back my freedom and independence and their funding for athletic training equipment was instrumental in my achievements at the Invictus Games. I can’t thank Renos for Heroes enough for being there with me throughout my journey.”

The Renos for Heroes 2017 walkathon has raised more than $100,000 dollars to support wounded veterans. Donations to support Renos for Heroes on its mission can be sent to Renos for Heroes, 196 Evans Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M8Z 1J7 with reference to the 2017 walk on the memo line of the cheque. You can also contact Renos for Heroes donation department directly at 866-964-7187 or info@renosforheroes.org.

About Renos for Heroes

Founded in 2010, Renos for Heroes is a non-profit foundation which provides building services to improve lives of wounded Canadian soldiers and their families. Whether a soldier’s injuries are physical or a result of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), Renos for Heroes is committed to making changes to their homes, minimizing the expense and reducing the stress.
The work situation in Hamilton and Niagara in 2017, was rather slow to start but since the middle of June we have been sending members out to various projects daily. Currently sitting with only 5% of members out of work and many of them either on holidays or have restrictions on work they are willing to accept. We have had several registered apprentices and Red Seal Journeypersons transfer in which is helping to fill our job calls nicely.

Local 18 is once again involved with a full training and upgrading schedule courses offered to the members of our local and other surrounding locals if those members are interested. Local 1030, 27, 785 and 675 members have been attending many of our courses free of charge if working in our jurisdiction. Any member that resides in Hamilton or Niagara and requires training may be accepted if you call our office. A small participation fee may apply if you’re not working in the area to cover expenses for instructors, books and meals.

With the new Council structure in place across Ontario for the last several years, many local unions are required to update their local union bylaws. Local 18 recently had a called meeting and had our bylaws approved. They now will have to be reviewed by the C.D.C executive for approval and then move on to head office in Washington for full and final approval before being adopted. All local unions should be updating their currently local bylaws if they haven’t done so already.

We have several very large projects starting or currently underway in our area that will require many carpenters. Imperial Oil, ESSO refinery has a 73 shutdown started in September, Ball Construction at the Woodward Waste Water Treatment Plant as well as Bird Construction. McMaster University student residence has Ellis Don Construction as the general Contractor and many more projects ranging from 2 million dollars to 20 million throughout Hamilton and Niagara so, the work picture for the next several months should remain very, very positive.

We hosted our Fishing Derby, Carpenters Picnic and Golf Tournaments this summer and all were well attended and this crazy summer weather did cooperate on those days. Thanks to the organizers of each event and the volunteers that pitched in to help the event succeed.

With the holiday season here, on behalf of the Executive Board and staff of Local 18, we would like to wish all members a happy and healthy holiday season and a safe and prosperous new year.

In Solidarity,

Matthew Creary
Western Ontario Regional Manager
Local 18 Coordinator
As we bring 2017 to a close, it is a good time to reflect on the many good things that have happened here at Local 494, as well as to focus on planning for the next several years of growth. The construction sector locally has been hot, driven by spending in the private sector that has been long overdue. We have seen the housing market now in its second year of hot sales driving the residential construction sector to full employment, and our Local is proud to have several new residential contractors employing over 50 members under our residential agreements. We have been actively recruiting in the residential sector, and look to grow our membership with the training and benefits that we have to offer.

The industrial, commercial and institutional sector has been extremely busy, and Local 494 for its first time in over ten years is fully employed, and our membership is also at its highest in over 20 years. Our working hours are also at record levels, and from all indications it is only going to be busier. The $2.5 Billion Gordie Howe International bridge, although delayed, should be starting sometime next year. The newly announced $2 Billion dollar Mega Hospital and existing hospital campus projects are now a guarantee, and this will not only be a tremendous amount of work, but will be a huge upgrade for Health Care in the region. Late this year the Federal Government also announced that they were going to issue permits for the Ambassador Bridge to build a second span, and that project would also be over 1 billion dollars. This is an unprecedented amount of construction work for our region, and we want to be ready for all of it!

Our members and contractors have been actively attending leadership training for third year apprentices, journeymen and management personnel at the International Training Centre and the feedback continues to be excellent. We encourage all members to attend these programs if selected by the local. Training at Local 494 has been extremely busy this year, and with the new Government mandates in effect we want to ensure that all of our members are up to date with credentials. Our new woodshop should be completed in the New Year, and we are excited to open this up for new training opportunities for our members.

Labour Day is a historical day for the Carpenters’ Union, and this year’s Local 494 Parade and Picnic were both great events with about 200 members participating. This is also a great way to share some time with the families of the people that we all work with, and to spend one final summer weekend with friends, good food and prizes. We want to thank all of our volunteers and committee members as well for their help in putting this event together.

Local 494 attended the annual Build a Dream Conference this year held at the Ciociaro Club to encourage young women to look at the skilled trades as a career option. With three of our female members on hand with Shawn Ramey and Brandon Fitch to speak...
Brothers and Sisters,

The work in Lambton County is slowing now after an extremely busy fall with NOVA and SUNCOR having shutdowns. We thank the Locals and members for assisting to provide the required manpower to complete these projects. There is Major Shutdowns scheduled for the spring of 2018 and we will again be requesting additional manpower from the Locals.

New construction projects have also progressed very well including the expansion at Lambton College, ongoing construction at NOVA Chemicals, and the announcement of additional plants to be built at Trans Alta’s Bluewater Energy Park.

The new Training Centre for Local 1256 is now officially opened with occupancy granted in early October.

The annual Labour Day Parade was again well attended with Local 1256 winning the Judges Choice Trophy this year.

The Children’s Christmas party took place on November 25th at the cinema, and it was a great success. The Retiree’s Christmas dinner took place on December 14th and was very well attend. Member events are an excellent opportunity to get to know your fellow Brothers and Sisters while enjoying time with family and friends. For those not able to attend the holiday events for 2017, we look forward to seeing you at events next year.

On October 9th, Local 1256 celebrated 75 years since being chartered as a Local under the United Brotherhood of Carpenters. Since the establishment of Local 1256, the number of projects that members have worked on across the area can be seen in all areas of Sarnia and beyond. I would like to thank all those who served before me for all of their efforts, dedication and determination to make Local 1256 what it is today and for the potential our Local has for the future.

Best wishes to all members and their loved ones for a safe, happy Christmas and best wishes for a prosperous new year.

In Solidarity,

Bob Schenck
Local Union Coordinator

Continued from page 11...

to interested students, we received excellent feedback from students and their parents. With the future work projections, and an aging membership we are proactively looking at ways to encourage new workers to consider working in the trades. We have been meeting with both the Catholic and Public school boards to encourage participation in Carpentry, Drywall Acoustics and Flooring to students looking for coop and apprenticeship placements.

Finally, with the Holiday Season fast approaching, I want to take this opportunity to wish all of our members and their friends and families a safe holiday season and a Happy New Year. May your time during the holidays be safe and enjoyable, and the coming years be prosperous. It is a great time to be a member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Local 494.

Best Regards,

Tomi Hulkkonen
Local Union Coordinator

Local 1256 recently opened a new training centre for members of Local 1256.
Brothers and Sisters,

This year has turned out to be a busy year for members and staff of Local 1946. Earlier this year, our Local was approached by the Ronald McDonald House asking for our support for their annual fundraiser. For the fundraiser, the Local was asked to design and build a moveable tree that could be used during the fundraiser as well as for future events. The staff and members of Local 1946 came together and designed a tree that was cut and assembled and artistically painted by our very own Yvonne Laidlaw. The Ronald McDonald house was thrilled with the finished product and thanked all staff and members of Local 1946 who made the tree a reality.

In June the Local 1946 Board elections were held. The results of the election determined Scott Irwin was elected as President and Nick Hosking was elected as Vice President. The remainder of the Executive Board members will continue in the same positions. There was also a Trustee vacancy that was filled by Shawn McLean to fill a vacating position. I would like to thank all members who put their name forward to run in the elections. It is important to have members involved on the executive level providing input and guidance to support our Local in the coming decades. Thank you to those who attended and made the night a memorable one.

On Saturday December 2nd, we held our annual Christmas party at the hall for members and their families. It was a fun filled day with crafts, carnival games, face painting and of course a special appearance by the man of the hour, Santa. The Executive and membership at the last members meeting voted and passed a motion to give each member of Local 1946 a $25 gift certificate to purchase items to go towards a special holiday meal over the holidays. For members who were not able to attend our Annual Christmas Party and collect your gift card, you can drop into the hall to pick up your gift card.

On behalf of the Executive Board and staff of Local 1946, we would like to extend a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all members and their families.

In Solidarity,

James Hueston
Local Union Coordinator
Brothers and Sisters,

With 2017 coming to an end we look forward to 2018. This year brought an increase in ICI and Non-ICI work to our area along with many planned outages at the Bruce Nuclear Power Development. Upcoming employment is looking promising for Local 2222. It is expected that there will be $750 million in civil infrastructure spending through 2018 in our area. Also, there will be work for our members at an $80 million medical marijuana facility located in Tiverton. Starting in 2019, Bruce Power will invest over $1 billion per year in the refurbishment of 6 nuclear reactors over the next 20 years.

With the retirement of Bryan Casemore in May 2017, Local 2222 members and executive would like thank Bryan for his years of dedicated service and wish him all the best in his retirement.

We are pleased to welcome Josh Neitzel to the Local 2222 staff as our new Organizer/Representative.

Social Events
Local 2222’s 12th Annual Charity Golf Tournament was held August 11, 2017 at the Goderich Sunset Golf Club. We were able to donate $10,000 to the Make-a-Wish - Southwestern Ontario to fulfil a complete wish for a local child. We had such wonderful support for this great cause from our members and sponsors!

The Annual Labour Day Parade was held September 4, 2017 in Port Elgin. Local 2222 was well represented and we would like to thank all who attended.

In September, an Appreciation Luncheon was held for our Retired Members and their Spouses/Partners. The retirees always enjoy this social event.

Our Annual Christmas Party was held at the Davidson Centre in Kincardine. Santa made an appearance, swimming and skating and every child received a gift. We had a great turnout to start off the Holiday Season!

Community Outreach
Local 2222 is proud to be involved in a number of community projects including Huron Shores Hospice assisting in the renovation of the one room hospice located in the Tiverton Manor.

Training
To ensure that all our members have up-to-date training, Local 2222 has increased the courses being offered. This will continue into 2018 in order to meet the training and safety requirements expected by local contractors and to ensure we’re the most productive and qualified employees on our job sites.

Provincial Apprenticeship Contest 2018
Local 2222 JATC would like to recognize Nadine Brownrigg for representing us at the 2017 Provincial Apprenticeship Contest in Thunder Bay, in addition
Local 2222 is proud to be hosting the Provincial Apprenticeship Contest in June of 2018. It will be held in beautiful Blue Mountain. Planning is well underway to ensure it is a well-organized event and an enriching experience for all the participants and guests.

On behalf of Local 2222 staff and Executive we would like to extend our wishes for a safe and happy Holiday Season and a prosperous 2018!

In Solidarity,

Ryan Plante
Local Union Coordinator

Online Resources to Stay Updated on Construction and the Labour Movement in Canada

The Daily Commercial News:
canada.constructconnect.com/dcn

BuildForce Canada:
bUILDFORCE.CA

Ontario Ministry of Labour:
labour.gov.on.ca

Canadian Labour Congress:
canadianlabour.ca

Ontario Federation of Labour:
ofl.ca
Brothers and Sisters,

This year has been an excellent year for construction in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). With numerous large scale projects and many projects soon to start, members of Local 27 have been working steadily throughout the year. Projects members have and will continue to work on include:

Darlington Nuclear Refurbishment
Eglinton Crosstown LRT
Spadina Subway Extension
80 Atlantic Avenue
YMCA – Kington Road/Beaches Road
45-141 Bay Street
Union Station Revitalization Project
Scarborough Subway Extension
BMO Field Renovations
16 York
Vaughan Hospital
Humber College
York University
Seneca College
Ryerson University
St. Mike’s Hospital
CIBC Headquarters

The GTA continues to be one of the leading areas in Canada for construction for 2017. For 2018, construction activity across the GTA is forecasted to continue at a similar pace. In order to be continued to be recognized as the most skilled trades union in Canada, it is important for members to upgrade their training and skills through the College of Carpenters and Allied Trades. The College offers exceptional training for both apprentices and journey level members. If you haven’t visited the College of Carpenters website recently, please take a moment to visit their virtual home at www.theccat.ca.

Each year, Local 27 recognizes members’ service through are Annual Pin Dinner that recognizes membership milestones starting at 25 years of service. The Pin Dinner provides an opportunity for members to be recognized for their contributions to our Union. Congratulations to those members who were recognized for 2017, and I look forward to seeing those being recognized in 2018. Local 27 each year recognizes the child or grandchild of a member who is attending a post-secondary education program through providing an annual bursary of 2,000 to offset the cost of tuition. This year Local 27 is proud to announce the winners of the annual bursary, Caleb Catania and TBD. Congratulations to you both for being choose to receive the 2017 bursary and we look forward to seeing you both succeed.

There have been several member events in 2017 that brought together members of Local 27 and their families. Our signature event each year is the Annual Family Picnic. The 2017 Annual Family Picnic was an amazing day that drew over 3000 attendees who enjoyed the numerous rides, games and activities while enjoying delicious food, drinks and entertainment. For those members who were able to attend, thanks for joining us. For those unable to attend this year, we look forward to seeing you at next year’s event.

Throughout the year, Local 27 staff and members support numerous charities and activities that benefit our communities and the people who live in them. Recently, I had the opportunity along with Chris Campbell to present a 50,000 donation on behalf of Local 27 to Mens Sana: Families for Mental Health. Mens Sana: Families for Mental Health supports individuals with chronic mental health problems by providing a residential placement and drop in centre. Community programs make the difference in the lives of many.

Local 27 along with Carpenters’ Local 675 were recognized during the 2017 Hospice Vaughan Gala for the financial contribution Local 27 and Local 675 made to the Vaughan Hospice capital campaign to build a new hospice for Vaughan. I was honoured to accept the award on behalf of the Carpenters’ Union.
For members of our union who have been involved in the military, Local 27 is actively involved in supporting several organizations that support military and returning vets. True Patriot Love, a national charity that supports military families, funds community-based programs, and contributes to the Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research, is a charity that Local 27 supports. Mike Humphries, a Business Agent with Local 27 and a veteran, represented Local 27 and all the members of the military and returning vets in Ontario who are members of the Carpenters’ Union by attending the 9th Annual True Patriot Love Toronto Tribute Dinner that took place in November. Thank you Mike for your service to our country and for all that you do within your position to support members in the military.

Recently Executive Board member Errol John was recognized for outstanding service and dedication by the Workers Health and Safety Centre. Errol has been an active member of our Local and has contributed an enormous amount of energy and time in his role on the Local 27 Executive Board. Thank you Errol for your dedication and service to our Union, it is very much appreciated.

A members committee within Local 27 that supports community initiatives is the Members Action Committee (MAC). The MAC supports various events and initiatives through providing volunteer services to projects across the Toronto. One initiative that was very successful for MAC members was assisting with Project Engagement. Project Engagement provides food and other household goods to people in need across Toronto. For the last food drive, Project Engagement provided food and supplies to over 400 families in need. The MAC also supported an initiative to install garden beds at St. Conrad’s Catholic School. Thank you to all of the staff and members who participate on the Members Action Committee. Because of each of you, we are making a difference in the lives of so many.

Lastly, I would like to recognize Brother Mike McLaughlin and Brother and Brother Cameron Dupuis, who both represented Local 27 in the Provincial Apprenticeship Contest that took place earlier this year. Brother Mike represented Local 27 in the floor covering contest and Brother Cameron represented Local 27 in the carpentry contest. Thank you to both Mike and Cameron for taking on the challenge to participate in the contest. I am happy to let you know that Mike McLaughlin placed 1st in the floor covering contest and went on to place 1st in the National Apprenticeship Contest in floor covering. The provincial and national contests are opportunities for members from across Ontario and Canada to showcase their skills and knowledge.

On behalf of the Executive Board of Local 27 and staff, we would like to wish all members a happy and safe holiday season and a prosperous new year.

In Solidarity,

Mike Yorke
I am pleased to report that 2017 has been a banner year with significant work opportunities for our members. The Darlington Refurbishment project is well underway and the ICI sector has also been busy thus far. This has made way for over fifty new members being brought into membership since my last report. The completion of the 407 to highway 115 and the Go Train extension into Bowmanville in the next few years will open up the Durham Region as affordable home prices will increase the population, making way for all the other development to support it.

I would like to remind all members to review your training records to make sure all the training you have completed is valid. If you would like to find out the schedule for future course training dates or if you have any questions regarding training, please call the Local for more information.

Our annual golf tournament was again blessed with good weather making way for a great day for all. Next year’s tournament has been booked for July 14th again at Baxter Creek.

The annual Children’s Christmas Party took place on December 3rd at the Best Western in Cobourg. The party was an excellent event and was well attended. Thank you to all the members who attended the party with their families and thank you to the staff and members who helped make the party a memorable one.

In 2017, Local 397 honoured and recognized member contributions over the last 65 years. Because of our brothers and sisters in the past who worked hard and contributed to the Carpenters’ Union, it is those brothers and sisters who paved the way for so many of today. Congratulations to the following members who were recognized:

**50 years:** Gaetan Fortin, Herman Kleinnienhuis, Ronald Page & Ehrenfried (Fred) Wimmer

**65 years:** Joseph Wielgos

In June Local 397 held their Local election for board positions. Congratulations to the new and returning board members below who have been elected. The current Executive Board for Local 397:

Reg Stanley - President
Jim Griffin - Vice President
Robert Lang - Financial Secretary
Josh Neville - Treasurer
Andrew Neville - Recording Secretary
Dale Carreiro - Conductor
Randy Grims - Warden
Chris Crowe - Trustee
Ron Waites - Trustee
Todd Marion - Trustee

Also at June’s meeting it was voted on and passed to change the start time of our regular monthly meetings from 7:30pm to 7:00pm. A reminder card was sent to all members with meeting dates to the end of 2018 reflecting the time change.

Also, I would like to mention the newsletter sent out by the Provincial Council of Carpenters Health Benefits Trust Fund outlining the improved benefits now available to you. The trustees were pleased to make these improvements on your behalf.

It is important as a member of the Carpenters’ Union to recognize the benefits of membership. As members we have access to good wages, benefit plans, training and work opportunities. Belonging to a union allows us all to provide for and support our families and loved ones.

In Solidarity,

Joel Neville
Local Union Coordinator
With 2017 coming to a close, it has been a very busy year in the residential housing market. There are employment opportunities in Local 1030 for house framing carpenters and apprentice (pieceworkers and hourly) and low rise concrete formworkers. Several other Local 1030 companies are also looking for general labourers.

The solar industry will once again resume early next year with several farms already approved. It looks like solar farms will once again become very busy next year across the province.

A friendly reminder that our office is open Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm. For your monthly dues payments, we accept cash, cheque, debit, and credit card payments. Credit card payments may be made in person at the Hiring Hall, 222 Rowntree Dairy Rd., Woodbridge, ON or by phone 905-652-4140.

Our General Membership meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm. The meetings are held at the Union Hall, 222 Rowntree Dairy Road, Woodbridge, Ontario.

With all Best Wishes for a Joyous Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year from the Local 1030 Executive Board and Staff.

In Solidarity,

Ziggy Pflanzer
Local Union Coordinator

Local 1030 Executive and Staff
Ziggy Pflanzer, President, Tony Candiano, Tony Losak, Tony Pacenza, Durval Terceira, Jaime Melo, Daniel Avero, Horacio Leal, John Carvalho, Joe Jeronimo, David Aguiar, Gary Realeijo, Fabiano De Almeida, Jack Goncalves, Elizabeth Hunt

Renos for Heroes!

1. Congratulations to Brother Durval Terceira for completing a 300km walk in support of Renos for Heros.

2. Brother Durval Terceira arrived at Parliament Hill in Ottawa to complete his walk. Durval was welcomed by numerous supports and government officials including from left: Deb Schulte MP, Francesco Sorbara MP and Michael Levitt MP.
Tackle Framing, Flooring and Finishing jobs both large and small with the features of a pneumatic tool and the convenience of cordless. Our compact and lightweight cordless nailers & staplers offer features like tool-free depth adjustment and micro nose for precision nail placement. Brushless motor technology and advanced Lithium-Ion battery packs give you maximum runtime. Cordless Confidence - Guaranteed Tough.

Learn More at www.Dewalt.ca

Guaranteed Tough:
GET MORE DONE™ with 100+ PRODUCTS in the DeWALT 20V MAX* line. All tools come with upgraded features, superior ergonomics and use Lithium-Ion batteries. For extreme performance, step up to the XR® series and get advanced electronics, extended runtime and faster application speeds.

Learn More at www.Dewalt.ca
On November 2nd, the College of Carpenters and Allied Trades proudly hosted the 2017 Graduation ceremony honouring and recognizing members who wrote and passed their Certificate of Qualification exam in General Carpentry and Floor Covering. The process to complete an apprenticeship takes time, dedication and commitment. All of the members graduating took the required schooling, completed the work hours and wrote their Certificate of Qualification exam in order to be recognized as a journeyperson in Ontario in their designated trade. The College of Carpenters and Allied Trades is the largest training provider for General Carpentry and Floor Covering apprenticeship schooling in Ontario. A big thank you to the leadership and Executive Board at the College of Carpenters. Without the commitment and guidance from the board and Cristina Selva, the College of Carpenters would not be the success it is today.

List of Graduates

Vincent Addai
David Belgrave
Jonathan Berki
Zachary Bielak
Lance Black
Kent Bond
Michael Brogan
Michael Bull
Scott ampbell
Daniel Canonico
David Chlan
Staurt Cochrane
Charisse Cuthbert
Rick De Bona
Brent Doyle
Robert Duncan
Cameron Dupuis
Kevin Ellis
Paul Feeney
Chad Fanning
Paul Figol
Keith Fisher
Roberto Fornari
David Fraser
Matyas Gabnai
Devin Gale
Frank Geldart
Xanly Gonzalo
Russell Gooch
Chris Guarrasi
Simon Hall
Bradley Hazel
Liam Henley
Mulisius Joe
Jack McCann
Mike McLaughlin
Colin Miller
Jonathan Moreel
Braden Moyle
Lora Nesbitt
Mark Partland
Michael Patykewich
Michael Pimentel
Ali Pourmand
Mark Rogers
David Rowley
Daniel Rudyj
Geogrry Stewart
Chris Stewart
Jonathan Studt
Dalton Summers
Benjamin Tan
Adam Thorn
Luke Tot
Matthew Toth
Aaron Urbanski
Shane Watson
Carson Weber
Matthew Young
Rick Zaine

Not all graduates are included in above photo
Wood has life to it’ says Matthew Mills, lead designer and partner with FORM Architecture Engineering

A Thunder Bay company earned top honours at the recent 17th annual Wood WORKS! Awards celebration in Toronto, a program of the Canadian Wood Council.

FORM Architecture Engineering in Thunder Bay took home the Northern Ontario Award for its innovative use of a variety of wood products in the city’s new Carpenters Union Local 1669 Training Centre.

The carpenters union wanted something that highlighted northwestern Ontario, and showcased the materials they use everyday on the job, said Matthew Mills, a partner with FORM and the lead designer on the project,

“Obviously, Thunder Bay, in the middle of the trees, you have to build out of wood,” he said.

The building incorporates pine, cedar and birch as well as natural timbers and glue-laminated structure.

“Wood has life to it, so it’s got grain and colour and feel and smell and everything like that to it, so we try to use various material like that,” said Mills.

“Every piece of wood is different, which is quite interesting compared to other materials. Concrete and steel tend to have that similar look and feel that doesn’t vary very much. Wood has that inherent variance in it, which makes it just so beautiful and easy to work with.”

This is the sixth Wood WORKS! award that FORM Architecture Engineering has received.

You can hear more from Matthew Mills on the training centre project at goo.gl/rZUm1n. He was interviewed for the CBC afternoon program Up North.
Each year the Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario (CDC) in collaboration with a different Local across the province hosts the Annual Provincial Apprenticeship Contest. For 2017, Local 1669 in Thunder Bay hosted the annual contest, and the host Local did not disappoint. The provincial contest took place at the new building and training centre for Thunder Bay. During the 3 day event, Locals from across Ontario had members compete in 3 distinct contests focused on carpentry, drywall and floor covering.

This annual event has been taking place for over 25 years across Ontario providing an opportunity for Carpenters’ Union apprentices to showcase their talents and skills gained throughout their apprenticeship. Evan Reid, the Local Coordinator for Local 1669 along with his team of staff, volunteers and members delivered a memorable event that brought those in attendance to a fever pitch during the awards banquet. The contest included both a theoretical test component as well as a practical project component for each contest that provided a challenge and opportunity for contestants to shine and showcase their skills and knowledge.

Planning the provincial contest takes time, coordination and support from all levels within the Carpenters’ Union as well as support from our industry partners and stakeholders. The number of supporters of the contest was amazing and showed the importance and value apprenticeship provides as a career path. Apprenticeship programs offer opportunities for those interested to become highly trained and skilled in a designated trade resulting in a good paying long term career. One continual supporter and sponsor of the contest is Stanley Black & Decker Canada. Stanley Black & Decker provided amazing prizes and gifts for all contestants and supplied all tools and equipment used during the contest. Thank you Chris Hollinrake and the Stanley Black & Decker team for your support during the 2017 contest. Having the Stanley team as a champion for apprenticeship has been an amazing support to the Carpenters’ Union across Ontario and Canada. Heartfelt thanks to all sponsors, advertisers and donators for making the 2017 Provincial Contest possible. On behalf of the Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario Executive Board, thank you to Local 1669 and the staff, members and volunteers who made this years’ contest a success.

Results of 2017 Provincial Apprenticeship Contest

**Carpentry:**
1st Eric Peicheff Local 785 – Cambridge  
2nd Eric Lalonde Local 2486 – Sudbury  
3rd Adam Goyette Local 93 – Ottawa  

**Drywall:**
1st Kelsey Morrissette Local 675 – Toronto  
2nd Pierre Myre Local 2486 – Sudbury  
3rd Danick Fauvelle Local 2041 – Ottawa  
*1st and 2nd place drywall winners eligible for the National Contest*

**Floor Covering:**
1st Mike McLaughlin Local 27 – Toronto  
2nd Andrew Moore Local 1669 – Thunder Bay  
3rd Zacharie Lavoie Local 93 – Ottawa  

For those members who placed 1st in each of the individual contests, those members went on to compete in the National Contest representing Ontario. The 2017 National Contest took place in Prince Edward Island in August and was a fantastic opportunity for Ontario members to showcase their skills and talents. During the National Contest, in addition to the carpentry,
drywall and floor covering contests, there were also individual contests being held in the areas of millwright and scaffold.

Results of 2017 National Apprenticeship Contest

Carpentry:
1st Aaraon Elsas Local 1598 – British Columbia
2nd Eric Peicheff Local 785 – Ontario
3rd Martin Galus Local 1325 – Alberta

Drywall:
1st Kelsey Morissette Local 675 – Ontario
2nd Jeremy Graham Local 83 – Nova Scotia
3rd Pierre Myre Local 2486 – Ontario

Floor Covering:
1st Mike McLaughlin Local 27 – Ontario
2nd Jeremy Welch Local 1541 – British Columbia
3rd Andrew Moore Local 1669 – Ontario

Congratulations to Kelsey Morissette, Mike McLaughlin, Eric Peicheff, Andrew Moore and Pierre Myre for placing at the National Contest representing Ontario. You have all made us proud and you each represented your Local with skill, poise and ease. For the 2018 Provincial Contest, it will be hosted by Local 2222 and with planning underway, 2018 is on target to be an exceptional contest year.
Brothers and Sisters,

Throughout 2017, employment for members of Local 675 has been strong. Within the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), residential, industrial and commercial projects are continuing and are anticipated to continue at the current pace well into 2018. Having a strong sector and a large market share has enabled Local 675 to grow the size of our membership.

In July Local 675 hosted our Annual Family Picnic. The picnic brought together over 3000 members and their families. It was an amazing day for those who were able to attend. It was an opportunity for members to reconnect with old friends and colleagues while having the opportunity to meet new members and their families. I would like to thank the staff, members and volunteers who made this event a reality. It takes a significant amount of resources and time to plan the picnic, and the picnic for 2017 was fantastic.

In this edition of Tradetalk, the next page highlights the brave and heroic actions of Brother Edward Letitcher. On a seemingly normal work day Edward witnessed an accident involving a school bus and children. Edward jumped in to action to assist with rescuing numerous children from the flipped over school bus. Because of Edward, there were no major injuries to report and all occupants of the bus were brought to safety. I would like to thank Edward for his actions on that fateful day and for jumping into action. Thank you for making a difference.

Congratulations to Brother Kelsey Morrissette for representing our Local during the Annual Provincial Apprenticeship Contest. Brother Morrissette displayed his knowledge and skills during the contest resulting in Brother Morrissette placing 1st in the drywall contest. Kelsey went on to represent Local 675 in the National Contest held in Prince Edward Island, and I am happy to announce that Kelsey placed 1st out of all contestants in the drywall contest from across Canada. Kelsey, on behalf of the Executive, staff and members of Local 675, congratulations on placing 1st in both the provincial and national contests. You have accomplished an exciting achievement that will be remembered for years to come.

On behalf of the Executive Board and staff of Local 675, we wish all our members and their families and very happy and safe holiday season and a happy and productive new year!

In Solidarity,

Claudio Mazzotta
Local Union Coordinator

In 2017, Youth Bocce Canada participated in the 2017 Italian Special Olympics Games. Seven countries participated that included 118 bocce teams. The Youth Bocce Canada team placed gold for both boys and girls teams. Local 675 is a proud supporter of Youth Bocce Canada.
On the morning of June 7th, Edward Letitchever, a longtime member of Local 675 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, was on his break when he saw an SUV hit a bus which resulted in the bus flipping over, trapping school aged children and the driver inside.

Letichever described the seconds leading up to the accident indicating the SUV was driving at full speed and rammed into the bus. Letichever said "I closed my eye for a second and next thing the bus is flipped. I stood for a second and I realized it was a school bus."

A father of 3, Leititchever did not hesitate to jump in and assist those trapped. "As soon as I heard a cry I wasn’t even thinking twice. I unlocked the door in the back of the bus and I climbed into it," he said. "I saw the kids hanging down. Some of them were on the floor.” Once Leititchever entered the bus, he automatically went in to action without thinking about the danger to himself. "I was lifting the children and untying the seat belts then passing the children to the other people outside. They were all terrified, crying. The other kids, they were hanging down, they were just hanging. I had to lift them up to the ceiling to unhook the belts and take them out.”

Within several minutes the bus was emptied of children. Community members who witnessed the accident assisted the children, who were in a state of shock. Five children were sent to hospital with minor injuries. Mr. Letitchever, soon after the rescue, was being hailed as a hero for jumping into action. “Everybody is safe and everyone is alive. That’s the most important thing.”

During Local 675’s monthly meeting on June 7th, Edward was recognized for his bravery and actions on the morning of June 7th. Each day tens of thousands of members of our Union go to job sites each day with the responsibility to work safe and come home to their loved ones at the end of every shift. Through Edward’s actions, he was able to ensure that five children would return home safely to their families. Members of our Union on job sites go above and beyond each and every day. Edward’s story is one that shines a spotlight on the importance of helping others. On behalf of Local 675 and the Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario, a heartfelt thank you Edward for jumping in to action and turning a terrible situation into a joyous moment for the children who were reunited with their families.
SEASONS GREETINGS FROM CAMBRIDGE TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES. IT HAS BEEN A GREAT YEAR! WE HAVE BEEN BUSY AT LOCAL 785 CAMBRIDGE AND ALL ASPECTS OF THE ICI SECTOR HAVE BEEN PROSPEROUS IN 2017. CURRENTLY WE HAVE FULL EMPLOYMENT AND AS MANY AS 100 TRAVELERS FROM OUR NEIGHBOURING LOCALS.

OUR CURRENT INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS INCLUDE: AN AUTO PART PLANT EXPANSION IN SIMCOE, AN ADDITION TO THE FERRERO PLANT IN BRANTFORD, RENOVATIONS AND EXPANSIONS TO EMBLEM CANNABIS LOCATED IN PARIS, AND FOUR NEW BUILDINGS ADDED TO THE TOYOTA PLANT IN CAMBRIDGE.

IN ADDITION TO THE INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS SEVERAL COMMERCIAL PROJECTS ARE ALSO ON THE GO SUCH AS THE ONGOING WORK FOR OUR AREA SHOPPING MALLS INCLUDING; THE CAMBRIDGE CENTRE, FAIRVIEW MALL (KITCHENER), STONE ROAD MALL (GUELPH) AND CONESTOGA MALL (WATERLOO). LOCAL 785 MEMBERS ARE ALSO KEEPING BUSY WORKING COMMERCIALY ON A LOBLOWS MAJOR EXPANSION ON HOMER WATSON, RENOVATIONS TO KITCHENER BEST BUY, AND RENOVATIONS TO A NUMBER FOOD BASICS.

WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE INSTITUTIONAL WORK IS ALSO BOOMING FOR OUR LOCAL UNIVERSITIES. TWO PROJECTS ARE IN PROGRESS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO, ONE PROJECT IS UNDERWAY AT WILFRED LAURIER UNIVERSITY, AND FOUR PROJECTS ARE ON GOING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH. THERE IS ALSO CONSTANT PRESENCE AT THE REGION OF WATERLOO WITH PROJECTS RANGING FROM $20K TO $120 MILLION. CURRENTLY WE ARE INSTALLING 110 BUS SHELTERS - UBC MEMBERS ARE FORMING THE PADS AND BUILDING THE SHELTERS. THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IS ALWAYS CREATING WORK FOR OUR CONTRACTORS AND THE WATERLOO AIRPORT ALWAYS HAS A PROJECT ON THE GO. OVERALL, A BARRAGE OF WORK IS FLOWING FROM THE 500+ BUILDINGS THE REGION OWNS.

UPCOMING PROJECTS INCLUDE MORE OF THE SAME WITH ONE LARGE ADDITION TO THE ROSTER: THE KING AND VICTORIA TRANSIT HUB. THIS PROJECT WILL HOUSE BOTH GO TRANSIT AND VIA RAIL AS WELL AS THE NEW LRT AND TWO BUS COMPANIES, GREYHOUND AND GRAND VALLEY TRANSIT. THIS PROJECT WILL ALSO CONTAIN OFFICE AND RETAIL COMPONENTS AND INCLUDED IN THIS WILL CONSIST OF THREE 30-STORY RESIDENTIAL TOWERS. LOCAL 785 HAS AN ALL EMPLOYEE AGREEMENT ASSURING UBC MEMBERS WILL BE PERFORMING ALL FORMWORK ON THIS PROJECT.

LOCAL 785’S FUTURE LOOKS STRONG AND BUSINESS IS PROJECTED TO BE BOOMING FOR AT LEAST 3 YEARS WITH ANTICIPATED FULL EMPLOYMENT ON A BRAND-NEW HOSPITAL IN FERGUS AND ADDITIONAL EXPANSION TO OUR 3 UNIVERSITIES. RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION IS ALSO SHOWING PROMISE WITH SOME 675-PIECE WORK COMPANIES TAKING WORK ON NON-UNION HIGH-RISE SITES AND ONE LOCAL GENERAL HAS SOME RESIDENTIAL TOWERS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

OVERALL, WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THIS YEAR’S PROGRESS AND LOOK FORWARD TO FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR MEMBERS IN THE UPCOMING YEARS.

PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP CONTEST:
THE CARPENTERS’ UNION BOTH PROVINCIALLY AND NATIONALLY HOLDS AN ANNUAL APPRENTICESHIP CONTEST EVENT FOCUSED ON GENERAL CARPENTRY, DRYWALL, FLOOR COVERING AND MILLWRIGHT. EACH YEAR IN ONTARIO A PROVINCIAL CONTEST IS ORGANIZED TO AWARD ONE OF OUR MEMBERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. THIS YEAR’S PROVINCIAL LEVEL COMPETITION WAS HELD AT L.U. 1669 THUNDER BAY. L.U. 785 WAS PROUDLY REPRESENTED BY BROTHER ERIC PECHEFF IN CARPENTRY AND BROTHER TYLER EDWARDS IN DRYWALL. BOTH COMPETITORS DID GREAT WORK AND MADE THE L.U. 785 TRAINING CENTRE VERY PROUD. BROTHER ERIC TOOK FIRST PLACE IN ONTARIO AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OVER A DECADE L.U. 785 WAS ABLE TO SEND A COMPETITOR TO THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP COMPETITION WHICH WAS HELD AUG 23RD – 26TH IN CHARLOTTETOWN, PEI.
BROTHER ERIC COMPETED AGAINST NINE CARPENTRY COMPETITORS AND WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT HE TOOK SECOND PLACE! YOU HAVE MADE US PROUD ERIC AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR’S COMPETITION.

RED SEAL RECOGNITION DINNER:
THIS PAST NOVEMBER, LOCAL 785 CELEBRATED THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 30 MEMBERS WHO HAD RECENTLY PASSED THE CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION TEST TO BECOME RED SEAL JOURNEYMEN OF THE UBC. AFTER ENJOYING A DELICIOUS MEAL TOGETHER, THE NEW JOURNEYMEN WERE PRESENTED WITH CANADIAN-MADE, LETTERMEN-STYLE JACKETS. IT WAS A SUCCESSFUL EVENT AND A WONDERFUL
dinner to show recognition and appreciation for the hard work and dedication it takes for an apprentice to complete the required classroom and on-site training to become Red Seal Journeymen. These members have made their Local proud and we look forward to watching them excel in the UBC.

Fun in the Sun: 2017 Carpenters’ Local 785 Summer Picnic

We at Local 785 Cambridge pride ourselves on our comradery-boosting events. Every summer we host a picnic with delicious food and family-friendly activities. This past summer, we took our members to Long Point Eco Adventures located in Norfolk County. This summer picnic offered activities for the adults such as ziplining with additional activities like apiary tours, wilderness hikes and a bouncy castle for the little ones. While the adults overcame their fears of heights to zipline through the treetops of St. Williams, Ontario the children learned all about bees while they donned the most adorable beekeeper suits for their tour through the apiary.

After all the excitement, our members made their way across the street to the Burning Kiln Winery for a delicious lunch of locally made burgers, hotdogs & salads. We then ended the day with a relaxing wine tasting session followed a raffle of various door prizes, such as gift cards and children’s T-shirt designed by a local artist.

Overall, the 2017 picnic was a big hit with our members and we are happy to hear that! We encourage our members to come out, have fun and participate in all union-organized events. At local 785, it is important to keep the ties within our brotherhood strong by promoting family-friendly events, such as our annual picnic.

In Solidarity,

Sean O’Dwyer
Local Union Coordinator
Brothers and Sisters,

As a lawyer for the Carpenters’ Union in Ontario, it was a true privilege to be Canada’s representative at the “World Tribunal Regarding Health and Safety of Workers and Trade Unionists”.

The Tribunal took place over four days in July 2017 in the City of Bucaramanga, Colombia, and was attended by over 600 people from all over Colombia and other parts of Latin America. The event was held to bring international attention to the serious situation facing workers and trade unionists in Colombia and meant to be a call to action for people all over the world. I was invited in the capacity of Magistrate of the Tribunal. Other Magistrates presiding over the Tribunal came from Mexico, Guatemala, Cuba, Brazil and Spain.

Over the course of four days the Magistrates reviewed more than 200 files and heard from 53 witnesses who told us their first-hand accounts of the extremely adverse conditions for working people in Colombia. The witnesses told us about a range of workplace hardships – we heard the stories of workers who lost limbs and workers dying of diseases due to unsafe and contaminated workplaces, workers dealing with extremely low pay and physical and mental abuse on the job, and stories of “disappearances” and assassinations of workers and trade unionists that stood up against the working conditions. Sadly, Colombia has been the most dangerous country in the world for trade unionists for several decades. Our evenings were spent writing a report concerning the testimony we heard.

On the fourth and final day, the Magistrates presented our written report to those in attendance denouncing the Colombian government and its agencies for failing to protect its citizens and enforce its constitution and laws. The report was later filed with the Colombian government, the media, and various other organizations and non-governmental agencies across the world.

It was at times very difficult to hear the details of the adversities that our brothers and sisters in Colombia are faced with, yet I marveled at their courage and resilience in standing up to all the challenges. Suffice it to say, the experience made me proud to live in a country like Canada that has made important progress towards workers’ rights. Canadians have achieved a significant amount of protection in our labour laws and in the wider society and we as trade unionists continue to protect that. Yet, all around the world, in Colombia and in other places, trade unionists are in real danger of dying when they stand up for their rights. I thought it important to share my experience so that we all remember our working brothers and sisters around the world who continue to struggle for decent workplace conditions and are the victims of violence and human rights abuses. We need to stand in solidarity with working people all over the world demanding exactly the same things as we have secured for ourselves and keep defending for ourselves. It is our job as Labour to promote and defend a better life for all.

In Solidarity,

Stephen Chedas
Como una iniciativa formal de la Seccional CUT de Norte de Santander, de la Asociación de Abogados Laboralistas de Trabajadores – ASOLABORALES y la Federación Sindical Mundial – FSM realizamos con gran éxito el II TRIBUNAL MUNDIAL PERMANENTE DE LIBERTAD SINDICAL Y DERECHOS HUMANOS sobre Salud y Seguridad en el trabajo, convocado por la Asociación de Abogados Laboralistas de América Latina – ALAL, el cual sesionó en la ciudad de Bucaramanga durante los días 20 al 23 de julio de 2017.

El evento contó con la presencia de los Magistrados: Stephen Chedas en representación de CALL, Canadá, Antonio García en representación de Comisiones Obreras de España, Luis Carlos Moro en representación de ABRAT, AAJ y ALAL de Brasil, José Luis Contreras Montes en representación de ANAD, la CUT y la ALAL de México, César Landelino Franco en representación de ALAL de Guatemala y Lydia Guevara Ramírez en representación de la SCDLSS y la ALAL de Cuba.

Practicadas las pruebas de rigor consistentes en 200 documentos, 53 testimonios y videos, el Tribunal comprobó los atropellos, maltratos, intimidación, amenazas, acoso laboral y sexual, incumplimiento de sentencias judiciales y de los Convenios Internacionales, la desprotección en materia de salud y riesgos profesionales en particular de los maestros y de otros riesgos psicosociales físicos y organizacionales por incumplimiento de la seguridad social y la falta de control y vigilancia del Estado y sus instituciones gubernamentales, en especial el alto grado de impunidad y ausencia en sectores empresariales públicos y privados nacionales e internacionales y emitió sentencia condenatoria con fecha 23 de julio de 2017, contra el Estado Colombiano, conforme texto que publicaremos ampliamente.

Con el registro de 600 personas y la asistencia promedio y permanente de 400 participantes el TMPLSDH cerró su Segunda sesión en nuestro país, no sin antes recibir el inmenso aplauso y reconocimiento por su labor en América Latina.

¿Cuál democracia?

Stephen Chedas (front row centre left) and the group of magistrates who heard submissions during the World Tribunal.

A speaker addresses attendees during the World Tribunal Regarding Health and Safety of Workers and Trade Unionists.
Communities don’t just grow, they are built - And as infrastructure continues to increase, the necessity for a skilled workforce does too.

Construction of our 65,000 square foot State-of-the-Art training and education facility, now home to both Local 93 & Local 2041 is at last complete. The magnitude of this project required a collective effort demanding countless hours of planning, collaboration, dedication and hard work - The end result is indeed second to none. I extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to everyone who contributed throughout the process.

The new facility provides enough space to accommodate a wide range of specialized training programs and courses and the ability to increase the frequency in which they are delivered. Our goal and objective as industry leaders is to ensure that every member is given equal opportunity to be the best, do their best and most importantly, to remain safe on the job site.

Of note: We will be launching our new website in early 2018 with increased functionality to include on-line course registration and member portal.

It is no secret that construction activity is in full force in the Ottawa area. As such, we have been actively recruiting new members to accommodate the demand for skilled workers. Some of our major projects in the area include both new construction and specialized restoration work:

- Ottawa Light Rail Transit
- Ottawa Conference Centre
- Ottawa Heart Institute
- University of Ottawa
- West Block-Parliament Hill

It is amazing that despite hectic work schedules and busy personal lives, members continue to give back, pay it forward and volunteer their time. I personally want to thank all volunteers for their dedication to the trade, their communities and their Union.
Adam Goyette (Carpenter) and Zacharie Lavoie (Flooring Installer) represented Local 93 at this year’s provincial apprenticeship contest in Thunder Bay. Both members placed top three in the province - we couldn’t be prouder of their accomplishments. Wishing Brother Goyette and Brother Lavoie tremendous success and long and prosperous careers in their respective trades.

Our annual CHEO (Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario) charity golf tournament was held in June. A huge thank you to the staff, to all participants and to everyone who donated and contributed to an important cause.

In closing, as we round out another year, I am extremely grateful and would like to recognize the members and staff of Local 93 for their continued support. On behalf of the Executive Board and staff of Local 93, we would like to wish all members and their families, a healthy and safe holiday season and a prosperous 2018.

“The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.”

– Phil Jackson

Fraternally Yours,

Rod Thompson
Area Manager
Local Union Coordinator

Follow the Carpenters’ District Council of Ontario on Twitter at: @CarpentersONT

Local 93 participated in the 2017 Future Buildings show highlighting trades that fall under the Carpenters’ Union in Ontario.
Community is about coming together to do good for our neighbours.

Sylas Branigan, age (8) eight was hit by a car on July 18, 2017 as he was riding his bike. He received broken ribs, lacerated spleen, bruised lung and some cuts and bruises. Sylas has made a full recovery but his bike was completely wrecked.

On July 21, 2017, members of Local 249 coupled up with Rick Smith from the Kingston Centre Canadian Tire donated a bike to Sylas.

We have had a very busy year on the work front. The value of building permits issued in the first seven months of this year was more than double what it was for the same time last year. Between January and July 2017, the city issued building permits for $205 million worth of construction and during the same period last year, $86 million in permits were issued. Some significant projects include the Canadian Border Services on Hill Island, a 200,000 sq ft Giant Tiger Distribution Centre in Prescott, the Napanee Generating Station in Napanee and the Queen’s University’s Innovation and Wellness Centre.

The Napanee Generating Station is ongoing with The State Group recently starting on site and some significant projects starting are a marijuana facility in Napanee, St. Lawrence College in Kingston and the New Public High School in Kingston.

The large Brockville Hospital expansion that members have been working on completed in October 2017.

The staff and Executive wish all members a safe and happy holiday season.

In Solidarity,

Don Fraser
Local Union Coordinator
It has been a very busy year for Local 2041. We partnered with Local 93 and have recently moved into our new, 65,000 square foot, state-of-the-art training centre. This was a major undertaking and has been years in the making. Our new facility will offer expanded training programs for Apprentices and Journeymen alike. This new facility ensures we are in a strong position to meet the ever growing demand for skilled tradespeople for years to come.

We are very proud of this wonderful space, and hope it is a source of pride for our members. If you haven’t visited yet, we encourage you to come by and take a tour of the new facility.

Speaking of training, we are happy to say we are wrapping up the initial role out of the new Working at Heights course to all our members. In addition, we would like to remind our members that we have begun scheduling courses for the new, mandatory, Global Harmonized System (GHS) course. This course will replace the old WHMIS course. If you have not signed up yet and would like to, please contact the Local.

Despite a wet spring, construction work is going strong in Ottawa. There are a number of ongoing projects at the Parliament Buildings, and throughout the downtown core. Most of these projects require our members have valid security clearances. Local 2041 is an accredited provider. If you haven’t yet applied, or wish to renew or upgrade your clearance, contact the local to find out how.

Residential high-rise is still very busy, with lots of projects slated to begin over the next 2-3 years. Large scale projects on the horizon include the Zibi project, and the continued development of Lebreton Flats.

Brother Danick Fauvelle was chosen to represent Local 2041 at the Provincial Apprentice Contest in Thunder Bay this year. Danick represented us well, finishing in third place. A big thank you to Danick. You have a bright career ahead of you!

In solidarity,

Daniel Bard
Local Union Coordinator
As another year comes to a close, it is a time for us to reflect on accomplishments, successes and opportunities that developed during 2017. Our Local has had a significant year developing and delivering training, promoting our training centre and ensuring that members have the skills and knowledge that both industry and buyers of construction expect.

Earlier this year, the staff and members of our Local welcomed Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne to our offices and training centre to get a firsthand look at the innovative training that our Local delivers to hundreds of apprentices and journey level members across northern Ontario. Access to training is one of the numerous advantages unionized workers have in the construction industry. Training allows members to develop and hone their skills leading to a wider variety of employment opportunities and choices. Our Local was also proud to host the federal minister of Employment, Workforce and Labour Minister Patty Hajdu. Minister Hajdu toured Local 2486 and was provided with an overview of the training and support Local 2486 provides. With the construction industry progressing into the 21st century, upgrading skills and learning new techniques and knowledge is an important component to ensuring that members of our union are ready to work on any project and take on any challenge that arises. If you are interested...
in finding out about training programs offered at Local 2486, please feel free to call our Sudbury office at 705-983-2486.

Recognizing member contributions is important to the Carpenters’ Union and to our Local. This year several members of Local 2486 celebrated significant milestones. Brother John Ramsey was recognized for 65 years of membership and Brothers Gratien Bourgion and Renato Bussolaro were recognized for 50 years of membership with the Carpenters’ Union. Without the dedication and contribution of members such as Brother John, Gratien and Renato, the Carpenters’ Union would not be where it is today. The members of the past and present enable our Union to continue to develop opportunities for our future. On behalf of the Executive Board and staff of Local 2486, a heartfelt thanks to those Brothers and Sisters who have celebrated membership milestones in 2017. Without each and every member, we would not be able to be the productive, active and skilled union that we are.

The forecast for work in 2018 looks strong for our area. The mining sector will be increasing in activity and the new Arena Event Centre project will be an opportunity for employment for numerous members from our Local.

Earlier this year, Local 2486 participated in the Annual Provincial Apprenticeship Contest that took place in Thunder Bay, hosted by Local 1669. Representing Local 2486 in the annual event was Brother Eric Lalonde participating in the carpentry contest and Brother Pierre Myre represented Local 2486 in the drywall contest. The provincial contest brings members together from each Local representing the best and brightest apprentices from across Ontario. The contest was an amazing opportunity to display the skill and knowledge of members who completed a formal apprenticeship in their designated trade. I am very happy to let you know that Eric Lalonde placed 2nd in the carpentry contest portion of the event and Pierre Myre placed 2nd in the drywall contest. Pierre Myre went on to the National Contest that took place in Prince Edward Island representing Ontario and placed 3rd in the National Contest.

Thank you to both Eric and Pierre for representing our Local and our trades. You both did an amazing job and proved that the north is stronger than ever in Ontario.

With the holiday season upon us, it is an opportunity for each of us to be thankful for what we have and for what we have achieved in 2017. On behalf of the Executive Board and staff of Local 2486, we would like to wish each of you and your families and healthy and safe holiday season and prosperous New Year.

In Solidarity,

Tom Cardinal
Area Manager
Local Union Coordinator
With 2017 coming to a close, employment remains strong in the jurisdiction of our Local. With several large scale projects on the horizon the work volume should remain steady for local 1669 members.

Local 1669 had the opportunity to host the 2017 Provincial Apprenticeship Contest held June 13th-15th where members from across the province competed and displayed their skills in the trade areas of General Carpentry, Drywall and Floor Covering. Each contestant is tested on theory as well as being tasked with constructing a practical project. Congratulations to all contestants. Local 1669 would like to recognise Cory McAllister who competed in Carpentry and Andrew Moore who competed in Floorcovering for a job well done. You represented your local well. I am proud to report that Andrew Moore placed second in the floorcovering division at the provincial contest and went on to the National competition in Prince Edward Island at the end of August where he placed 3rd overall. Great job Andrew! Thank you to all volunteers, judges, sponsors, and the CDCO for the support of the provincial contest.

Training has been ongoing at our new facility for members as well as the general public. We are pleased to announce that we will be offering our first Drywall Acoustic & Lathing Applicator (451A) level 1 program after receiving TDA status in late 2016. Local 1669 has partnered with the Lakehead Public School Board this past summer to deliver a three week math camp to introduce grade 6 students to carpentry related math and how it applies to practical projects. The partnership proved to be a success. The Local has developed a suspended access training program and has delivered the program in Northern Ontario. We have been working on developing strong relationships with Indigenous groups in the North to be a partner in training and employment. Congratulations to all members who have successfully completed the Carpentry trade exam and now hold their Red Seal Certificate of Qualification. I would also like to congratulate all members who have reached the milestone in life of retirement, including former local union coordinator Wayne Sohlman.

I would like to give a special thanks to Julie Ann White who is doing a great job of taking care of all the office administration for the local following Linda Hudd’s retirement after 40 years of working for the Carpenters.

The Executive Board and Staff of Local 1669 would like to wish all members and their families a healthy and happy 2018.

In Solidarity,

Evan Reid  
Local Union Coordinator
Interior Finishing Systems
Training Centre 2017

To find out more about the Interior Finishing Systems Training Centre and upcoming course start dates, please visit us at www.ifstc.com

To stay up to date on workplace health and safety in Ontario and to find out about upcoming changes in workplace health and safety, take the time to visit the Ministry of Labour website at: www.labour.gov.on.ca/english

Graduating Class

Basic Apprenticeship Graduation September 2017

Advanced Apprenticeship Class Graduation Feb 24, 2017

Top Apprentice: Anthony Masucci

Top Health and Safety Apprentice: Adrian Peddle

Top Apprentice - Devon Brick

Top Health & Safety Apprentice - Marc Mauricio

Top Apprentice - Philip Spencer

Graduating Class

Graduating Class
Please call your locals for the dates and times of your general meetings.