

The Sentinel

Standing watch for our members and their families since 1922.

Member Newsletter

Volume 15 Fall 2016



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The views and opinions expressed are intended for information and entertainment purposes only and do not necessarily reflect those of the IBEW or its Officers.

We welcome your feedback - please contact us at:

ibew636@bellnet.ca

We're only human
If you find mistakes in this publication - please remember that they are there for a reason. We try to publish something for everyone and some people are always looking for mistakes!

IBEW LOCAL 636 PREPARES FOR REPRESENTATION VOTE!

The Ontario Energy Board is expected to make a decision on the proposed Merger of Horizon Utilities, Enersource and Powerstream and sale of Hydro One Brampton by the end of this year. Representing members at Horizon, Enersource and Hydro One Brampton-Inside, Local 636 is currently monitoring on the progress of the Merger to ensure the members rights are protected. Should the merger be approved a representation vote will take place with IBEW representing members at Enersource, Horizon and Hydro One Brampton Inside, the Power Workers' Union representing members at Powerstream, and possibly Unifor representing members at Hydro One Brampton Outside. Involved in numerous Utility Mergers over the years and negotiating several merged Collective Agreements, Local 636 will continue to provide its members with the support and representation they deserve and will be committed to each unit to ensure continuity, knowledge and an understanding of each workplace.



Horizon crews at work



Enersource crews at work



Merger Committee

LOCAL 636 DELEGATES ATTEND 39TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



The 39th International IBEW Convention was held in St.Louis on September 19-23rd, 2016. This marked the 125 year anniversary in which the IBEW was formed with the theme of laying out the foundation for our future. The Convention is the most important gathering of the IBEW and fulfills the mandate in our Constitution to choose our leaders, set and confirm our policies and renew the values at the heart of the world’s greatest union.



Sister Anita Shanks of the IBEW Local 636 (Chief Steward for the City of Orillia Inside Clerical Unit 6) did all of us Canadians proud by singing our National Anthem at the Convention- amazing!!



Business Manager Barry Brown seen here was chosen to serve on the Law Committee



Local 636 Business Manager Barry Brown officially nominating the Canadian First District Vice President Bill Daniels.



(l-r) Local 636 Delegates, Brian Manninger, Christie Armstrong, Linda Edwards, Eric Lucci, Domenic Murdaca, Jim Millar, Barry Brown, Linda Georgiu, Greg Davidson and Mike Preston.

2016 ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT HOSTED BY IBEW LOCAL 636

A great day was had by all at our tournament on June 11, 2016 in Orillia. We raised \$12,500 for our Charity MySafeWork. Thank you to all who participated and to our sponsors.



Thanks go out to Laurie Clayton (l) for Organizing the event and E-Board Rep. Melissa Ellis and Business Rep. Eric Lucci for their help.



(l-r) Wade Rowland, Terry Robertson, Rick Robertson and E-Board Rep Tim Pitts



IBEW Local 636 raised \$12,500 for MySafework. Here presenting the cheque are (l)Tim Stratichuk and Jim Millar.



(l-r) Local 636 Vice President Tim Stratichuk (Enwin), Belinda Horner, Duane Matthews (Enwin) and Ray Forget (Enwin)

Stay tuned for more information on our 2017 Golf Tournament!



SETTLEMENT SCOREBOARD

The following is a summary of the wage increases secured by Local 636 bargaining teams in 2016:

BRANTFORD POWER (2016-2020): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 1.75%+\$1.00/hr, 1.75%+\$0.50/hr, 1.8%+1.8%

CANADIAN NIAGARA POWER (2016-2019): Annual ATB increases of 2.0% in each year of the Agreement.

ENGINEERED ELECTRIC (2016-2020): Annual ATB increases of 2.0% in each year of the Agreement.

EASTERN ONTARIO POWER (2016-2019): Annual ATB increases of 2.0% in each year of the Agreement.

MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL HURON-WATER DIV. (2016-2019): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.0% +2.0%+1.75%+1.75%.

MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL HURON-PUBLIC WORKS. (2016-2019): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.0% +2.0%+1.75%+1.75%.

NCR OTTAWA(2016-2019): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 1.7% +1.0%+1.0%.

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE HYDRO LINES & ENG (2016-2020): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.1%+2.1%+2.0%+2.0%.

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE HYDRO OFFICE (2016-2020): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.1%+2.1%+2.0%+2.0%.

NOVATRONICS (2016-2018) Annual ATB increases of \$0.50/hr in each year of the Agreement +\$2,000 Signing Bonus

SECURITY ONE ALARM SYSTEMS (2016-2017) First Agreement Signing Bonus \$500-2016 +1.5%-2017.

TOWN OF HUNTSVILLE-PUBLIC WORKS (2016-2019): Annual ATB increases of 1.5% in each year of the Agreement.

TOWN OF MIDLAND-Correction from Volume 14; (2016-2019) 2016 Signing Bonus-FT-\$500 ,PT-\$250, 2017-1.0%, 2018-1.0%.

TYCO OTTAWA (2016-2019): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.5%+\$75 Lump sum, 2.5% +2.5%

WATERLOO NORTH HYDRO (2016-2020): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: (2.42%), (1.3%+1.0%)+(1.0%+1.0%)+1.5%



Members of the Energy+ United Way Committee proudly took the stage to accept the **Joint Union Management Campaign Award** from the United Way of Cambridge-North Dumfries on February 25, 2016.



In our thoughts and prayers

It is with great sadness that we report the untimely passing of: Mike Woodward (Retired Member - Oshawa PUC), Brian Nicholson (Retired Member - Canadian Niagara Power), Jesus Llacer (Member at Nexans), Simon Christ (Retired Member - Enwin Utilities), John Armstrong (Retired Member - Gloucester Hydro (Hydro Ottawa)), Lucy Diluca (Member at Windsor Regional Hospital), Benny Veld (Member of Nexans) and Linda Morson (Member at Hydro One Brampton).

Each of these members will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved them. We ask that you keep our departed Brothers and Sisters in your thoughts and prayers as we offer our deepest sympathies to their families at this time of great loss.

Tragic accident takes life of IBEW Retiree and family

Retired member, **Brian Nicholson**, of Canadian Niagara Power, tragically lost his life on February 25th, 2016. While travelling with his brother, father and partner Kelly, they were on their way back from Florida, and were hit head on by another vehicle. Tragically his father Raymond died at the scene, Brian died in hospital hours later and Kelly and Wayne were left fighting for their lives. Wayne tragically lost his fight and passed away on March 9th, 2016. Kelly is now finally back home and recovering from this terrible nightmare. Our hearts and prayers go out to the entire family.





Representative Tracy O'Meara Retires

After **34 years** as an IBEW member, 22 of those serving as a Local 636 Business Representative, Tracy O'Meara retired from IBEW Local 636 in January this year.

Tracy was hired in January 1981 as a Billing and Collections Clerk at Hamilton Hydro. She was sworn in as a member of IBEW Local 138 six months later.

At her first Union meeting, she was appointed Steward of the office group by the Business Manager/Financial Secretary of Local 138. Tracy was elected Business Manager/Financial Secretary of Local 138 in June 1990.

She was hired as a Business Representative for Local 636 in June 1994 and was the first female Business Representative for the Local.

Her first assignments took her from Toronto to Kitchener and from Wasaga Beach to Port Hope. Her first day on the job gave her a crash course in the Manufacturing sector when she went to Christie Digital Systems and her mentor decided not to attend the meeting.

Tracy's commitment to the union movement and her passion for representing the members of Local 636 was evident in the contract settlements she achieved and the relationships she built. She was a strong proponent of proactive labour/management relationships and put them at the forefront of all her interactions with employers and members alike.

Tracy is now enjoying her retirement and spending a little more time in her garden.

IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE.....

The time has come for a number of our members (listed by Employer) to throw away the alarm clock and begin writing the next chapter of their life story. Please join us saying so long to:

We offer our Sisters and Brothers now retired, heartfelt thanks for their many years of dedicated support and best wishes for many enjoyable and relaxing years of leisure filled with good health and great happiness. *Cheers!*

Dan Pettypiece (Amherstburg); Ken Mitchell (Brantford Water); Roy Browning (Canadian Niagara Power); Doug Dolmage, Ritchie Cox (Central Huron); Bibhuti (Bob) Dash, Karin Sousa, Stephen Mercer (Christie Digital); Christine Dilkes (City of Kitchener); Dennis Chang (Chubb Edwards); Lon Oldfield, Nancy Wehrens (City of Orillia - Parks and Rec.); Marty Amlin (ELK); Alan Shody (Energy Plus); Raymond Arseneau, Mark MacFarlane, Paul Kelly, Richard Becker (Enersource); Bev Taylor, Bob Salive, Denise Blair, John Berkvens, Laurie Keats (Entegrus Powerlines); Duane Matthews, Marilyn Martinuik (Enwin); Janet Reed, Nancy Tata, Paul Anton Lauer (Enwin Utilities); Dirk Vanderscheer (EO Generation L.P.); Norm Botts, Robert Dunham, Taylor Arkinson, Valerie McKenna (Horizon); Claire Edey, Colleen McDonald, Gene Szczesniak, James Cordick, Joanne Mack, Randy Fouchard (Hydro Ottawa); Paul Prout (Kingsville); Antonio Danilo Da Silva, Brian Bruce, Don Boyd, Jim Bloom, Kenneth Engleby, Sebastian Alarcon (Nexans); Ric Watson, Sherry Ansley (Orillia Power Distribution Corp); Gregg Osborne, Ted Allen (Oshawa); Wendy Dunford (Peterborough); Randy Girardin (Town of Lakeshore); Pauline Quesnelle (Town of Midland); Ernie Jubinville (Town of Milton); Barbara Baird, Beverly Lancaster, Donna McCue, Robert Millard, Terry Mullin, Willard Brown (Utilities Kingston); Frances Scotland, Lyn Pomfret, Pat Ferguson, Ross McCurdy (Veridian); Bruce Timleck, Dale Miller, Rick Power (Waterloo North Hydro); Ron D'Agostin (Welland Hydro); Carla Soulliere, Debbie Dumouchelle, Donna Sylvester, Joanne Hamel, Kathy George, Lynn White, Mary Reaume, Pam Perreault, (Windsor Regional Hospital) and Bill Schellenbach (Woodstock Hydro).

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS



Hello Sisters and Brothers

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. Since our last Sentinel publication there has been lots of activity across Ontario in IBEW Local 636 and changes within our organization.

Recently, I was given the great honour to be invited to participate as a member of the International Executive Counsel Review Committee prior to our 39th IBEW International Convention held in St. Louis Missouri. Further, I was asked by International Vice President Bill Daniels if I would nominate him at the convention to continue in his role as the First District Canada Vice President. With pride, I stood before the convention delegation and nominated Brother Daniels for the position of Vice President of Canada. He was elected by the Canadian delegation without challenge. Congratulations Bill!

We have had many staff changes at Local 636 as some of the “baby boomers” move on into retirement. Sister Tracy O’Meara retired in February from her role as Business Representative. Prior to her retirement Brother Greg Davidson (Formerly of Energy Plus) was hired to job shadow Tracy and has now assumed the role of Business Representative. Sister Christie Armstrong was brought into a temporary Business Representative role to job shadow Brother Brian Manninger, allowing Brian some time to provide much needed steward training in the province. Also, Brother Mike Preston is planning on retiring as of December 31st of this year. We have hired Brother Mike Hall (Formerly of Hydro Ottawa) to job shadow Mike Preston and take over that role when Brother Preston retires. I want to congratulate the new members of our team and thank our past and upcoming retiree’s great success in the future.

Our Local has also experienced some fluctuation in our membership. We have finalized a Collective Agreement with NCR Ottawa after a two-year battle at the bargaining table. We welcome the new members of NCR Ottawa to the Local 636 family. Hydro One has been purchasing a number of our represented utilities such as Haldimand Hydro, Woodstock Hydro and now Orillia Power Distribution with further interest in other utilities such as Peterborough. We will continue to work with our Employers to ensure a smooth transition and protect our members rights as they move into the Hydro One world.

We also continue to work hard for the members of Horizon, Enersource and Hydro One Brampton as they face a proposed merger, forming the 2nd largest utility in the Province. This merger is before the Ontario Energy Board and will proceed until a decision is made. Our membership has many questions surrounding the merger but we have very little information for them at this time until we get into the labour component of the merger which we anticipate to be mid-November/December. These talks hinge upon the Ontario Energy Board approving the merger. We believe that our members will clearly see that our representation and attention to workplace matters is far superior to the other unions in the mix.

IBEW Local 636 and our members continue make a difference in our communities where we work and support those who are less fortunate than ourselves. IBEW has the saying “The Union of Hearts and Minds”. Many of you live to that standard and I applaud you for stepping up, including your workplace Union Executive, Officers and Stewards. Although you may not hear it very often, you do make things better. Keep up the great work and please remember, a Union is only as strong as the Members in it.

Keep strong, stand proud and never give up. We are here for you!!

I wish you all continued success.

Barry Brown

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

IBEW Local Union 636



IBEW PROUD



Fraser Balkaran (**Enersource**) 25 years of service presented by Rob Mogus



Congratulations to Wendy Dunford (**Peterborough Utilities**) on her retirement



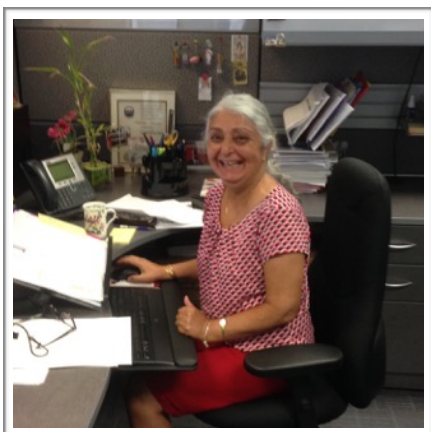
Mike Camilleri (**Enersource**) 25 year anniversary with Rob Mogus



Tim Stratichuk swearing in new members at Enwin

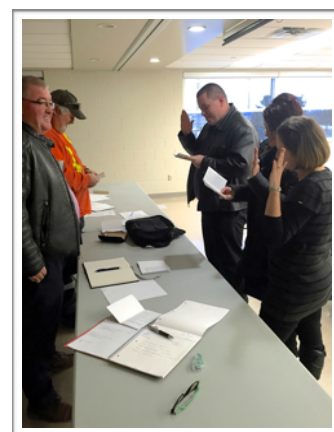


(l-R) Janet Annison - Treasurer of Ahmerstburg Food Bank, Aldo DiCarlo - Mayor and BJ Wilder - Unit Chairperson



(R) Swearing in new new members in Kingsville

(L) Khorshed Merwan (**Enersource**) - 35 Year Service Pin





St. Clair College Thames Campus offers a two year Powerline Technician Program. The Program has been in existence since 2011 where there were 48 students, now five years later

there are 150 students with over 100 on a waiting list. It is the fastest growing Powerline Technician Program in the Province.

IBEW Local 636 has two members on the Program Advisory Committee (PAC), this committee helps to keep the program current.

At the end of every school year the college runs a Lineman Rodeo for all the students to show off their skills. The Rodeo is judged by the College Staff, Supervisors, and our members from the Local LDC's.



The Program has been such a success that they are

attempting to gain funding to build a National Powerline Training Centre, the building will house an Indoor Training Lab, an underground Lab and Classrooms. There is potential for an Arborist Technician Program and a Power Transmission Class.



Noteworthy - did you know?

- On average, unionized workers across Canada earned \$5.28/hour more than non-union workers. Women with unions earned more too (\$7.10/hour) and got paid more fairly. Workers under age 25 earned an extra 27% from jobs covered by a collective agreement.
- The estimated number of women in the United Kingdom each year who are illegally fired for being pregnant: **30,000**
- The average number of women in Canada who stay in emergency shelters each night to escape domestic violence: **3,700**
- Just over 30.4% of Canadian workers are union members
- The number of women who have joined the global workforce during the last ten years: **250 million**

- Number of girls and young women globally who are being denied an education because of their gender: **59 Million**

Workplace sexual harassment means:

- Engaging in a course of vexatious comment or conduct against a worker in a workplace because of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, where the course of comment or conduct is known or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcome, or
- Making a sexual solicitation or advance where the person making the solicitation or advance is in a position to confer, grant or deny a benefit or advancement to the worker and the person knows or ought reasonably to know that the solicitation or advance is unwelcome;

****Attention Members****

Please remember to advise us of your address change by using the form on our Local IBEW website and also any name changes via the contact us (email) section also on our website. Thank you!

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AUGUST 2016
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MINI Cooper 3 Door

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Buick Verano

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Let us be French, let us be English, but most importantly let us be Canadian!™ » John A. Macdonald

SHOP TALK...

Orillia Power – Distribution Inside/Outside

As of August 16, 2016.... The City of Orillia announced that it has reached agreements with Hydro One Limited (Hydro One) to construct a state-of-the-art Advanced Technology Hub, which includes a backup Ontario grid control centre, a provincial warehouse and a regional operations centre in Orillia's Home Business Park and to sell the distribution assets of the Orillia Power Corporation (OPC) to Hydro One. We are waiting to see how it will all unfold as Hydro One continues its sales pitch to purchase LDC's.

ENERGY+(Outside)

Shared Control Room with Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Energy+ and Kitchener Wilmot Hydro continue to explore the idea of sharing control room services. Meetings continue to take place with the Employers, IBEW and Power Workers Union to determine if the Unions would support the idea of a shared service agreement and work towards drafting an agreement that would cover this "unique" arrangement. Both Unions held the position that the proposal would not be successful and it would inevitably lead to grievances between the Unions. The Employer is now reviewing options of forming a new entity, jointly owned, that would provide control room services to both utilities.

Entegrus Hydro

An investigation is being conducted for two Entegrus Employees who are PWU members involved in an electrical contact accident. While working on installing a Load Interrupter Switch a line came in contact with the boom. While the two employees working up in the air in a double bucket were not injured, two employees on the ground suffered burns to their hands and feet. No further information has been provided at this time.

City of Kitchener Utilities

Relationship Building sessions to be scheduled in the fall with the Employer after meeting to resolve a Bill 168 complaint. The Parties now look to move forward in a more positive direction.

Utilities Kingston

Waiting for over a year and a half for a decision from an arbitrator, which was in favour for the Union is short lived. After a member was terminated, a decision was finally reached to reinstate a member back to work. The member, a Water Treatment Operator, was then asked to provide his current wastewater and water treatment licenses. The member advised the Employer he was in the process of renewing his licenses, however the Employer decided to terminate the member again, resulting in another grievance being filed.



IBEW Local 636

Barry Brown - Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Jim Millar - President

Tim Strachuk - Vice President

Al Doyle - Treasurer

Christie Armstrong - Recording Secretary

EXECUTIVE BOARD: Rob Mogus, Melissa Ellis, Tim Pitts, Jacqui Wright, Kevin Byrne, Tim Dardarian, Dan Cizmar, Steve Air

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




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Comparison to products made of 100% virgin fibers

SOFTENING OUR FOOTPRINT...

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ibew636@bellnet.ca



IBEW

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS
ORGANIZED NOV. 28, 1891

LOCAL 636 ONTARIO

IBEW LOCAL 636 GEAR GUIDE - check it out on-line!



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