The Sentinel

Standing watch for our members and their families since 1922.

A Quarterly Newsletter



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!

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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.

Volume 14 Issue Winter 2016

We welcome your feedback - please contact us at:

ibew636@bellnet.ca



Visit our newly designed mobile app that is available for iPhone and Android devices. Free downloads are available at Apple and Google apps stores now or go to our website www.ibewlocal636.com to download the links.

IBEW Local 636 is proud to sponsor five \$1,000 scholarships for the 2016/2017 school year. The application form can be found on our webpage in the Member Benefits section. A random draw will be held on June 1, 2016. Winner's names will be posted on our IBEW Local 636 Webpage.

"Convention Call"

September 2016 - 39th IBEW International Convention. Members get to vote for who will attend and represent our Local. Watch for a letter to be mailed February 1st with important information on the voting process.

2015 ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT HOSTED BY IBEW LOCAL 636

A great day was had by all at our tournament on August 8th, 2015. We raised \$15,250 for our Charity – MySafeWork. Thank you to all who participated and to our sponsors.



IBEW Local 636 raised **\$15,260** for MySafework. Presenting the cheque to Rob Ellis from left:. Tim Stratichuk-Vice President; Denise Bena, retired Executive Board member; Christie Armstrong - Recording Secretary; Laura Gilmore-Unit 25 Vice Chairperson



(l-r) E-Board Rep Kevin Byrne, Francois Masse, Recording Secretary Christie Armstrong, Dan Hazael, Tom Reid pose for a break on the 10th.



(l-r) Christie Armstrong, Sherry Stratichuk, Denise Bena and Laura Gilmore helped organize the events through out the day.



(l-r) Business Rep- Domenic Murdaca, Business Rep Linda Georgiu, Don Spafford and Jim Georgiu

MySafeWork

Rob Ellis and Jessica DiSabatino lost a son and brother, David Ellis, in a

workplace accident. He was 18; it was his second day on the job. They started MySafeWork, formerly known as Our Youth at Work, a not-for-profit organization and registered charity, in 1999. Rob Ellis started the Our Youth at Work charitable foundation to try to prevent any other young workers from dying or getting hurt at work. Its unique approach of linking up students, parents, educators and corporate executives and workers face-to-face to talk about how workplace safety has impacted more than five million people across North America. **IBEW** has raised a great deal of money, including our Golf Tournament last year, at the Canadian Utility Safety Program Meeting and at our Membership Development Conference. The tragic loss

of David Ellis inspires us every day as we endeavour to educate people about health, safety and wellness in the workplace.



(l-r) Mike Hall (Executive Board), Rob Ellis and Allan Doyle (Treasurer)

Noteworthy - did you know...

- Percentage of current University undergraduate students in Canada who are women: 55
- Percentage of the median full-time annual income of Canadian Males aged 25-34 earned by Canadian women: 76.6
- Median total earnings a Canadian man with a bachelor degree will have accumulated since 1991: \$1, 517, 200
- Median total earnings a Canadian woman with a bachelor degree will have accumulated since 1991: \$972, 500
- Percentage of workplace sexual harassment incidents in Canada that are committed by customers or clients: 13

- Percentage of Canadians who believe there are "social, political and economic" inequalities between men and women: 61
- Percentage of Canadian workers who belong to unions, including, nurses, teachers, journalists and professional athletes, as well as the more traditionally unionized occupations like retail store clerks, manufacturing workers, miners, electricians and other construction trades workers: 30
- Workers who are paid well and enjoy job security can afford to pay taxes to support the growth of public services like schools, roads, clean water, police services, electricity and health care. In this regard, even people who have never belonged to a union benefit from the existence of good union jobs in their communities.
- Percentage of countries throughout the world where workers have a legal right to strike: 30









SETTLEMENT SCOREBOARD

The following is a summary of the wage increases secured by Local 636 bargaining teams in 2015:

CHRISTIE DIGITAL (2015-2019):

Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.25%+2.25%+2.5%+2.5%.

CHUBB EDWARDS INSIDE

(2015-2018): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 11%(change to unpaid lunch) +2.5%+2.5%.

CITY OF KINGSTON(2015-2017):

Annual ATB increases of 1.6% in each year of the Agreement.

COUNTERFORCE (2015-2018): Annual ATB increases of 2.75% in each year of the Agreement.

ENTEGRUS HYDRO (2015-2018):

Annual ATB wage increases of 1%-Jan.1st +1.25%-Jul.1st in each year of the Agreement.

ENTEGRUS UTILITIES (2015-2018):

Annual ATB increases of: 1%-Jan.1st +1.25%-Jul.1st in each year of the Agreement.

ENWIN HYDRO (2015-2019) Annual ATB increases of 1%-Jan.1st+1.25%-Jul.1st in each year of the Agreement.

ESSEX POWER (2015-2019) Annual ATB increases of 2% in each year of the Agreement.

HORIZON UTILITIES (2015-2019):

Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.0%+2.0%+2.0%+2.1%.

KITCHENER-WILMOT HYDRO

(2015-2018) Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.35%+2.35%+2.30%.

MIDLAND POWER (2015-2019): Annual

ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.25%+2.0%+2.0%+2.0%.

NIAGARA PENINSULA ENERGY

(2015-2019): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.1%+2.0%+2.0%+2.0%

PROCESS SYSTEMS INTEGRATION

(2015-2018): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.0%+2.0%+2.25%.

SIMCOE COMMUNITY SERVICES

(2015 - 2018): Annual ATB increases of 2.5% in each year of the Agreement.

STRATFORD TRANSIT (2015-2018):

Annual ATB increases of 1.5% in each year of the Agreement.

STRATFORD WATER(2015-2018):

Annual ATB increases of 1.5% in each year of the Agreement.

TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG (2015):

One year agreement extension with no changes.

TOWN OF HUNTSVILLE (2015-2016):

Agreement with 1.5% increase.

TOWN OF MIDLAND(2015-2019):

Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.25%+2.0%+2.0%+2.0%.

TOWN OF MILTON (2015-2018) Annual ATB increases of 2.0% in each year of the Agreement.

TYCO CAMBRIDGE (2015-2017) Annual ATB increases of 2.1% +\$300 Lump Sum-Branch Closed July 31, 2015.

UTILITIES KINGSTON (2014-2017)

Annual ATB increases of Retro to Jan.1 2014-1.95%+2.0%+2.0%+2.0%.

VERIDIAN (2015-2019): Annual ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.1%+2.1%+2.0%+2.0%.

WELLAND HYDRO (2015-2018): Annual

ATB increases in each year of the Agreement: 2.0%(+\$0.14-Lineman)+1.9% +1.9%.



In our thoughts and prayers

It is with great sadness that we report the untimely passing of: Margaret McGregor (Hydro One - Brampton), Stanley McClure (Central Huron), Victor Mason (Hydro Ottawa - Retired), Bruce Allan (Retired Business Representative Local), Keith Hillmer (ADT Hamilton - Retired, former Executive Board Member), Jim Drexler (Retired Member - Enersource), John Kilmartin (Retired Member - Hydro Ottawa),

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.

Peterborough Utilities Honours Former Employee

On August 25, 2015 Brother Ed Spoelstra was laid to rest at Rosemount Memorial Gardens. Ed, survived by his wife Joanne and sons Jason and Dwayne, was an employee of Peterborough Utilities for 18 years. He was a Lineman by trade and his sons Jason and Dwayne followed in his footsteps, all working for Peterborough as Power Lineman. Brother Spoelstra left Peterborough to work for K-Line Contractors for many years and had 40 plus years as an IBEW member. As you will see in these pictures, Peterborough Utilities honoured Ed by forming an arch made up of bucket trucks and RBD's, proudly displaying the Canadian flag, surrounding the hearse on his ride to his final resting place. We are proud of our members that participated and thank Peterborough Utilities for honouring Ed in a manner fitting to his trade as a lineman. Rest in peace Brother Spoelstra!







STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

Dear Sisters and Brothers



Welcome back after the Holiday season! We hope most of you were able to spend some time with family and friends and ended 2015 on a positive note. Now, 2016 is upon us and we have lots of challenges ahead of us. We will continue with battles that started in 2015 and prepare for future battles in 2016.

Thankfully one battle ended on Oct 19th of 2015. We are rid of Mr. Stephen Harper and the Conservatives as our federal government. Local 636 has never told our members how to vote. Our goal was to educate our members on what each political party stood for and what effects their positions would have on our members should they get elected. Personally, because of the actions taken by the Conservatives against labour while I sit in the seat as your Business Manager, I'm very happy they are gone. Now we must hold newly elected Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's feet to the fire and ensure the promises the Liberals made during their campaign are followed through. One promise that was made was to repeal Bill C-377 which requires Unions to open our books, showing everyone our assets and reporting expenditures over \$5,000. This could lead to the release of very private member information. Employers would know our business and finances, yet we

would have no knowledge of their business. This would give them an advantage at the bargaining table.

On the provincial level, Premier Kathleen Wynne continues on a path of destruction for Ontario. There are concerns of escalating Hydro rates as a result of her Independent Public Offering for Hydro One, the sale of beer in grocery stores is causing concern for beer store employees and there are many other public debacles at the expense of taxpayers. As a Local Union, we have weathered the storms by both the Provincial and Federal Governments well.

Our Local Union has grown during times when most Unions are losing membership. Our solid representation and dedicated membership continue to elevate the profile of our Local Union on every level. Local 636 members work hard in their communities with fundraising for charities, working with special interest groups and managing sports teams. I thank all of our members for making a difference in your communities.

Recently Unit Chairs and delegates from across the province attended a Membership Development Conference, providing their input on what they would like to see in the future for them as representatives of the IBEW and for Local 636. The session was very well attended with valuable input from those leaders in your units. Those ideas are being reviewed and a report to the delegates is pending. We are a democratic Union and do listen to our members when they have ideas to improve our Local Union.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your continued support for Local 636. We are strong, we are proud and we will never give up the fight for justice for our members. I wish everyone continued prosperity in 2016.

United we stand, divided we beg!

Barry Brown

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Local Union 636, IBEW



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Ross Galbraith (Business Manager, Local 37) and Barry Brown.





Barry Brown and Lonnie R. Stephenson, New IBEW International President.

IBEW PROUD

IBEW Life Saving Award

At about 12:30 pm on Friday June 12th, 2015, Brother Rob Whitehead heard a loud bang in the next cubicle and went to investigate. Mr. Edgar Waniuk, a Veridian employee, was unconscious on the floor. Rob started to ask him if he was alright as other employees started to gather around. Brother Tim Pitts came to help and they both noticed his breathing was laboured and he was not responding to any commands. As another employee called 911, they noticed Edgar had stopped breathing, so they started CPR immediately. Another employee arrived with an AED device and they connected it to Edgar, while waiting for Paramedics to arrive. Thankfully, Rob and Tim were able to put to use the CPR training they received and were able to keep Edgar alive. Paramedics arrived quickly and took him for immediate medical care. Edgar has since recovered and is here with us today. We are very thankful he is alive and well and back at work with Veridian!



Congratulations to **Brother Rob Whitehead and Brother Tim Pitts** who will now join a special group of IBEW members across North America who have been honoured for their quick action and making a difference in the lives of others.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR AWARDS!

Thank you...



Rick Wallace is a construction maintenance coordinator with Hvdro Ottawa. Over the last 34 years, Wallace has been working in a career he loves and imagine cannot doing anything else. He says the best part about his job is being able to work outside with a great

team that takes pride in getting a job done safely and on time.

The camaraderie that has developed between Wallace and his team members over the years keeps him excited about going to work every day. He says it also creates a productive and successful work environment. Wallace loves to see the results of a job well done. He says it is also gratifying to have others see the end results for years to come. It is Wallace's

personal effort, from start to finish, that makes him truly appreciate his craft.

As part of the IBEW, Wallace works and learns from others in the electrical trade. He says the IBEW provides him with fairness in the workplace and protection through job security. Wallace is also able to constantly gain invaluable experience and expertise from other industry workers.

Wallace can quickly apply the knowledge he gains. This could be done on a job site or when he is training young apprentices. Wallace works to ensure new teams learn to complete work safely, and get home at the end of the day. Being able to teach others his passion is a challenging but satisfying experience.

Looking back on a busy, full career, Wallace knows his work has made a difference in the Ottawa community. He is also thankful for the community he has made by being part of the IBEW. Wallace says he has had a very rewarding career and could not be more proud.

Written by: Marie Waine on March 25, 2015. For the Ottawa Life Magazine

GOOD OF THE UNION

...Life changes for the Town of Huntsville Public Works

After many years of continued problems in the workplace, life is changing for the members of the Town of Huntsville Public Works. In 2015, the Executive team from the Town of Huntsville and representatives of the IBEW entered into talks with the Ministry of Labour and their Relationship Building Program. Previously, Local 636 had filed numerous charges against this Employer through the Ministry but felt this type of program might improve things for the members there. Have things completely changed for the better? Not completely but things are much better than before the program. The proof that some things have changed for the better was a winter jacket provided by the Town of Huntsville to all Public Works employees proudly displaying both the Town of Huntsville and Local 636 IBEW logos. Our members continue to work hard to make a difference in their workplace and their community.





... Congratulations to Kari Clifford!

Kari Clifford, Unit chair for Guelph Hydro, Unit 19, was honoured by the United Way for her efforts as the union campaign coordinator of the year. An impressive achievement!

Guelph Hydro also received several awards of distinction from the United Way. They were awarded for having the "best joint union management campaign", "everyday hero award", "gold award" and they were also honoured for raising over \$64,000.

...Touching lives, inspiring hope

Our member, Mary Beth, at Windsor Regional Hospital has been struggling with cancer and is having to go through chemotherapy right now. She is a single mom with two children and Carrie Potter spirited up a fundraiser for our members to help make a better Christmas for her and her

"To date with all of the donations collected from all of you, the GoFundMe account and outside personal donations, we have raised a bit over \$5,000.00 for Beth and her family. Thank you all again from the bottom of my heart and also Beth and her families heart. God Bless you all and our hospital logo "COMPASSION FOR OUR PASSION" is definitely felt here by all of what you have done for Beth. You are all guardian angels on earth in my books.

Merry Christmas to you all".

Thank you ALL again, Carrie (and Beth and family)



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!*

Frank Jamieson (ADT Cambridge); Brenda Beneteau (Amherstburg); Rick Mackie, Darlene O'Connor, Craig Erskine, Judy Nelson and Dan Scott (Burlington Hydro); Nicki Mandel (Cambridge Hydro-Inside); Mary Genco (Cdn Niagara Power); Judy Dixon (Central Huron); Ron Eckert (City of Kitchener Utilities); Elizabeth Leef, Don Wilson, Rick Burnie, Sandra Wilkinson and Karl Carnduff (City of Orillia); Marc Laporte and Jeannette Belleau (ELK); Paul Wilson, Anthony Carnevale, Clarence Wells, Dennis Dusereault, Steven Low, Stewart Collison and Steve Jones (Enersource); Laurie Keats, Gary Gilbert and Bev Taylor (Entegrus Powerlines); Victoria Bailey, Marilyn Martinuik, Morgan Wortley and John Quinn (Enwin) Dave Myers, Randy Lotz and Ken Murray (Festival Hydro); Debra Woodfine and Irene Beck (Horizon); Caroline Rhea, Adeline Bodnarchuk, Santina Disabato and Louise Pedano (Hotel Dieu Healthcare); Ken Hewitt and Gary Blackburn (Huntsville); Denis Martin, Louise Warwick, Caroll Paquette, Gary Wilson, Rob Thibodeau, Lindsay Cauley, Bruce Kerfoot, Robert Rolland, Krzysztof Ozga, Darryl Currie-Mills and Lawrence Haslett (Hydro Ottawa); Suzanne Davis (Kingston Utilities); Roger Williams (NCR Ottawa); Desmond Helwig, Dave Livingston, Bill Hattle, Sebastian Alarcon and Gordon Gimblet (Nexans); Sal Pietrangelo (NPEI); Stanley Turk and Steve Champion (Oshawa PUC); Janis Lefley, Sandy Wilson and Chris Norman (Peterborough); Robert Langdon (Simcoe Comm Services); Iain Begg (Stratford Parallel Transit); Louis Tremblay and Randy Girardin (Town of Lakeshore); Jack Durante (Town of Milton); Malcolm King, Morgan David Clancy and Robert Marquette (Utilities Kingston); Sharon Kennedy, and David Rainthorpe (Veridian); Mike Doyle and Linda Rusk (Waterloo North Hydro); Sharon Chouindard, Pamela Lalonde, Karen Burkoski, Janet Tocco, Judy Byrne, Marcia Ridley, Sandy Desramaux, Sharon Scammell, Denise Bena, Adelia Digaetano, Linda Scherer, Dianne Kelly, Sandra Mailloux and Pina Walsh (Windsor Reg Hosp).



Unit Recorder-Judy Nelson shown here recently retired with 30 years of service at Burlington Hydro. Pictured above with Judy is Mike Elliott. We thank Judy for all her service and wish her all the best in her retirement.



Paul Wilson (I) is congratulated by E-Board Rep and co-worker Rob Mogus after retiring from Enersource - April 2015



Business Manager Barry Brown congratulates E-Board Rep Denise Bena on her retirement from Windsor Regional Hospital.



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There are two kinds of people, those who do the work and those who take the credit. Try to be in the first group; there is less competition there. —Indira Gandhi



(R) Helena Turkiewicz celebrates her 5th Anniversary with Enersource with her Colleagues. (L - R) Jon Golin, Lisa Colgan, Miron Nahirny, Helena Turkiewicz, Mike Tobin and Marilou Ignacio





Gord Simmons swearing in Joseph Jedinak from Peterborough Utilities



Larry Arch is congratulated by Co-worker Rob Mogus on his 45th Anniversary with Enersource



Heather Hillan and Joel Gagnier swearing in from Essex Powerlines



Your elected Provincial Executive Board take a moment to pose for a group picture during the January 2016 E-Board meeting.



IBEW Local 636

Barry Brown - Business Manager/Financial Secretary
Jim Millar - President
Tim Stratichuk - Vice President
Al Doyle- Treasurer
Christie Armstrong- Recording Secretary

EXECUTIVE BOARD: Rob Mogus, Melissa Ellis, Tim Pitts, Jacqui Wright, Mike Hall, Kevin Byrne, John Longo, Dan Cizmar, Steve Air

HEAD OFFICE

7170 West Credit Avenue - Unit 2B Mississauga ON L5N 6C6 Phone - (905) 286-0330 Toll Free - (800) 955-4239 Fax - (905) 286 - 0042

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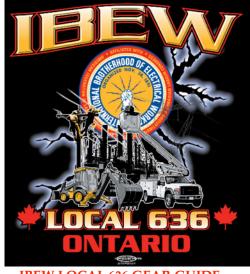
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SOFTENING OUR FOOTPRINT...

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ibew636@bellnet.ca



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







I.B.E.W. Local 636 Sentinel

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I.B.E.W. Local Union 636 7170 West Credit Avenue, Unit 2B Mississauga, Ontario L5N 6C6

> Addressee Name 4321 First Street Anytown, Province A1B 2C3