



TO BE POSTED

March 23rd, 2020

TO: ALL IBEW LOCAL 636 MEMBERS

RE: COVID-19 RESPONSE

Greetings:

Since my last notice of March 19th, 2020 with respect to the COVID-19 response, I would like to provide our members with another update.

Most importantly though, I hope you and your loved ones are doing okay and staying safe during these very difficult and stressful times.

The changes we are enduring are leaving us with questions and concerns about a lot of things. As the province has now declared a state of emergency, so many questions of your working conditions are arising every day and while Employers attempt to put new policies in place, many questions have been put to us regarding concerns with how these policies will ensure the safety of the employees. We are continually reviewing these policies that address the option to work from home where practical or minimize the time spent at work without financial hardship. As you are aware, IBEW Local 636 represents members from a variety of industries in the Electrical Utility Sector, Public Utilities, Municipalities, Hospital/Healthcare, Manufacturing, Transit, Communications and the Alarm & Signal Industry. You all play an important role in helping provide and maintain important services to the people of this province, however Employers should not compromise your health and well-being during this crisis. In whatever sector you may be in, we want to ensure the Employers provide all the necessary measures to keep you all safe, whether it is working from home or providing everyone with the proper protective measures to ensure your health and well-being at work.

I want to reassure everyone that your Business Representatives are working around the clock and communicating with me on an on-going basis as to the developments happening at each work location. We are continuing to gather information from each employer that we represent across the province to assess how they are providing the best practices to keep everyone safe, which includes not reporting to work where practical.

If need be, I along with your Business Representative will be contacting the CEO's, CAO's and other leaders of the Companies to deal with concerns that are not being addressed. We will

attempt to ensure that Employers in each different sector are complying with Government regulations and recommendations.

As I also sit on the Provincial Labour Management Safety Committee-Section 21 Electric Utility I will also ensure the Employers in that Sector are following the recommendations issued by that Committee to ensure the safety of all workers. I will send a copy of that communication to our Union Executive leaders at those workplaces and to their respective Employers.

It is so important to remember that in this time of uncertainty, the best information comes from the experts. Below are official links in which all levels of government announcements are being issued on a daily basis:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/>

Please continue to take the necessary precautions even if you are in a low risk group. These precautions are not just to avoid getting infected or spreading COVID-19, but to avoid over-burdening our healthcare system during this crisis.

Thank-you for your patience, understanding and for everything you're doing to help, whether you're at home working, on standby or on the front lines. In times like these we are proud to have IBEW Local 636 workers provide support to everyone across this province.

Stay safe,

Fraternally yours,
LOCAL UNION 636, IBEW,



Domenic Murdaca
Business Manager/Financial Secretary