



TO BE POSTED

May 20th, 2020

TO: ALL IBEW LOCAL 636 MEMBERS

RE: COVID-19 UPDATES

Greetings:

I hope this message finds you all well and safe. It has now been over two months when we first felt the impact of COVID-19 and how it has affected us in different ways. Many thanks again, to all the frontline essential workers and to all IBEW Local 636 members on your continuous dedication to the services you all provide to the people of Ontario.

For our members and their families who have contracted COVID-19, we at IBEW Local 636 wish you a speedy recovery and good health. To those who have lost family members and friends, we send you our deepest condolences.

As the Provincial Government commences to implement the first phase of opening up the province we will continue to monitor any impacts on how your working conditions may further change.

I would like to provide you all with a brief summary of what's happening across the province with Local 636.

In the healthcare sector, we have received notice from Empower Simcoe and Assisted Living Southwest Ontario (ALSO) that our members will be eligible for the Pandemic pay initiated by the Government. At this time, it is still unknown when that will be implemented. **At Windsor Regional Hospital and Hotel Dieu Grace Healthcare we are still waiting to hear back and get clarification on our members eligibility for this incentive. Both CEO's have also been advocating for all hospital workers to receive the Pandemic pay.** We will continue to reach out to Government officials to address this inconsistency for all hospital workers who have been overlooked.

As previously mentioned in my earlier communication we have experienced layoffs in the Manufacturing, Alarm and Municipality sectors and just recently in two Hydro Utilities. The Business Representatives are currently reviewing the impact and ensuring all layoffs are in accordance with the respective Collective Agreements and legislation and where need be will file grievances accordingly.

For those who either were in negotiations or are waiting to commence negotiations, I can assure you that the Business Representatives are looking at all options on how to proceed. We will continue to meet as much as possible with your employers via video conferencing.

As some of you may be aware, arbitration hearings have been postponed to a later date. We have been successful in conducting some via video or telephone conference where practical. Our legal counsel and Business Representatives will continue to review best options.

On a personal note, I would like to thank my Staff, Executive Board and all Unit Officers and Stewards for assisting me to keep the Local operating in the best possible way during these very difficult times. I'm sure we are all looking forward to having all these restrictions lifted and getting back to some type of new normal.

As a reminder please visit our website at IBEWLOCAL636.COM or follow us on Facebook or Twitter for the latest news.

Continue to stay safe,

Fraternally yours,
LOCAL UNION 636, IBEW,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Domenic Murdaca".

Domenic Murdaca
Business Manager/Financial Secretary