



**IBEW**  
**CANADA**

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International President  
Président international

**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS**  
**FRATERNITÉ INTERNATIONALE DES OUVRIERS EN ÉLECTRICITÉ**

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**FIOE**  
**CANADA**

Kenneth W. Cooper  
International Secretary/Treasurer  
Secrétaire-trésorier international



June 21, 2017

**TO ALL IBEW FIRST DISTRICT LOCAL UNIONS**

Greetings:

Over twenty years ago, the Government of Canada, together with Indigenous organizations, designated June 21, the summer solstice, as [National Aboriginal Day](#).

This year, the Government of Canada renamed this day, National Indigenous Peoples Day, to ensure the day was inclusive of all First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis Nation peoples. The IBEW strives to better our relationship with Indigenous Peoples, ensuring they have the opportunity to have strong, labour representation and access to good jobs and apprenticeships, all across our country.

It is important, not only today, and on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation, to recognize the rich history, traditions and cultures of Indigenous Peoples and everything they have done to build our country, but to recognize the importance of reconciliation and respect to the mistakes of the past.

I would encourage you, if you haven't had the chance, to read the [Calls to Action outlines in the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#). Today provides an opportunity to reflect on the past, and a chance to recommit ourselves to strengthening our relationship with our Indigenous brothers and sisters. [Click here](#) for a list of events taking place across Canada.

Best wishes.

In solidarity,

Bill Daniels  
International Vice President

BD/mq

Cc: First District Representatives  
IBEW CCO  
System Council #11