



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SASKATCHEWAN'S PIPE TRADES UNION

WINTER 2013-2014



Above: UA Local 179 members at the Co-op in Regina: Kon Filis, Chris Hague, Jared Geist, Derek Larose, Al K., Shayne Zelweiger, Travis Watson Below: UA Local 179 Welder, Justin Stewart.



“Today marks the 124th Anniversary of the founding of the United Association. It began with a letter that reads, in part: “Dear Sir: I take the liberty of addressing a few lines to you... to obtain your views as regards to the formation of the United Brotherhood...I would like to have your opinion upon what would be the best methods of uniting the whole craft. —Yours Fraternally, P.J. Quinlan.” Those words, written in 1889 by Patrick Quinlan, a plumber in Boston, to Richard O’Brien, a plumber in Washington, D.C., set the wheels in motion for the creation of the United Association. We have grown from those humble beginnings (23 unions in 10 states and the District of Columbia) to a powerful, international union representing hundreds of locals and more than 370,000 members in the United States, Canada and Australia. Happy Birthday, UA!

- Taken from the UA International's
Facebook Page October 11, 2013
October 11, 2013

Who we are:

United Association of Journeyperson and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada or "UA" as it is commonly known is a multi-craft union whose members are engaged in the fabrication, installation and servicing of piping systems. There are approximately 326,000 highly-skilled United Association members who belong to over 300 individual local unions across North America.

The United Association has been training qualified pipe tradespeople longer than anyone else in the industry. The UA boasts the premier training programs available in the industry today, including four-year apprenticeship programs, extensive journeyperson training, organized instructor training, and certification programs.

Founded in 1906, UA Local 179 is the local representing those union members working in the pipe trades in Saskatchewan. Our members include journeyperson and apprentice: plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, welders, refrigeration mechanics, sprinkler fitters, instrumentation techs and quality control.

UA LOCAL 179 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

PRESIDENT - KEN BOYCHUK

VICE PRESIDENT - BRANDON FAUL

BUSINESS MANAGER / FINANCIAL SECRETARY – TROY KNIPPLE

INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS AGENT – BILL PETERS

INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS AGENT – DAVE LICHTENWALD

COMMERCIAL BUSINESS AGENT / ORGANIZER –
LONDON MOHL & MITCH GRENIER

DIRECTOR OF TRAINING – KEN BUSCH

EXECUTIVE BOARD – JIM ALLEN, DARWIN PAYETTE, TYLER
MURDOCH & FRANK VARSANYI

FINANCE COMMITTEE – GERALD LOVELACE, MANFRED
HAUSER, GERARD GAULTON & RICK MERONIUK

RECORDING SECRETARY – DARWIN EWART

INSIDE GUARD – GRANT WRIGHT



Congratulations to UA Local 179 member Fred Gottselig on 50 years of membership in the UA! Thanks Fred for your many years of hard work, dedication and loyalty. Our Business Manager Troy Knipple presented Fred with his 50 year pin and watch at our membership meeting on Saturday, November 16th in Regina.

This newsletter is published four times per year: Spring, Summer, Fall & Winter and serves as the official newsletter of UA Local 179. The layout and editing of the newsletter was completed by John Tzupa (Executive Assistant to the Business Manager at UA Local 179) with contributions from: Troy Knipple, Bill Peters, Landon Mohl, Ken Busch, Judy McConnell, Claudia Rubio, Elaine Smith, Larry Slaney and Lyle Daniels. The newsletter is printed in a unionized print shop by Allied Printers, Regina, SK. Please return undeliverable Canadian Addresses to: UA Local 179, 402 Solomon Drive, Regina

2014 MEMBER DUES CHANGES

Local 179 Journeypersons, **please note that as of January 1, 2014 your union dues will be increased to \$43.00 per month.** Please check all your pay stubs in the new year to make sure that your employer is taking off the proper union dues. All other dues will remain the same.

Season's Greetings

Elaine

NEGOTIATIONS

2014 will be a big year for negotiations with three of our major collective agreements expiring: Industrial expires April 30, 2014, Refrigeration expires October 31, 2014; and Commercial expires October 31, 2014.

The first agreement we will negotiate in 2014 is the Industrial agreement. We will be sending a request to bargain in January of 2014 which is the earliest we are allowed.

Thank you to those members who put their names forward and will be serving on the negotiations committee: Ivan Durant, Hegloy Gardner, Darwin Payette, Daryl Holowach, Brandon Faul, Jim Allen, Brian Bitz & Grant Wright. These eight members will join UA Local 179 Business Manager Troy Knipple, Industrial Business Agent Bill Peters and President Ken Boychuk on the committee.

All members: **Please take the time to send in any suggestions you have for improvements to the industrial agreement, including language clarifications or monetary expectations.** You can email in your suggestions to tknipple@ualocal179.ca, present suggestions at a membership meeting or provide them by filling in our online survey at <http://tinyurl.com/ua179>.

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION WITH THE HALL

ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS OF UA LOCAL 179

When you move or your phone number changes you have to let the hall know. If your address or phone number has changed please call the hall right now at 306-569-0624 and update your information. We want to ensure no members miss calls for dispatch and that we are able to mail you T4s, membership cards, etc.



BUSINESS MANAGER`S REPORT

Brothers & Sisters,

What a year its been. We moved in to our new building in Regina, saw training increase significantly, new member,s,.....



NEW COMMERCIAL BUSINESS AGENT

I am very pleased and excited to announce that we have hired Mitch Grenier as a Saskatoon based Commercial Business Agent/Organizer. Mitch, a journey-person plumber and gas fitter brings over 20 years of trade experience to the job including over 6 years working in the commercial sector. Mitch lives with his family in Delisle Saskatchewan and has been a proud member of UA Local 179 since 2007. Mitch brings energy, leadership and a passion for the union to the job and I am really looking forward to him joining our team on January 2nd!



GOOD & WELFARE MEMBERS UPDATE

Thanks from Rhonda and Abe Redekopp

PENSION, HEALTH & WELFARE FUND UPDATES

New Books included in this package



SASK APPRENTICESHIP COMPLETION STATS

Compulsory trade completion rates comparison Sask 4 AB 38 compulsory trades at least 10% higher

CIGAR LAKE CAMP

Letter to Cameco from Building Trades and Cameco reply



COMPUTER UPGRADES

We are in the process of upgrading our computers in both Saskatoon and Regina. We will have new computers in both places for members to take safety training in the New Year.



Troy Knipple
Business Manager

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WINS AND LOSSES WITH HUSKY OUTAGE

ENTER TEXT HERE

DON'T WASTE TIME AND ENERGY IN PROTECTING WHAT "IS" RATHER THAN EVOLVE TO WHAT "NEEDS TO BE"

ENTER TEXT HERE

JOB WELL DONE

ENTER TEXT HERE

RECOGNITION HELPS TO REPEAT SUCCESS AND BUILD CONFIDENCE

ENTER TEXT HERE

UPGRADER TRAINING DIRECTION DISPATCH BY QUALIFICATION LAYOFF BY QUALIFICATIONS

ENTER TEXT HERE

TOOL TAX CREDITS

Did you know as a tradesperson you could be eligible for a tool tax credit? There is a one-time tax credit for tradespeople entering the trade to buy tools. And any tradespeople who are required by their employer to provide tools to do their job are eligible for an annual tool maintenance tax credit.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The Union Hall and the Saskatoon Office will be closed for the holidays from December 23, 2013 to January 1, 2014 and open again on Thursday, January 2, 2014.

On behalf of myself, the officers, executive board and staff at UA Local 179 I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to the membership for the honour of serving you. It is a pleasure to work daily on behalf of the hard-working, loyal , dedicated and talented men and women who make up our organization.

I wish all the members and their families the happiest of memories this holiday season and a healthy and prosperous 2014! I hope that all of you are able to get some much deserved rest and quality time with friends and family.

Sincerely,

Troy Knipple

UA LOCAL 179

REID LICHTENWALD MEMORIAL SNOWMOBILE DERBY



Where: Green Water Provincial Park

When: Saturday, March 1, 2014

Registration Fee: \$20.00

Registration and Breakfast 9:00am at the Fisherman's Cove Restaurant
Family Trail Ride and **Off-Trail Guided Ride** (advanced riders) **10:00am**
50/50 and Door Prize Draw at 4:00pm

Please book your rooms early: at Fisherman's Cove by calling 306-278-2992
or emailing Darren@greenwatercove.com or
at the Provincial Park Cabins by calling 306-278-3033
or emailing greenwatercabins@sasktel.net

INDUSTRIAL SECTOR WORK



Bill Peters
Business Agent

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UA LOCAL 179 2014 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

JANUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, January 18th 2013 @ the Regina Union Hall, 402 Solomon Drive, Regina

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, February 22nd 2013 @ the Heritage Inn, 102 Cardinal Crescent, Saskatoon

MARCH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, March 15th 2013 @ the Regina Union Hall, 402 Solomon Drive, Regina

APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, April 26th 2013 @ the Heritage Inn, 102 Cardinal Crescent, Saskatoon

MAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, May 24th 2013 @ the Regina Union Hall, 402 Solomon Drive, Regina

JUNE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, June 14th 2013 @ the Heritage Inn, 102 Cardinal Crescent, Saskatoon

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, September 20th 2013 @ the Regina Union Hall, 402 Solomon Drive, Regina

OCTOBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, October 18th 2013 @ the Heritage Inn, 102 Cardinal Crescent, Saskatoon

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, November 15th 2013 @ the Regina Union Hall, 402 Solomon Drive, Regina

DECEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, December 13th 2013 @ the Heritage Inn, 102 Cardinal Crescent,

NOTE: SASKATOON MEETINGS HAVE CHANGED LOCATIONS THEY WILL NOW BE HELD AT THE HERITAGE INN, 102 CARDINAL CRESCENT, SASKATOON

COMMERCIAL SECTOR & ORGANIZING REPORT



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I have been extremely busy lately because of the Saskatoon Business Agent position being vacant. So I look forward to our new Northern Saskatchewan Commercial Business Agent/Organizer who will be starting up there January 2014.

Organizing Update:

I have been busy working on achieving certifications with new and existing contractors. Like I have said in earlier newsletters that due to Bill 80 and now Bill 85 that is too come into effect soon it has given us a lot of work to do. Precise Machine Technologies a new company is one of those contractors that picked up some cold-cutting work in Boundary Dam and are now a UA Local 179 certified company. I would like to thank Kevin Gray, Kyle Colford & Ken Serbu for their help in achieving this certification. Aecon Construction Group Inc. is the corporation that has many divisions that a lot of us have worked for including Aecon Industrial, Aecon Industrial Western and Lockerbie & Hole Eastern. I have filed an application to amend our existing certifications to read the corporation Aecon Construction Group Inc. so that we will then have all divisions within Aecon Construction Group Inc. certified if we acquire the certification.

Modern Niagara has told us verbally that they will use UA Local 179 plumbers on their first Regina project as they have no plumbers currently in Regina. It sounds like they have Hill Tower 4 and are just waiting on the PO, this job will start in late spring or early summer. They are also on the short list for the new Roughrider Stadium. So I have talked to a dozen UA Local 179 plumbers so far to put on a list that I send to their superintendent every couple weeks. **If any of you plumbers are interested in working for Modern Niagara please call me at the union hall and I will add you to my ongoing list as UA Local 179 needs this job to be successful because this company is just as big as Black & McDonald & can take over the commercial market.**

If any of you know of any non-union Journeyman or apprentice plumbers or refrigeration mechanics that are upset with their non-union employers in Southern Saskatchewan please send them in my direction because I would like to talk to them as our contractors are in constant need of Refrigeration Mechanics in the Regina area.



Landon Mohl
***Business Agent/
Organizer***

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UA LOCAL 179 COMMERCIAL SECTOR WORK IN SOUTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

Bison Fire Protection has finished all of their previous jobs in Saskatchewan with travel cards but I heard from a Local 179 member that they have hired a new manager/estimator for their Regina office so I will be contacting him soon to set up a relationship with him and apparently he is a fire sprinkler system designer so he will be helping them bid on sprinkler work. I also just spoke with the part-owner and he said that they are currently bidding on more work in Saskatchewan and want to grow the sprinkler installation division. **So any sprinkler fitters that are interested in working for Bison Fire Protection please contact me at the union hall.**

Simplex Grinnell is busy with 20+ Sprinkler fitters working in Saskatchewan at finishing the Rocanville PCS Potash Mine, finishing the Mosaic Belle Plaine expansion, Jansen Potash Mine camp, Weyburn condo's, finishing the ATCO camp sprinklers, **sub-contracted at the Agrium Potash Mine at the JV Vault project working for PCL Energy/Monad**, Meadow Lake OSB Expansion work, the jail in Prince Albert & the Kee Lake uranium mine. Within Saskatoon they are working at a few small warehouses. Within Regina they are working at the RCMP Fort Walsh Dorm 3, a few different condo projects and a couple warehouses. Their service division is steady with 10

sprinkler fitters doing work all over Saskatchewan.

Viking Fire Protection is busy in Southern Saskatchewan with 15+ Sprinkler fitters working within Regina at the Rose Gardens High Rise, Home Suites in Harbour Landing, Willow Place, Hopes Homes, Jack Sharpe Medical Building, finishing the new Regina Inn/new Hilton hotel, Co-Op Refinery PDD Warehouse & the ease/west coker main's replacement. Outside of Regina they have a lot of work at the SEC Weyburn School Phase #1 & 2, finishing Viking Oil Field Supply in Estevan, Radville Marion Health Center, Walmart Estevan Expansion, Melfort Care Home, Ft. Quappelle Attic Replacement, SaskPower Poplar River/Coronach Power plant small contracts and they have 2 service vans doing work all over southern Saskatchewan. They are so busy that they hired another Journeyman just the other day.

Vipond Fire Protection is still extremely busy in Southern Saskatchewan with 30+ Sprinkler fitters working within Regina at College Park Senior Living Phase 2, Center Square Place, Hampton Inn hotel, 4 Points Sheraton Inn hotel, Capital Ford Used trucks, a 70 unit Apartment Bldg. on Broad & 5th, Blackfoot Dr. Condo, Wascana Herchimer School, Prairie Valley School Division Reno, Paramount Condo's, Luther High School Renovation, Jijitsu Data Center and the Taylor Volkswagon. Within the new Harbour Landing they are working at Cornerstone Heights condo's, London Drugs, Harbour Landing Office 2 and the new Marshalls building. In White City/ Emerald Park they are working at the

Ramada Inn hotel & Emerald Ridge School. Outside of Regina they have work at the Global Transportation Hub working on a couple Industrial buildings & the Lumsden Elementary School. In Yorkton they are working at the Abbey Condo & the Holiday Inn. In Estevan and surrounding area they are working at finishing the SaskPower Carbon Capture Project, Heat Rejection Cooling Tower & the Turbine Transformer Upgrade. In Weyburn they are working at South Country Equipment, New Holland Bourassa and some condo's. In Swift Current they are working at the joint use school, Fairview School addition and the Scot personal care home. In Maple Creek they started the Southwest Integrated Health Care Facility. In Moose Jaw they are finishing the Village Ford Lincoln and are starting the Moose Jaw Hospital soon. In Ochapowace First Nation they are doing the Multiplex facility and in Langbank they are working at the Seedhawk building upgrade & addition. For upcoming work they have the U of R residences and the large condo project Gateway on the Greens. The service department is busy with 11 Sprinkler fitters working all over Southern Saskatchewan doing service work & inspections. **Vipond has hired a couple people recently and is still looking for a couple apprentices for the Regina office as well as one more Journeyman.**

Commercial & Organizing Report Continued.....

Black & McDonald is busy with 35+ Plumbers in Southern Saskatchewan working within Regina at Marshalls & Taylor Volkswagen. Outside of Regina they are working at the Equipment Depot in Southey, Seedhawk warehouse in Langbank, Maple Creek Health Center, Moose Jaw Hospital, Carbon Capture Test Facility at the Shand Power plant and a small job in Lestock. Their service division is busy with 4 Refrigeration Mechanics and 1 plumber working all over Southern Saskatchewan. They are still working on trying to acquire the contracts for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant as they are still currently on the short list and are bidding more work every day. They have name hired 10+ plumbers recently and are still looking for a **Journeyman Refrigeration Mechanic for their service side.**

For Northern Saskatchewan they are busy with 50+ Plumbers working within Saskatoon at the Lexus & Toyota building, Boston Pizza & multiple other smaller projects all over Saskatoon and surrounding area. Outside of Saskatoon they are working at the Prince Albert Hospital/Pineview Terrace Nursing Home. Their service division is busy with many piping tradesman working all over Northern Saskatchewan. They have hired several plumbers within the last couple months due to increased workload.

C & E Mechanical is busy with 20+ Plumbers working within Moose Jaw at the new MJ Hospital doing the site services underground and some condo's. Outside of Moose Jaw they are working at the new Melville Co-Op Gas Bar, Fairview School in Swift Current addition, the new White City Emerald

Ridge School and various boiler jobs throughout southern Saskatchewan & their service division is busy as well.

Christie Mechanical is steady with 10 plumbers working throughout Regina at the Living Hope Alliance Church renovation & a few small contracts all over Regina. They recently were awarded the new SLGA warehouse and the Saskpower service center in Swift Current. Christie Maintenance Services has 5 Refrigeration Mechanics & 4 Plumbers doing service work all over southern Saskatchewan and continue to acquire more and more service contracts as a result they have hired 2 more Refrigeration Mechanics recently.

Discount Plumbing & Heating is steady with 6 Plumbers doing service work and renovations all over Moose Jaw and surrounding area.

Edco Plumbing & Heating is steady with 6 Plumbers and 1 Pipefitter working on several smaller projects throughout the province as well as service work and having a hard time competing with all of the other non-union contractors on the 1 million and under market.

Marathon Mechanical is slow with 1 Plumber working at the Provincial Court House renovation.

POW CITY Mechanical is steady with 30 plumbers working within Regina at the College Park #2 Retirement Home, new Wascana Herchimer School, finishing the heliport at the General Hospital, RCMP barracks Fort Walsh Dorm #3. Outside of Regina they are finishing the Redverse Hospital, K & S Potash Mine Warehouse

Building and working at the new Ochapawace hockey rink. They were recently kicked of site at the U of R Residences because they lost the Phase #2 contract to Marquardt Mechanical who received the job and beat out every UA Local 179 contractor on the bid by a very thin margin. But on a positive note they are apparently short listed on the Roughrider Stadium.

Broadway Refrigeration has 2 refrigeration mechanics finishing the new downtown Regina high rise called Center Square Place. They are bidding on the new Capital Pointe high rise that is hopefully starting soon as they would like to set up a shop in Saskatchewan.

Honeywell Controls is steady with 3 HVAC/Refrigeration Mechanics & 1 plumber doing service work all over Southern Saskatchewan including their big contracts of RBC, Scotiabank & the Casino Regina. **They are currently looking for a Journeyman Refrigeration Mechanic and a 1st year apprentice.**

Johnson Controls is very busy with 1 HVAC/Refrigeration Mechanic doing service work all over Southern Saskatchewan including their big contracts of the Hill family owned buildings, Sun Country Health Region & Sasktel. **I just talked with their service manager and they recently picked up more contracts so they are really in dire need for another couple Journeyman- 2nd year Refrigeration Mechanics as they lost 2 Refrigeration Mechanics recently.**

Standard Mechanical is steady with 2 HVAC/Refrigeration Mechanics doing service work all over Southern Saskatchewan.

UA 179ERS SLO-PITCH TEAM

Our 179ers slo-pitch team had a great year of ball and thank you again to all of you that played. We have become the team that nobody wants to play in the Regina Rec League because we all stick together like a brotherhood and play to the rules. Our final standings were 3rd place in the Spring League & 3rd place in the summer league. We won the "B" final in both seasons. Please any of you Local 179 members that want to play can call me and I will put you on the list as we are considering putting in two teams in the spring league so that everyone can play lots of ball next year.

MEMBER INITIATIONS

Welcome to UA Local 179 to all the new members who have sworn their oaths over the past few months.



The above photo is of sixteen new members swearing their oaths at The Saturday, October 19, 2013 meeting in Saskatoon



The above photo is of twenty new members swearing their oaths at The Saturday, November 16, 2013 meeting in Regina

I hope all of you have a Merry Christmas spending time with your family.

Landon Mohl



TRAINING MATTERS

I would like to wish each member and their families the very best in the upcoming festive season! Coming up very fast is the Christmas and the New Year holidays. The Training Centers and Training Offices will be closed at noon on December 20 and will reopen on January 2, 2013.

Apprenticeship Skills Competitions

The first thing I would like to mention is the 2014 Provincial Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Competitions. These are open to all Indentured Apprentices that have contracts supported by Saskatchewan Piping Industry Joint Training Board.

Notices will not be sent out to each Apprentice. Consider this as notice that if you are interested, send me a letter advising my office that you wish to compete. Once my office receives your letter of intent, your name will be added to the Competition Roster. No dates have been set for this, but this event will proceed in March of 2013 at the Saskatoon Training Center. We will be planning on a Saturday and Sunday scenario for this event. You can mail the letter to 334 Robin Way, Saskatoon S7L 6X4, or email it to skppin@sasktel.net or drop it off at either the Saskatoon or Regina Training Offices.

I encourage Apprentices in each Trades group to register for the Provincials. It is a great week end of competition, camaraderie and opportunity to show your skill sets. The 2014 Western Regional UA Apprentice Competitions are being hosted by UA 496 Training Center in Calgary. The winners of the Provincial Competitions will advance to this venue. The winners of the Western Regional will advance to the UA National Apprentice Competitions being hosted by Local 488 Training Center in Edmonton. The winners of the National will advance to the international competitions in August held in Ann Arbor Michigan.

The Pipe Trades Training Center in Saskatoon has been asked to be the host this year for the Skills Canada Plumber and Steamfitter/Pipefitter Competitions. These will be held April 10 and 11, 2014. Each Competitor will need to register with Skills Saskatchewan. Their on-line registration is at: <http://skillscanadasask.com>. I encourage each Apprentice to consider registering and competing. Last year the Plumbing Competitor from Local 179 competed at the Nationals and won the gold. Imagine the possibilities.

NAUSC Rigging Update

I have attended a number of meetings and participated in a number of tele-conferences regarding the new UA/CSA P.I. P.E.S. Rigging Certification. The course outline and materials should be ready by the end of this year. This program will have an in-class theory component, an on-line test component and a practical component to complete the certification process. As soon as this is ready to go, I will post the course listing on the 179 web site for each member to consider.

There is a similar agenda going on for Med-Gas Certification. As soon as I have more information, I will have it posted on the 179 web-site.

Kenneth Busch
Director of Training

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Canadian Training Fund

Last year I mentioned that my office submitted a grant to the Canadian Training Fund. Each member contributes 5 cents per man hour to this fund that is managed by the Canadian Training Fund. We were successful in being approved for about \$220,000.00. This grant has paid for the new welding machines at our Regina Pipe Trades Training Center as well as the fume extraction system. There are also a number of other tools we will be purchasing through this grant in the months ahead.



A picture from the UA Local 179 Apprenticeship orientation for UA Local 179 apprentices attending SIAST Kelsey fall 2013 classes. This photo was taken at the Saskatoon Training Centre. We have over 50 apprentices currently enrolled in classes in Saskatoon.

Training Center Update

As most of our membership is aware, the new Regina Pipe Trades Training Center was moved into in January of 2013. The administration portion was the first of our process to get up and running. The weld shop was next and work is proceeding in the pipe trades shop. Things are going well and as we planned.

When I think back to when we first moved into the Saskatoon Pipe Trades Training Center in early 2011 and then moved into the Regina Training Center in early 2013 I am in awe of the commitment by a lot of dedicated people to make the transition and get these centers up and running. Each of you knows who you are. Thanks to each of you!

The Training office is also working out details to get the Regina Pipe Trades Training shop to a point where we can start scheduling shop classes. It is a work in progress and it takes time to get these things done. The majority of our members understand that these things take time. The 2-4 % that thinks that all it takes is a snap of the fingers to get training centers up and running are (as a member mentioned to me in a recent conversation) similar to the folks that trash talk the Riders and quarterback DD. I often wonder what the world would look like if everyone was an arm chair quarterback and no one was on the field of play. It is ironic that people who have never done certain things can certainly explain how everything should be done.

I am very pleased with the time line and functionality of both of your Training Centers. Many folks from outside our ranks have been to these centers. They are very impressed and many have expressed the practical hands on approach we have taken to design the project areas and shop areas of the facilities.

A member recently asked me what was done with the 1366 Cornwall Street location in Regina. As many are aware, the Joint Training Committee approved the purchase of this facility years ago for 60 grand. It recently sold for a lot more than that. I chuckle about what was paid and what that facility sold for. The reason I chuckle is because of the few folks that were not in agreement of purchasing that property. Now that it is sold for 6 times the purchase amount, I often wonder what those folks would say now. They seem to be silent for some reason. They are as silent as the folks that slashed up DD of the Riders. DD sure showed them how to get things done by leading the Riders to the cup.

Training Matters continued...

Job Readiness Program Update

In the last newsletter, I wrote about the Job Readiness Program. It started in mid-October and ends on December 13, 2013. There are 13 individuals in this Program. It is too early to call, but I believe that there will be at least a 90% success rate for the graduates. That is a very good percentage of success for these types of programs. This program is a perfect example of many people and organizations working towards a common goal. It would take me quite a few pages to give tribute to those individuals and organizations that have shared knowledge and provided effort to make this program a success. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this initiative.

While this program was initiated as a pilot program, I can see the need for more of these in the future. The key component is the candidates taking the program, the right individual chosen to instruct, a good curriculum layout, industry participation, and most important, meaningful work at the end of the program. We have the ingredients for success.



Photos of students at work in the Job Readiness Program at the Saskatoon Pipe Trades Training Centre. In the top right photo you can see the groups instructor UA Local 179 member Daniel Moose.

SPI/JTAC Upcoming Training Courses

The courses that are currently scheduled and the ones coming up are listed in the table below. Check the Local 179 web site as well as I have any updates put on the web.

Steamfitter/Pipefitter Upgrader	Saskatoon	February 1,2,8,9,15,16,22,23, March 1,2,8,9
Steamfitter/Pipefitter Upgrader	Regina	January 11,12,18,19,25,26,February 8,9,15,16,22,23
Plumber IP Upgrader	Saskatoon	Working out date for an end of January start Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Plumber IP Upgrader	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Fibre Glass Course Green Thread (8 hour)	Saskatoon	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Fibre Glass Course Green Thread (8 hour)	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Rigging Procedures (40 hour)	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Rigging Procedures (40 hour)	Saskatoon	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Shop Steward Program (NAUSC)	Saskatoon	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Shop Steward Program (NAUSC)	Regina	December 14, 15 2013
Foreman Program (NAUSC)	Saskatoon	February 2014 (dates will be finalized soon)
Foreman Program (NAUSC)	Regina	February 2014 (dates will be finalized soon)
Tig & Specialty Welding	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Tig & Specialty Welding	Saskatoon	November 23,24,30, December 1,7,8
Sprinkler Inspection Program (NAUSC) (40 hours)	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Sprinkler Inspection Program (NAUSC) (40 hours)	Saskatoon	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Down hand Pipe Welding Program	Regina	Spring of 2014 Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Sprinkler NFPA 13 Update (4 hour)	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Sprinkler NFPA 13 Update (4 hour)	Saskatoon	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Sprinkler NFPA 25 Inspection Course (40 hours)	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Sprinkler NFPA 25 Inspection Course 40 hours	Saskatoon	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Sprinkler Stand Pipe Systems (8 hour)	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Sprinkler Stand Pipe Systems (8 hour)	Saskatoon	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Cross Connection Control Course	Saskatoon	October 25,26,27,November 1,2,3,
Cross Connection Control Course	Regina	April 4 to 13, 2014
Orbital Welding Introduction (16 hour)	Saskatoon	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Orbital Welding Introduction (16 hour)	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
CWB All Positions	Regina	Test dates are: November 8, December 13, January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11 Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
CWB All Positions	Saskatoon	November 29 Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Basic Welding	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Basic Welding	Saskatoon	November 5,12,19,26,December 3,10 (4 to 7 pm)
Gas Troubleshooting Level 1 (5 days, 40 hours)	Saskatoon	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register

Training Matters continued....

Gas Troubleshooting Level 2 (4 days, 32 hours)	Prince Albert	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Gas Code Refresher (60 hour)	Regina	Details being finalized for a mid-January start date Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Gas Code Refresher (60 hour)	Saskatoon	December 7,8,14,15
Gas Code Refresher (60 hours)	Prince Albert	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Carbon Monoxide Awareness Course (8 hours)	Saskatoon	January 19, 2014 Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Carbon Monoxide Awareness Course (8 hours)	Prince Albert	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Carbon Monoxide Awareness Course (8 hours)	Moose Jaw	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Carbon Monoxide Awareness Course (8 hours)	Regina	Call 1-306-651-3737 to register
Trade Math/Science	Saskatoon	November 5, 12,19,26, December 3,10,17 (4 pm to 7 pm)
Remedial Gas	Saskatoon	November 5,12,19,26,December 3,10 (4 pm to 7 pm)
Basic Welding	Saskatoon	November 5, 12,19,26, December 3,10,17 (4 pm to 7 pm)
Remedial Plumbing Code	Saskatoon	November 6,18,25,December 2,9, 2013 (4 pm to 7 pm)
Remedial Plumbing Code	Regina	November 13,20,27,December 3,10,17 (6 to 9 pm)
Job Readiness Program	Saskatoon	October 21,22,23,24,25,28,29,30,31, November 1,2,3,4,5,8,9,12,13,14,15,18,19,21,22,25,26, 27,28,29, December 2,3,4,5,6,9,10,11,12,13
Pipe Fabrication Basics	Saskatoon	November 6,13,20,27,December 3,10 (4-7 pm)
Gas Equipment Troubleshooting	Saskatoon	November 6,13,20,27,December 4,11 (4-7 pm)
Carber Testing Core Services Course and Controlled Bolting Course	Saskatoon	Rescheduling for some time in the New Year Call 1-306-651-3737 to register

Remember to register call 306.651.3737 or email sk.piping.ind@sasktel.net

In addition to the courses being planned and scheduled, there are many of the safety type courses that are scheduled daily. You need to call Judy B at 1-306-651-3737 and she will call our service providers and have you scheduled into the next available course.

You can also email to skppin@sasktel.net and register for a course. For the many new members, the process to register is by means of a registration form. The Blue Form is sent out each year in June or July. Once a course has 8 or more registrations, steps are made by my office to make arrangements for shop area, Instructor, materials, reference books, assignments, letters to do, emails to reply to, confirmations, tools, consumables, rentals, tracking, task schedules, safety and the list goes on.

The Saskatoon Pipe Trades Training Center has classes daily from 4 pm till 7 pm for all Apprentices. Call 651- 3737 and talk with JudyB to register or to find out what courses are running for the week. The usual courses offered are Pipe Fabrication, Gas, Math/ Science, Plumbing Code, Blue Print Reading, and Hot Water Heating Practical. These sessions are open for all members to participate in.

I encourage all members to check out the Local Union 179 Website (<http://ualocal179.com/>). The training course schedule is located on it. For the new member, please be advised that the scheduling of any of our courses has a process. You need to contact the Training Office at 1-306-651-3737 to register for a course. We have received numerous calls from members that wonder why they did not receive a letter or a call regarding courses we have either recently scheduled or have going on. We only send letters when we have the course scheduled and only to those who we have on the data base for course registrations. The letters we send indicate for the member to call in and confirm that they will attend the course. If one has not identified to my office they wish to take a particular course, how would we know to send that person a letter. We have received a number of these calls lately and it is simply unbelievable to think that some people think we can read minds.

Apprentices Note

I have been monitoring the Apprentices that are attending their block release training at SIAST in Saskatoon. Each Apprentice who takes their level training also has to take advantage of the extra training assistance we provide in the Saskatoon Training Center. I am extremely proud of our Apprentices that come in to our training center daily. They work well together, are focused on the right things, and a pleasure to chat with. Each of you needs a pat on the back. Well done! We also schedule classes for our Regina and area Apprentices. Due to the smaller numbers that take SIAST level training in Regina, the extra classes are on a smaller scale. I thought I would mention that as every once in a while, I hear complaining that we do not have these classes in Regina. We have and we do. It is a smaller scale for a number of reasons.

I have been monitoring the Out of Work Boards for the Apprentices and see larger numbers registered than has been seen for a very long time. There are opportunities here to provide some day courses during the next few months as a result of having Apprentices on the OWB. I will continue to monitor this and after the New Year will schedule various skills training classes as required.

Sprinkler Fitters Note

I encourage each of you to send me an email regarding if you support Compulsory Certification for your trade or not. I also suggest you give some reasons as to why you support this or not. Email your thoughts on this to: ken.skppin@sasktel.net

Journey People Note

The Training Office has scheduled a number of upgrader programs for the Steamfitter/Pipefitter trade. The classes fill up very quickly. One thing to note is the trade time needed to qualify to challenge a Red Seal Steamfitter/Pipefitter Certification. Different trades have different hour requirements that need to be met. The requirements are based on the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission Trade Regulations for the Province of Saskatchewan.

At times, my staff receives calls from individuals who for some reason want to argue about the requirements or to explain how it is done in another Province. With that said our Local and the Joint Training Committee do not make these regulations nor are there any short cuts to certification. If individuals do not wish to follow the rules to challenge IP exams or to gather their trade time, I guess they are not going to be able to challenge. It is really that simple. Complaining or attempting to circumvent regulations that are set by the Government is not going to go well for these people. The regulations are there for many reasons. The bottom line is that an individual either complies with them, or you will not be able to challenge the test.

All in all, it has been a great year and I am looking forward to 2014 and whatever the next year brings. **On behalf of the Joint Training Committee, the Training Office staff, I extend heartfelt wishes for a super Christmas and continued prosperity in the New Year.**

Take good care out there!

Ken Busch, Director of Training, UA Local 179 Joint Training Committee



The Challenge for Canada's Apprentices

There is a shortfall of skilled workers available for work in Canada, and every construction organization in the country is working on filling that shortfall with new workers including Temporary Foreign Workers. There are, however, many thousands of out-of-work Apprentices that are ready and willing to go to work, but can't find opportunity.

There is a form of disconnect in industry that is holding the country back on providing more skilled and certified workers in Canada. They are not hiring new Apprentices to train for the future, but expect to have journeymen available when the current workforce of trained workers retires. This is an example of a lack of forethought and serious lack of planning for the future of the country. This has to be addressed and the UA is working towards changing this thought process with our country's leadership.

In many other countries, Apprenticeship has been built into the school curriculum. Students can decide what trade they want to work in and they train specifically to fill the industry need, and get credit towards their field when they graduate from high school. In Canada there are some forms of youth Apprenticeships which are loosely modeled after these European programs, but they don't provide the kind of direction needed for the future of our industry. Most provinces do this by having school-aged or recently graduated students go to work for contractors at a lower rate of pay, and call it another name so that they do not have to pay the going rate for Apprenticeable trades workers.

Apprentices do not get to work since they are too costly in comparison, but the real cost to our future is much higher if we do not employ these new young Apprentices. There is a body of thought out there as to why Apprentices do not finish their trades called a completion rate by government officials. The so called youth programs coupled with the fact that government does not hire Apprentices for their own workforce have much to do with the situation.

Larry Slaney
Director of Training
UA Canada



UA Local 179 Apprentices training at the Saskatoon Pipe Trades Training Centre

There are also many training institutions that train people for jobs that are 'not there'. Colleges tend to develop detailed programs and need to gain the most economic benefit from them. So they repeat them until there is no further enrollment to make the most of their investment by getting "bums in the seats". This should always be based on real needs from industry, not financial needs for colleges.

There are also hiring ratios across Canada through provincial

regulations that provide for contractors to hire specific numbers of Apprentices on construction sites in Canada based on the number of Journeypersons they employ. However there is no requirement to keep a ratio when layoff occurs so all of the Apprentices are laid off first. Provincial governments either do not have the budget or the personnel (or don't want to fund this) to properly enforce these regulations on ratios, and this usually results in contractors not even hiring Apprentices in the first place because they fear they are going to cost them money and will not be truly productive workers. We know that nothing could be farther from the truth thanks to a number studies that show apprentices are very productive. It's a proven fact.

Union organizations have collective agreements that mandate ratios of Apprentices on worksites and they tirelessly work to ensure that these clauses in the agreements are followed. We need to keep our current system of Apprenticeship in place and improve it even further.

There are many groups in the construction industry that do not share our vision and do not truly support Apprenticeship, but they have not yet realised that we all have a stake in the provision of properly functioning systems for providing new workers. Industry partners have to be involved and support the future workforce, and not with just lip service but real commitments to hire our young workforce and develop them for the next jobs that have to be completed. It is simple logic that many cannot see clearly. At UA Canada we see it and we will always work to educate everyone on these facts and support our youth by putting them to work in an Apprenticeship that will give them a real future, not just a job for now.

Larry Slaney is the United Association Director of Canadian Training. Larry originally joined the UA in Regina in 1985 becoming a member of UA Local 179 before transferring to UA Local 740 in 1990.

UNITED ASSOCIATION
of Journeyman and Apprentices
of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry
of the United States and Canada

International Representative
Western Canada
Rob Kinsey



November 25, 2013

Mr. Dwayne McFadzen
Turnaround and Projects Superintendent
Husky Lloydminster Upgrader
Lock Box 1710,
Lloydminster, Saskatchewan
S9V 1M6

Re: Adherence to Article 8:03 of the Project Agreement for the Husky Lloydminster Upgrader

Dear Sir:

Please accept this correspondence as a follow-up to our recent discussions between you, Matthew Pedlar, Troy Knipple and myself on issues that emanated from the 2013 Husky Lloydminster Upgrader turnaround. During our teleconference you informed Troy and me of the exceptional safety record undertaken throughout your recent shutdown, consisting of two medical aids after 850,000 man hours of work. Further to this, you had indicated that the majority of work undertaken by our signatory contractors and their unionized forces were completed on schedule with the exception of two areas where the lack of timely de-blinding and re-connection of the piping systems became the main factor in these delays. We discussed in detail a number of unfortunate factors that led to this circumstance and the suggested resolutions which we mutually agreed upon in order to prevent future late and costly completions from reoccurring.

It was agreed that one of the main resolves in ensuring timely completions included an assurance that our contractors maintain sufficient numbers of U.A. personnel to complete all facets of de-blinding and re-connection of our piping systems when called upon. In addition to this, both Troy and I reaffirmed our understanding and adherence, when conditions warrant it, of utilizing Article 8:03 of the current Husky Maintenance Agreement wherein it states... *"Project maintenance conditions do not always justify adherence to craft lines which, in itself, does not establish precedent or change the appropriate jurisdiction of the crafts involved. Composite crews may be formed where conditions warrant, but this is not to be construed under regular operating conditions as the Company's prerogative to assign employees out of their usual skill classification."*

#9 Laurent Place • St. Albert, Alberta T8N 4N5 • Tel: (780) 418-8008 • Cell.: (780) 288-2242 • Fax: (780) 470-8006 • robertk@uanet.org



WILLIAM P. HITE
General President

JOHN TELFORD
International Vice President & Director of Canadian Affairs

PATRICK R. PERNO
General Secretary-Treasurer


Finally it was agreed that this letter will be posted in the next edition of the U.A. Local Union #179 newsletter in order that all U.A. Local Union #179 members are apprised of these discussions and resolution to future and ongoing project maintenance turnarounds at the Husky, Lloydminster Upgrader site.

The United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters looks forward to working with your company into the future and you have our assurances that our membership will continue to remain the safest and most productive work force in the Canadian construction and maintenance industry.

Yours Sincerely,



Rob Kinsey, U.A. International Representative



What would UA be without U?

UA Canada is a kickass team for expert tradespeople. You know it. We know it. And we want to tell piping tradespeople across Canada how they can build a better life with us. Sure, we can tell them all about the better benefits, the pension plans, and of course the better pay. But there's so much more to it than that. And who better to talk about how much better life really is when you're a UA member than you—our members?

We want to hear your stories and we want to share them on our website joinuacanada.ca. So tell us what it's like working in the piping trades as a UA member. Tell us your personal experience being a part of the UA collective of top piping professionals. The difference it makes to life on and off the jobsite. Why did you decide to join UA Canada? What difference has it made for your life, family, and career? Whatever your story, we want to hear it. You don't need to be a writer to have something worth saying. You provide the story, and we'll provide the polish. Send your stories to jennifer@m5.ca.

Queen Elizabeth power station to begin \$514M expansion (September 30, 2013)

The Queen Elizabeth Power Station is powering up a \$514 million-expansion project that will add enough capacity to power an additional 205,000



Queen Elizabeth Power station

homes. With a price tag exceeding a half-billion dollars, it is the most expensive project in Saskatoon history, surpassing the \$300-million Circle Drive South. The Queen Elizabeth station was officially commissioned in 1959, and has a net capacity of 430 megawatts (MW). After the expansion, an additional 205 MW will be added. Construction is expected to be complete by July 2015 and the new plant will be commissioned in September 2015.

Nearly 300 contractors replaced with temporary foreign workers (October 8, 2013)

"As hundreds of pipefitters and welders arrived at Husky Energy's Sunrise project for their weeks-long shifts, a company spokesperson told the crew of approximately 270 this would be their last. Their replacements? An equal number of temporary foreign workers brought in by Saipem, an Italian non-union contracting company specializing in the oil and gas industry. Over the next 30 days, dozens of temporary foreign workers from Mexico, Ireland, Portugal and Italy were arriving at the site 60 kilometres north of Fort McMurray, waiting for turnover. By Sept. 27, the original workers — all contractors with Toronto-based Black & MacDonald — were gone."

Unionization on Decline in Canada (November 26, 2013)

Between 1981 and 2012, Canada's unionization rate — defined as the proportion of paid employees who are union members — declined from 38% to 30%. Most of the decline, however, took place in the 1980s and the 1990s. The unionization rate among men declined from 42% to 29% over the period. Men of all ages were affected by the decline, especially those aged 25 to 44. Among women, the unionization rate remained stable at around 30% over the period. However, this stability masked two offsetting trends: a decline among women aged less than 45, and an increase among those aged 45 to 64.



New data shows temporary foreign workers program filling 1 in 4 Alberta jobs (November 26, 2013)

Recently released data shows that one in four new jobs in Alberta in 2013 were filled through the Temporary Foreign Worker Program. Employers are getting the go-head to hire temporary foreign workers despite the province's unemployment levels. Temporary foreign workers are paid less, treated worse and live in precarious and dependent circumstances. The Alberta Federation of Labour President called again for the Temporary Foreign Worker Program to be scrapped in favour of comprehensive immigration reform that would see foreign workers come to Canada as permanent residents.

SaskPower CEO says ICCS project (Boundary Dam) \$115M over budget

(October 18, 2013)

The integrated carbon capture and storage (ICCS) demonstration project at Unit 3 at Boundary Dam power station at Estevan is still on track for completion by April 2014, but is running about \$115 million over budget, SaskPower president and CEO Robert Watson announced. Based on current estimates, the project — the world's first commercial-scale, post-combustion, carbon capture project at a coal-fired generating station — will come in at \$1.355 billion, rather than \$1.24 billion as originally projected. Watson said the "power island" project — which will see the 44-year-old Unit 3 completely rebuilt, with a new carbon capture-ready turbine — has run into unforeseen costs, including previously announced removal of asbestos and lead paint from the boiler and other equipment. "We're talking about \$115 million (cost overrun) on a potentially \$1.3 billion project, so it's nine per cent. We are, quite frankly, going to try and manage that number lower. However, in the interests of full disclosure, that's what we're estimating now."

Province makes asbestos registry mandatory

(November 7, 2013)

The Saskatchewan government is marking the death of a man who advocated for asbestos safety measures by announcing a new measure making asbestos reporting mandatory. On Thursday the government proclaimed the new law, which is named after Howard Willems. It makes it mandatory for crown corporations, school districts, health regions, and the provincial government to ensure their buildings are listed on the province's on-line registry if there is asbestos present anywhere in their facilities. "We're the first (province) in Canada that has mandated a regis-

try and the first one that has brought it up," said labour relations and workplace safety minister Don Morgan. He gives Willems the credit for making it happen. He died one year ago Thursday from cancer; it was caused by inhaling asbestos, something that came with the territory in his job as a food inspector for the federal government.

Diamond discovery in central Sask

(November 7, 2013)

Sometimes, diamonds are hidden away in kimberlite rock. That's why when North Arrow Minerals made a kimberlite discovery near Deschambeault Lake, they started diamond test work in the area. The Pikoo kimberlite district was found during a drilling program in July just north of Deschambeault Lake. Since then, North Arrow launched a program to find out more on the diamond potential of the region. Recently, they found high microdiamond counts. The size and type of diamonds discovered is "an exceptional result and establishes Pikoo and the northern Sask. Craton, as a new diamond district in Canada," Ken Armstrong, president and CEO of North Arrow stated in a news release.

Potash Corp. to cut 18% of work force; 440 jobs affected in Saskatchewan

(December 3, 2013)

Potash Corp. is cutting its workforce by about 18 per cent, affecting about 1,045 people — with the biggest hits in its home province of Saskatchewan where 440 people will be affected. Most of those will be at its Lanigan, where two mills will suspend production by the end of 2013, and Cory, where production will be reduced, and the Saskatoon headquarters. PotashCorp is Canada's largest producer of potash, which is sold around the world to help farmers boost crop production. Expansion spending in Rocanville which is 90% complete and is PCS's lowest-cost operation will continue

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: Have ideas or things you'd like to contribute to future newsletters? Contact us. If you have worksite photos, news information, or would like to submit a letter or article to the newsletter, let us know. Next issue will come out in March 2014. Contact John Tzupa, Executive Assistant to the Business Manager jtzupa@ualocal179.ca or 306.569.0624 ext. 234

POLITICAL & LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BY JOHN TZUPA, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE BUSINESS MANAGER, UA LOCAL 179

Conservatives compete to see who is more anti-union at annual policy convention

The Conservative Party held its annual policy convention at the beginning of November in Calgary. Up for debate at the convention were several anti-union resolutions. These resolutions included: calling for an end to mandatory union dues, regulating what unions can spend union dues on, a full support for right-to-work legislation like in the states which effectively makes union membership optional in unionized workplaces, targeting public sector unions and making their union dues optional and also gutting their pension plans and more. Apparently those in the Conservative party believe targeting workers and attacking those who support workers rights is something to be proud of.

Decline in Unionization leads to Growing inequality in Canada

A few studies have come out recently that point to two things: 1. In Canada Union membership is on the decline falling from 38% in 1981 to 30% in 2012. 2. That the growing inequality between the very rich and poor is growing in Canada and is worse than ever. It has been proven time and time again that the most-effective tool for growing the middle class and shrinking the prosperity gap between the rich and the poor is by increasing unionization rates in an economy. It is disgusting to see poverty grow in a country as rich as ours and know that if the government would support unions instead of attacking them, it would grow the middle class and increase the quality life for all Canadians.

Conservative Attacks against workers Continue in Parliament

The Conservative Government is continuing to pander to Merit Contractors and Big Business and is furthering its attempts to undermine unions and make labour cheaper in this country. After Bill C - 377, the overuse of the temporary foreign workers program and making it almost impossible to receive employment insurance, yet another anti-worker Private Member's Bill was tabled by a Conservative MP and the Government wrote a hidden labour bill into the Fall Omni-bus budget Bill C-4. Conservative MP, Blaine Calkins has tabled Bill C-525 which aims to restrict the ability of workers to organize and to establish a Trade Union. The highlights of Bill C-525 are: Unilateral amendments to the Canadian code of labour, the Parliamentary Employment and Staff Relations Act and the Public Service Labour relations Act: A substantial increase in the number of membership cards to sign in order to set in motion the process of to establish a union.; Forcing a mandatory vote, leaving workers and workers at the mercy of the influence, threats, and intimidation of employers; An absolute majority of employees who want to join and not just those who participate in the vote.

Bill C-4, like omnibus bills before it, makes amendments and changes to all sorts of legislation. The bill gives the federal government exclusive right to determine what public services workers are essential -- a designation that is currently negotiated by the employer and the union. Bill C-4 simply calls for consultation, after which the government can still declare the workers essential. Most disturbingly, the bill makes major changes to the health and safety provisions in the Canada Labour Code -- a statute that applies to all federally regulated industries. As the Labour Code currently stands, officials called health and safety officers, who are designated by the minister of labour, investigate workplaces and deem them dangerous if need be. If the amendments contained in Bill C-4 pass, the minister would be directly responsible for leading the investigations, and the definition of "danger" would be "an imminent or serious threat to the life or health of a person exposed to it." The current definition notes that the danger only has to be a hazard or condition that could reasonably cause injury or illness. In a nutshell: unions believe that workers are being stripped of their rights to collectively bargain and protect themselves in unsafe workplaces.

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179

BY EMAIL

We have started a monthly email news update to the membership. If you would like to receive emails from us please contact the office at 306-569-0624 or mail@ualocal179.ca with your email address.



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You can like us on Facebook UA Local 179 or www.facebook.com/ua179



ON TWITTER

You can follow us on twitter UA Local 179 or @UA179

CONGRATULATIONS TO
UA LOCAL 179
MEMBERS WHO RECEIVED
AWARDS IN THE 2013
SASKATCHEWAN
APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS:

- ⇒ JOSHUA SEIB, PLUMBER (SASK PIPING INDUSTRY JOINT TRAINING BOARD ED SCHOENROTH AWARD & UA LOCAL 179 GEORGE PELLERIN AWARD)
- ⇒ STEVEN VANDERVEER, SPRINKLERFITTER (SASK BUILDING TRADES GARTH IVEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP)
- ⇒ KEVIN ZAMONSKY, PIPEFITTER (SASK PIPING INDUSTRY JOINT TRAINING BOARD GEORGE THORPE SCHOLARSHIP & UA LOCAL 179 HARVEY FLEMING AWARD)
- ⇒ RUSS SHROPRSHIRE, WELDER (UA LOCAL 179 KEN BUSCH JR. AWARD)
- ⇒ KERRY BROWN, SPRINKLERFITTER (UA LOCAL 179 KEN BUSCH SR. AWARD)
- ⇒ JASON EIDSNESS-HODGES, PLUMBER (SKILLS CANADA SASKATCHEWAN & CANADA WINNER)

MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

Taxation and Tax Exemptions

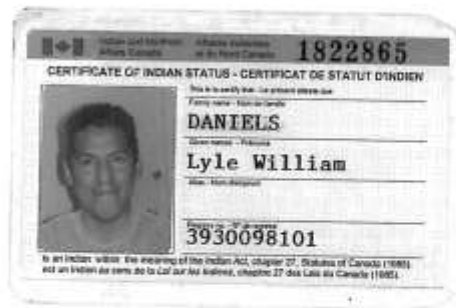


As union members we tend to be ornery about all the deductions that come off our pay every week or two weeks. The first thing we do is look at the pay slip and see the bottom figure, then we check out the deductions. The one glaring figure that always drives everyone bonkers is the amount of income tax that is deducted.

Whenever we have Aboriginal people working with non-Aboriginal people this often brings up the question, I wonder if that guy pays taxes?

I want to try clear up the issue of taxation and tax exemptions for Aboriginal people to the best of my ability as this is one of the biggest myths that is out in the world today.

First we have to go back to terminology. Aboriginal people include: First Nations, Metis and the Inuit in Canada's Constitution. First Nations people are the ones that are eligible for forms of tax exemption. These are the people that receive the card that is seen below. Although, if you look close enough, you will see that I am no longer recognized as First Nations or Status because this card is only valid until December 14, 2010. Which means when I go to a pow-wow, I am not able to dance (only kidding, take a look at my picture, I am First Nations).



If you have one of these cards, then you are part of the First Nations population of approximately 110,000 people in Saskatchewan.

Lyle Daniels
Labour Development
Strategist
Saskatchewan Building &
Construction Trades

Contact Info:
 1111 Osler Street
 Regina, SK S4R 8R4
 P: 306.359.0006
 F: 306.347.3012
 E: ldaniels@saskbuildingtrades.com

I think the best way to help you understand is to do this by point form:

- Approximately 55% of First Nations people live off reserve.
- The only place that I am tax exempt from any tax is on reserve.
- I work for the Sask Building Trades Council in Regina. I do not work on reserve so I pay all my income tax.
- I am only tax exempt on reserve so I have to pay GST and PST on everything that I purchase off reserve.
- PST used to be tax exempt. Remember in the 90's when you were at the local store and you saw a little sign that said, "please inform if you are tax exempt before ringing in." Those were the good old days. This was ended in the mid 90's, most likely because I would buy furniture for a friend from work to save her paying PST at the time. My fault.
- Reserve land in Saskatchewan is only about 5% of the total land. A small piece in the large province where I am tax exempt.
- I rent my home so there are no property taxes. But if I owned a home in Regina, I would pay property taxes. Just like everyone else.
- If I go to the local Co-op gas station I pay taxes just like everyone else. Only if I go to places like Creeland (which is located on an urban reserve) in Regina, then I would have a tax exemption, instead of paying 48.00 for a tank of gas, with my exemption, I would only pay 44.00. Not really worth driving to a reserve to get the tax exemption.
- If I was a smoker, I could go to a Creeland and pay 60.00 for a carton of cigarettes instead of 110.00. A great deal. Each First Nations person is allowed to buy only one carton per week and that purchase is tracked and monitored. I guess by keeping a large tax exemption on cigarettes, government can slowly kill us off.
- I live at Kinookimaw Beach, which is right beside Regina Beach and is reserve land. Just because I live on reserve doesn't mean I am tax exempt on anything. Even though I live on reserve, I am paying all the taxes that everyone else pays.
- There are only 2 places in the province that liquor tax is paid on reserve and that is a casino and golf course. There is no tax exemption of liquor tax.
- On all the reserve land in Saskatchewan, we have over 90% unemployment because most people work off reserve. Equating to a very minute number of people that are income tax exempt.

In other words, even if I am blessed to have a First Nation/Status card, it does not make me exempt from paying taxes. I, like every other person in Saskatchewan, pay way too much in taxes and I really hate looking at my pay stub just like everyone else. So any UA member that also has the status card on the previous page will pay all the taxes that you pay and absolutely hate paying them like you do.

Lyle W Daniels is a UA member and works for the Saskatchewan Building Trades Council as the Labour Force Development Strategist. His roots are from the Kawacatoose First Nation but was born and raised in Regina. This segment is the second of a series to dispel many myths that exist about Aboriginal people.

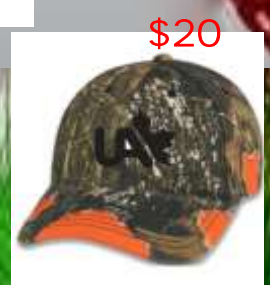
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In Memoriam

It is with sadness, that we mourn the passing of the following members of UA Local 179:



Len Chinski

June 8, 1973 – October 16, 2013

Len passed away peacefully on Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at 85 years of age with his family by his side. Born May 22, 1928 in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, he spent his early years enjoying life with family in Cedoux and the Weyburn area. A long-time pipefitter, Len belonged to the local UA 179 in Regina for 45 years. He enjoyed family gatherings with his children and grandchildren, and enjoyed trips to Las Vegas and Hawaii.

Predeceased by his mother, Edna Antoski, Len is survived and will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 54 years, Ingrid; son Roy (Darla) Chinski and grandchildren Jessica (Ryan) and Tyler; and daughter Brenda (Jim) Huber and grandchildren Hayden, Madison and Brita.

The family would like to thank the staff at Palliative Care with a special thank you to Dr. Salgado and also Len's recently graduated granddaughter from Nursing, Jessica, for her extra care and attention. A private family service was held. Those so wishing to make donations in memory of Len may do so to the ALS Society of Saskatchewan, 90 C Cavendish Street, Regina, SK S4N 5G7.

CONGRATULATIONS TO UA LOCAL 179
MEMBERS ACHIEVING JOURNEYMAN STATUS OR
IMPROVING THEIR SKILLS WITH A SECOND RED
SEAL QUALIFICATION:

JEFF ARNOLD, PAUL HARMS, CAMERON HOFFART,
WADE KOJOLA, TRAVIS KRUSHELNICKI, BRUCE MACLENNAN,
NATHAN NERBAS, TREVOR PIDWERBESKI, CHANCE SACCUCCI,
JOE SARAUER, MICHAEL SPENCER & TYLER WEHNER

UA LOCAL 179 UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, December 14th 2013 @ the Saskatoon Inn (Manitoba Rm)
Following the meeting Members can make Industrial Negotiation submissions.

REGINA CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

3:30-6pm Sunday, December 15th 2013 @ Golden Mile Bowling,
3806 Albert Street, Regina SK

JANUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, January 18th 2014 @ the Regina Union Hall,
402 Solomon Drive, Regina SK

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, February 22nd 2014 @ the Heritage Inn,
102 Cardinal Crescent, Saskatoon SK

2014 UA LOCAL 179 REID LICHTENWALD MEMORIAL SNOWMOBILE DERBY

The Derby will take place at Greenwater Provincial Park on
Saturday, March 1, 2014. The derby will feature a family trail ride as well
as an off trail hill ride. Mark your calendars and book your accommodations!

MARCH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, March 15th 2014 @ the Regina Union Hall,
402 Solomon Drive, Regina SK

APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

11am Saturday, April 26th 2014 @ the Heritage Inn,
102 Cardinal Crescent, Saskatoon SK

There is no substitute for a UA Craftsperson!

Please return undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:

UA Local 179

402 Solomon Drive
Regina SK S4N 5A8

Contact Us

UA Local 179,

402 Solomon Drive,
Regina SK S4N 5A8

P:306-569-0624 or

1-877-563-7179

F:306-781-8052

E: mail@ualocal179.ca

Call-out Tape:

P: 306-569-3641 or

1-877-893-2179

Saskatoon Office

334 Robin Way,

Saskatoon, SK S7K 0X2,

P:306-956-1061

F:306-956-1065

UA/SPI JTAC

Training Centre:

334 Robin Way,

Saskatoon, SK S7K 0X2,

P: 306-651-3737 or

306-651-3777

E: sk.piping.ind@sasktel.net

**Regina Training and Ap-
prentice Dispatch Office:**

402 Solomon Drive, Regina

SK S4N 5A8 P: 306-522-4237

or 1-877-893-2179

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www.ualocal179.ca