



HEAT & FROST

LOCAL #118

NEWSLETTER

Business Manager: Wayne Laxton

Business Agent: Dave Thorne

SPRING ISSUE 2002

WHAT IS GOING ON IN OUR PROVINCE?

MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER: People from all walks of life are protesting, holding rallies and voicing concern over closures, cutbacks, and lay-offs.

Why? Because the actions that are taking place on a daily basis by the present Government are impacting our daily lives like never before. Privatization is the buzzword and more people will lose their jobs if this mode of thinking becomes a reality.

Our trade works in both the commercial and industrial sectors with past emphasis on industrial work. Without capital expenditure in this province, our industrial base will stagnate and that is a worry to us. We need to attract foreign business to invest in BC if we want to grow and prosper. We want to build their plants and maintain them.

I believe Rafe Mair summed it up nicely on his website on March 20, 2002. Mr. Mair, who is hardly left of center in his politics, said:

"So we now have this – the Liberal Government that gained office largely on the promise to attract foreign business has done everything humanly possible to make that business nervous as hell. For if a government can double-cross health care workers and doctors, how seriously can any other of their commitments be taken?"

NOTICE Regular General Membership Meeting

April 27, 2002 9:00 a.m.

Upcoming Date: Saturday, May 25, 2002

**NEW LOCATION: Radisson Hotel (formerly the Villa)
4331 Dominion St., Burnaby, BC**

UNION MEETINGS ATTENDANCE VITAL

Mark your calendars! **Four special motions will be brought forward at the Saturday, April 27, 2002 regular general membership meeting.** These decisions will affect you as a union member and we need your vote.

To say that I am disappointed in recent meeting attendance is an understatement.

In response to requests from the membership, the regular meetings have been moved to Saturday mornings so more members can attend. While the first meeting after the change was well attended, we have since seen a steady decline back to our old numbers.

We make certain that meetings start on time and deal with the business at hand. We have issues that must be dealt with and your input is essential. Decisions made at the membership meetings have a direct impact on you and we need you to be part of the decision-making as you need to live with the vote results. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone on April 27th.

Heat & Frost Local #118

233 East 11 Avenue, Vancouver, BC, Canada V5T 2C4

Tel: 604-877-0909 Toll Free: 1-800-663-2738 Fax: 604-877-0926 E-Mail: HnF118@telus.net



WORK OUTLOOK

SISTER LOCALS: Opportunities to work in other jurisdictions will be available again this year. Local Union #110 expects to be in the position to take Travel Cards shortly and Local Union #119 will be asking for help with manpower later this year.

SHUTDOWNS: Prince George shutdowns will be starting shortly and will run through May 2002.

WEST COAST ENERGY: Two projects are currently being tendered by **West Coast Energy**. Our industrial contractors are bidding on the five pumping stations and a gas processing plant at Chetwynd. We are bidding against non-union firms, however, our contractors feel they have a chance to win the bids.

PACIFIC RIM: **Pac Rim** is on site at **Elk Falls Pulp** and at the **Port Alberni Mill**.

COMMERCIAL CONTRACTORS: Our commercial contractors are busy bidding for work throughout the Province.

Aarc-West Mechanical Insulation is on site at **Esquimalt Dock Yard**.

SCHOLARSHIP DRAWS

Enclosed are the special notices for the Alyce Hodgkins and Ed Russell Scholarship draws, along with the Alta Miller/Florence Bernard Scholarship. Please read the enclosures to make certain that your applications are filled out and mailed on time to be eligible for the draws.

ORGANIZING

TARGET MARKET: The Organizing Committee is holding monthly meetings and is very serious about getting back our share of the commercial market. The Committee feels that once we have a ratified agreement, we will be in a better position to offer something concrete to both the non-union contractors and their employees.

We must organize: not because it is a directive from the International Office, but because it is our future.

CONTRACTOR RETURNS: We have been successful in signing **Locke Insulation** back with the Union. The company has three (3) employees.

ENCLOSURES

TAKE ACTION: Two brochures from the BC Federation of Labour are included with this newsletter.

The front cover of the orange and white brochure says, *"Tell Premier Campbell how you feel about his performance in Victoria."* On the last page of this brochure there is a place for you to sign your name and include the community where you live as well as your Union. **Please complete this page, tear it off and send it back to the Union office no later than April 30, 2002.**

These forms will be gathered from all affiliates and presented to Mr. Campbell by Jim Sinclair from the BC Federation of Labour.

NEGOTIATIONS

RATIFICATION: The Bargaining Council has not yet gone for Province-wide ratification because some affiliates have not concluded their trade talks. We expect those talks to conclude shortly.

Once ratified, the agreement will be set to expire April 30, 2003. This means negotiations will have to begin again immediately following ratification.

BUDGET IMPACT: We are waiting to see how budget cuts to the **Vancouver School Board** will impact members working at the VSB.