



HEAT & FROST

LOCAL #118

NEWSLETTER

Business Manager: Wayne Laxton

SUMMER ISSUE 2002

2002 Nominations and Elections

NOMINATIONS for the following positions will take place at the Regular General Membership Meeting on **Saturday, September 21, 2002** at 9 am in the Radisson Hotel, 4331 Dominion Street, Burnaby :

President
Vice President
Business Manager
Trustee for Pension Plan
Trustee for Health & Welfare Plan

Once the nominations are completed, a mail ballot will go out to all eligible members of Local 118. This change is the result of a motion passed in May 2002 to change the election procedure for officers to a **mail ballot only**. So please watch for your ballot, make your selection and return it immediately.

The election results will be determined when the ballots are counted at the Regular General Membership Meeting on **Saturday, November 23, 2002**.



MEETING SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE: Please note: the **Executive Board** meeting is held on the **3rd Tuesday of every month**.

All regular **General Membership Meetings** will be held on the **Saturday immediately following** the Executive Board meeting. Therefore, General Membership meeting dates can be on the third OR fourth Saturday of the month.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TIME: 9:00 am

LOCATION: Radisson Hotel, 4331 Dominion St., Burnaby.



IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

Executive Board	Regular General Membership
Tues., Sept. 17, 2002	Sat., Sept. 21, 2002
Tues., Oct. 15, 2002	Sat., Oct. 19, 2002
Tues., Nov. 19, 2002	Sat., Nov. 23, 2002
Tues., Dec. 17, 2002	Sat., Dec. 21, 2002

LOCAL 118 OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am to 4:30 p.m. Closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. The office closes at 12:30 p.m. to give working members the opportunity to contact the office on their lunch break.



WORK OUTLOOK

REPORT: This is a pleasant report to write when we have full employment of our members. However, this is not the case now, nor has it been for some time.

TRAVEL: The industrial sector in BC remains slow. We have 37 Brothers on Travel Cards who are working in Alberta and Saskatchewan.



While there have been rumours of co-gen, etc., they have not amounted to any work as we wait while our contractors bid on the work.

UPCOMING: There will be shutdowns in Prince George this fall. However, these shutdowns do not require either the time nor the manpower they once did.

The job for Canada Sulphur at Ridley Island in Prince Rupert is still on hold while ownership and financial planning are being completed.

ON-GOING: The commercial sector in Vancouver is holding its own, but we need to certify more of the players in this sector.

The downtown core has been busy with hammerheads. While we are not on all of the work sites, with a lot of hard work by our members, the organizing committee and officers, we have an opportunity to take back our industry.

Collective Agreements ratified

MEMBERS SUPPORT AGREEMENT: The ballots are in and counted: the Heat & Frost Local #118 Standard Agreement has been ratified by 84% of our voting members and by 67% of all BCYT affiliates.

This is good news for the Union and the membership. However, please be aware that there are on-going legal challenges to the Agreement at the Labour Relations Board.

FORT ST. JOHN VOTE: On Tuesday, July 23, 2002, employees at Myco Services in Fort St. John voted to ratify the PRMC/NMA Agreement with 69% of the votes cast for ratification.

Local #118 sends delegates to International Convention

FLORIDA: On Tuesday, August 20, 2002, Heat & Frost Local #118 will be represented by four delegates to the *28th Quinquennial Convention of the International Association of Heat & Frost Insulators & Asbestos Workers*. The convention will be held at the Westin Diplomat Resort in Hollywood, Florida.

At the convention, delegates from both Canada and the United States will put forth motions for debate and will determine what direction the International Union will follow over the next five years.

The officers and members of Local #118 wish Brother Tony Ceraldi success in his bid for re-election as International Vice President.

Members support protest rallies



VOICES HEARD: Thank you to all the Local #118 members who participated in the recent rallies around the province protesting government decisions.

It is important that we get out and demonstrate against government changes that adversely affect our families and ourselves, as nobody will protest for us.



Dispatch rules: important details

PLEASE READ: We would like to bring Union Local #118 Working Rules and By-laws Article XI - Working Rules - Section 2: Dispatch Rules, (b) and (c) to your attention:

(b) After accepting a dispatch, the member then fails to show up for work on the day designated on the clearance slip, the member must give notice to Union or Employer. Failure to do so will result in a \$75.00 fine.

(c) Each member, upon dispatch to an employer, will be issued a Union clearance slip. All members, when they are being dispatched and/or starting work for any employer, must have, in his possession, a valid work slip from the Union office and must deposit same with the Job Steward, Mechanic or Foreperson, in that order; and in the case of being the first employee on the job site, then deposit with the Employer. If the Business Manager or Business Agent exercises their latitude in the case of emergency dispatch slips, this is not to be construed as creating a precedent. Each case is to be judged on its own merits.

We have been informed that some members on our list have gone to work for our contractors without being dispatched by this office. Unless we are notified, our office has no record of the member going to work or who they are working for.

This is only allowed in an emergency situation when a contractor must respond to a client call after normal working hours.

If an emergency dispatch does take place after hours, the member must phone the office the following day and tell us what has taken place so the proper records can be kept.

Bonus pension announced

STATEMENT MAILED: The Pension Trustees are pleased to be able to grant a bonus pension to the membership effective Jan. 1, 2001. Your pension statement has been mailed to your last address on record. Please contact the union office if you have not received it.

SCHOLARSHIPS

CONGRATULATIONS:

The winner of the *Alyce Hodgkins Scholarship* was Brother Joe Ceraldi who also won a scholarship last year. This year he asked to pass the scholarship on to runner-up Nicole Bennett, daughter of Brother Dan Bennett.

The *Ed Russell Scholarship* was won by Travis Stevenson, son of Brother Doug Stevenson.

BUILDING DEDICATION

CEREMONY HELD: Brother Wayne Laxton attended the dedication ceremony of the new International Headquarters in Washington, DC while attending the Business Managers and Agents meeting in May. He reports that the new building is one we can all be proud of.

UP COMING HOLIDAYS

Aug. 2: *Friday before BC Day*
Industrial Sector only.

Aug. 5: *Monday, BC Day*
Industrial and Commercial.

Aug. 30: *Friday before Labour Day*
Industrial Sector only.

Sept. 2: *Monday, Labour Day*
Industrial and Commercial.

Oct. 14: *Monday, Thanksgiving*
Industrial and Commercial

Nov. 11: *Monday, Remembrance Day*
Industrial and Commercial

IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness and regret we report the passing of Willie Lahnert on May 5, Ray O'Bray on April 10 and Leo Tureczek on July 31. We wish to offer our sincere condolences to their families.



ENCLOSURES

WORKING RULES AND BY-LAWS for Local Union 118: The latest copy is enclosed. Notable changes refer to the Business Agent's position and the mail ballot for the election of officers only.

FAMILY LAW CENTRE: A brochure about the services provided by the Family Law Centre is enclosed. This is a membership service and provides individuals involved in the separation/divorce process with information on Family Law issues as well as extensive legal support. Please read the brochure for more information..



BY-LAW COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the **By-Law Committee** will be the second week of September. Please make certain you send in any suggested changes or additions to the by-laws before **September 3, 2002**. Address correspondence to the By-Law Committee.



Government dictated changes hurt members and their families

WIDESPREAD IMPLICATIONS: The massive changes implemented by the BC Liberal Government since coming to power, have had a negative impact on our membership and their families. These changes include:

- Ripping up the BC Fair Wage Act which guaranteed a minimum of \$24.00 per hour in wages and benefits for government related construction.
- Lay-off of Employment Standards Officers who enforce wages and benefits for workers (non-union).
- WCB will no longer offer three appeal levels. This has been reduced to one appeal. As well, benefits for newly injured workers will be lowered by 10% to 30%.
- Labour Code changes mean there will be no automatic certifications. Employers will have more control and influence and it will be more difficult to organize.
- Medical changes have seen a 50% increase to Medical Services Premiums (MSP) and the government no longer covers physiotherapy, chiropractic and massage therapy treatments. These changes have increased costs to our Union Medical Plan and to the membership.
- Welfare rates have been cut and it is more difficult to qualify.
- Further changes announced by the BC Liberals:
 - ⇒ Closure of hospitals
 - ⇒ Closure of care homes and the re-classifying of patients
 - ⇒ Closure of court houses
 - ⇒ Further changes to the Labour Code
- Privatization of parts of BC Hydro: the government has confirmed this will cause Hydro rates to increase by up to 50%
- Closure of the Human Rights Commission