

leaflet

PULP, PAPER AND WOODWORKERS OF CANADA



Peter Ewart

Prince George hosts Locals

Lheidli T'enneh elder and mayor open convention

PPWC'S 53RD annual convention was hosted by Local 9 in Prince George. I would like to congratulate Local 9 on a job well done.

The first two days of this week-long event were spent attending labour school by delegates, observers and guests. The two days were put on by Joanie Cameron Pritchett the first day and Dr. Michael O'Malley on the second day.

Also on the first two days the NEB had meetings to go over day-to-day operations of the National office and our great union.

On Wednesday morning the first day of convention was brought to order

by President Arnold Bercov.

Our convention was opened by Edith Frederick, who is an elder with the local First Nations, Lheidli T'enneh, on whose sacred land this year's convention was being held.

Joining Elder Frederick in opening the convention was Prince George Mayor Lyn Hall. He spoke about Prince George and how successful the Canada Winter Games were. The mayor also mentioned how happy he was to have the PPWC hold the 53rd convention in Prince George.

After the two morning guests left, the delegates and officers got down to business with reports from officers.

Up first was President Arnold Bercov. To start off Arnold spoke on how busy he has been with his many events and rallies.

In April/14, he attended two meetings that were organized by the Stand Up for the North Committee. The first of the two

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Edith Frederick



Lyn Hall

side
in

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“Children, seniors, single parents, and the working poor comprise the majority of food bank recipients.”

ANGUS MACPHEE MEMORIAL BURSARY RECIPIENT USES MONEY TOWARDS HER TUITION

Thank you for selecting me for the Angus Macphee Memorial Bursary. This gift will aid me tremendously as I continue my education at CNC. I will use this generous gift of \$1,000 towards my tuition.

I am currently in my second year of the Northern Collaborative Baccalaureate Nursing Program. These past two years have challenged me academically and have provided me with new lifelong friends. I look forward to the education that the next two years will provide.

I have been married to my husband for seven years. We have a two-year-old daughter named Sasha who keeps us very busy. My parents are very involved and care for Sasha while I attend classes.

Once I complete the RN program, I hope to work in my local community. Prince George is my home and a great city to live in. I hope to eventually work in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at the hospital. As mentioned in my application, I have personal ex-

perience in the NICU. The nurses were knowledgeable and supportive during our stay. They provided us with strength and comfort during a difficult situation. Through nursing I hope to also make a difference in the lives of people who are at their most vulnerable time, just like the NICU nurses made a difference in ours.

Kristina St. Amand
PRINCE GEORGE

GREATER VANCOUVER FOOD BANK SOCIETY GREATLY APPRECIATES PPWC'S SUPPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Staff and Clients of the Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society, we thank you for your generous donation.

The Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society (GVFBS) was established in 1982 with the intention of providing temporary relief to the hunger crisis. The GVFBS has since become an essential community resource, providing food and related assistance to those in need. Each week nearly 28,000 people receive support through our 15 depots and 100+ partner agencies in Vancouver, Burnaby, New Westminster and the North

THANK YOU FOR ARTICLE ABOUT BROTHER

I would like to thank you for the article in the *Leaflet* about my Brother Dave [Seright]. It means a lot to my family, the recognition of his dedication to the PPWC. Again, thanks.

Laura Bowack

Shore. Children, seniors, single parents, and the working poor comprise the majority of food bank recipients.

Due to the Food Bank's purchasing power, we are able to purchase \$3.00 worth of health food with every \$1.00 you give. Your gift enables us to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and eggs that are important to a balanced, healthy diet.

Your donation also supports the community outreach programs of the GVFBS, which include: Kids' Picks, providing healthy meal bags specifically for pre-school children; Baby Steps, providing food and diapers for families with babies and toddlers; Community Angel Food Runners, rescuing and redistributing nearly 900,000 pounds of quality food from hotels, restaurant and cafeterias to meal-

providing community agencies; Fresh Choice Kitchens, a province-wide cooking and skill-building program focused on teaching individuals and community agencies how to establish and maintain community kitchens; and Downtown Eastside Community Kitchens (DECK), providing residents of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside with the opportunity to come together and prepare nutritious meals as a group.

Thank you again for your generous donation; the support you provide is greatly appreciated! Your contribution makes a real, everyday difference to those who are hungry in our community.

Your kindness helps! Thanks again.

Aart Schuurman Hess
Chief Executive Officer
GREATER VANCOUVER
FOOD BANK SOCIETY

Education and politics are good mix

BY RON RICHARDSON EDITOR

RECENTLY, I HAVE come to the conclusion that the Harper government does not know what they are doing. Just kidding. I have known they were incompetent all along.

I have been noticing more and more advertisements for the major political parties on the television and also in newsprint. These advertisements are full of information that should help you make an informative and accurate decision on who to vote for on that big day in the fall.

With Stephen Harper attacking the unions with Bills C-377 and C-525, and the general public with Bill C-51, which are completely undemocratic. Justin Trudeau came back and said he supported this completely ridiculous bill [Bill C-51]. I think these three bills should make enough people mad that they will get out and vote and make sure that at least these two parties alone see that ordinary Canadians are not going to sit down and take this. All the parties have faults. You have to make yourself informed of all of them.

After the writ is dropped, these ads will become more sporadic because the parties are going to want to fill our heads with propaganda to make us think they are each better than the other.

This brings me to one of my opinions in this piece. The excuse I hear more and more from people is that they don't want to vote because they are not sure who the candidates are and what their platforms are. To that I have to say, "hogwash". With all these ads, how can you not see what these parties stand for?

The other thing that needs to be brought to the forefront is how we are going to get the younger generation to show some interest in voting and the whole election process in general.

IN MY OPINION, this problem starts at home, where the parents are not teaching their kids the values of a good democratic society. What I am saying is: if the parents are not going out to vote, then how can the child really understand that it is important to

get out there and vote when they get to be the right age. Children are impressionable and they repeat what they see that is truly important. But we cannot put the blame totally on the parents. The schools are not teaching the kids enough about politics and the parties who represent them in Canada. They should be breaking down each of the parties so they understand what and why their parents vote for.

We at the PPWC just had two National elections and the turnout was less than stellar I know this because I worked on both of these elections and I saw this first hand. When I approached the younger employees and asked them why they were not voting, again I heard those words that I dislike so much: "I don't know who these guys are". I asked them if they had read the postings that had been strategically placed throughout the mill and had been there for at least three weeks. They said, "yes, but these guys are not from here and this election does not affect me because of that". I had to explain to them that, just because the

candidate was not from here, he/she can help us. This all comes back to what I said earlier: education is so important.

On a lighter note, the Senate will be out of the limelight for just a short time. Oops, no, Harper's problem again.

To end my little rant, I think it is time the older generation takes the younger generation by the ear and teaches them. Get them reading political bios and get themselves out to the polls or we will be stuck with the same government that has started slowly taking away our rights.

Remember, this is just my opinion, and I do like to hear what you have to say, so send me your response.

IN MY OPINION, THIS PROBLEM STARTS AT HOME, WHERE THE PARENTS ARE NOT TEACHING THEIR KIDS THE VALUES OF A GOOD DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY.

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meetings was held in Prince George and the second was held in Mackenzie the next day. He was happy to see the good turnout in Prince George.

In September, Arnold returned to Prince George to meet with Peter Ewart and the Stand Up for the North Committee. They met to discuss how to move forward and broaden the discussion.



Environmental Officer Stuart Blundell (left) and President Arnold Bercov share a light moment during a break in the proceedings

In May, Arnold and Frank attended the Construction Maintenance Allied Workers convention. John Hanrahan, president of the Confederation of Canadian Unions, also attended and, along with Arnold and Frank, gave a short presentation.

On Sept. 30, Arnold attended a rally in Castlegar, which was held by Local 26. This rally was held to protest the cuts to post-secondary schools. The rally was well attended by all other Locals.

Arnold, Local 5 Union Counsellor John Folkers, Stuart Blundell, and Frank Robertson met with Mary Polak, the BC Environment Minister. Also in attendance was Nichole Stefenelli, owner of Urban Impact. They met to discuss going to one company around the province handling all of the recycling and how they felt it could impact the members.

Arnold spent some time helping Local 8 on wage negotiations on a new contract at the Ladysmith Sawmill Division. Just when they felt ready to go, Western Forest Products decided to shut the mill down.

He then touched on the Executive Council meeting he attended in Cranbrook and the PPWC Environmental and Forestry Seminars in Vancouver.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT Frank Robertson then gave his report. He first talked about his ups and downs during organizing.

Frank was also involved with the Stand Up for the North Committee and had great success along with this organization with the meetings in Prince George and Mackenzie.

Frank and Arnold attended two President's Council meetings, one with Local 1 in Castlegar and one with Local 9 in Prince George. Both of these meetings went well with a lot accomplished.

Frank then talked about the conferences and conventions he attended over the past year, such as the Benefits Conference in Calgary, the Labour Law Review, and the Construction Maintenance and Allied Workers biannual convention. He was also able to attend the Environmental and Forestry Seminars and the PPWC Safety Conference.

Frank has also been busy providing shop stewards training. He has already done training with Locals 5, 9 and 15. He has upcoming training with Locals 1, 2 and 26.



First Vice-President Frank Robertson stands to make his point

After Frank gave his report, the convention broke for the day and all delegates and observers went to walk picket lines at the three locations the University of Northern British Columbia Faculty Association were picketing. The Faculty Association was very appreciative to see such support from the PPWC.

On the morning of day two of convention, there were two speakers. The first was John Hanrahan, president of the Confederation of Canadian Unions.

John was there to let the members know what he and the CCU have been up to over the past year. He and the CCU have been busy writing policy papers on the migrant workers and foreign workers policy. John also lobbied the Senate on Bills C-377 and C-525.

Secretary-Treasurer Al Sahlen listens to the debate



The second speaker was Tina Cousins, who is the president of the Prince George and District Teachers' Association. She began her presentation by thanking Local 9 for their generous donation, which helped the teachers during their 2014 job action. She then talked about the falling enrollment and how the government reacted by closing schools and increasing class sizes, which has affected the teachers being able to help the children to the best of their abilities.

Second Vice-President Gary Fiege enjoys presentation by a guest speaker



SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT Gary Fiege gave his report after the morning speakers. Gary attended a meeting with Frank and Arnold to go over plans for the forestry summit that took place Sept. 16/14 at the University of British Columbia. He feels this is a very noble cause.

On Sept. 30, Gary attended the rally in Castlegar in support of Local 26. He also attended the Health,

Welfare and Pension Conference in Calgary.

Gary has been very busy organizing with Frank and others. He has been learning a lot and hopes to be able to use the valuable information in future organizing drives to help the PPWC grow.

After Gary, the convention heard from another speaker. Peter Ewart, who is with the Stand Up for the North Committee, spoke about what the committee does and who is involved with the committee, including the PPWC and the CCU. Peter also talked about rallies the committee has been involved in, such as the Save Our Community rally in Mackenzie in late 2007/early 2008, and the Forest Tenure rally in Prince George, Mackenzie, and Williams Lake in 2014.



Rod Gallant and Mike Federici, Local 8 delegates, and John Hanrahan, President of the Confederation of Canadian Unions, support UNBC Faculty Association's picket line

The committee will be looking to conduct meetings about looming mill closures.

THE OFFICER REPORTS continued with Stuart Blundell, Environmental Officer. Stuart started his report stating that life on earth, not just the climate, is changing. It has gotten hotter, the atmosphere is more polluted with heat-trapping gasses caused largely from burning of fossil fuels, oceans are rising in level and becoming more acidic, and it is getting more crowded.

He then talked about the Environmental and Forestry Seminars that he and Steven Miros organized. There was a good mix of speakers to spark lively and

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CONVENTION

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interesting conversations, along with good information exchange during the question and answer sessions that followed each guest speaker.

Stuart then gave a very emotional closing that finished with Stuart informing the convention he will not be running for the Environmental Officer position again this year.

The convention thanked Stuart for his many years with a standing ovation.

WAYNE WARAWA, Occupational Health and Safety Officer, then gave his report. Wayne touched on the many successful conferences he has managed to



Resolutions Committee members (l. to r.) Todd Smith, Local 5; Michael Scott, Local 15; Chris Cargill, Local 1; Nick Moscrip, Local 9; Nathan Blackler, Local 18; Nadya Sofonoff, Local 26; Rod Gallant, Local 8; and Dennis Popplestone, Local 2; discuss resolutions the day before convention convenes

put on over the past year, such as the PPWC Safety Conference, Health and Welfare Conference, and the WCB Claims and Appeals Seminar.

Wayne then gave an overview of the current WCB files he has been involved in from throughout the various Locals.

FOREST RESOURCE OFFICER Steven Miros was unable to attend. His report was read by Al Sahlen, Secretary-Treasurer.

Steven reported on the many things he and the PPWC have been up to, such as the papers and statements he and the union have written. He is quite

proud of these papers.

He also mentioned that the First Nations will increasingly affect BC in many ways, such as forest tenures.



Wayne Warawa, Occupational Health and Safety Officer, presents his report

Steven then gave an overview of speakers he would like to see at the next Forestry Seminar.

LEAFLET EDITOR Ron Richardson then gave a short report on what he has been up to and thanked some people who have contributed to the *Leaflet* over the past year.



(L. to r.) Rod Fayant, Debbie Oslund and Nadya Sofonoff, Local 26, and Sean Demeria, Local 8, visit the University of Northern BC Faculty Association's picket line

On the final day of convention, there were some loose ends to take care of, such as the nomination of National officers and election of committees.

APPROXIMATELY 40 members attended both seminars that were presented at the Labour School at Esther's Inn in Prince George, BC.

Leadership Training Seminar with Joanie Cameron Pritchett on March 9

Joanie covered various topics on leadership, and members participated in discussion related to these topics. We were split into groups several times throughout the day to practice leadership and teamwork exercises. Some topics and areas related to leadership that were discussed are:

- Leadership types/roles.
- Leadership qualities and associated differences within.
- Management vs Leadership.
- Organizational Culture and how leaders can influence it.
- S.M.A.R.T. Resolution, which is an acronym for:
 - Solution Oriented
 - Mutually Beneficial
 - Active Communication
 - Results Based
 - Transformative

Drug and Alcohol Addictions Seminar with Dr. Micheal O'Malley on March 10

Dr. O'Malley began the seminar by sharing his life story: he explained that he has struggled with addiction in the past, as he is a recovering alcoholic. He went into detail about the challenges that people living with addictions face, and he reflected and explained many benefits associated with recovery and staying sober. He discussed statistical information and provided

recommendations that would be useful to our Locals. Some of the more surprising facts and statistics that he shared were:

- A study conducted by Columbia University highlighted that approximately 90 per cent of all physicians are not qualified, and do not have the skill set, to diagnose and treat addiction effectively.
- Addiction needs to be diagnosed through an Independent Medical Examine (IME) by a qualified physician.



Dr. Michael O'Malley

- People who are living with addiction, who receive treatment for less than 8 weeks without proper follow-up, have approximately a 96 per cent relapse rate. People living with addiction who attend 8-12 weeks of recovery, and who have proper follow-up, have an 80 per cent success rate.
- Addiction is a disease of the brain and needs to be recognized as such. Any employee should not be terminated for having a disease.
- Addiction affects one area of the brain, and all addictions, no matter the form, stem from that same area. This is why it is common to see one type of addiction replaced with another.

- DENNIS ROLSTON, LOCAL 1

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NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS

- Occupational Health and Safety Officer: Rod Gallant (Local 8) and Wayne Warawa (Local 2). There will be an election for this position.
- Forest Resource Officer: Reg Haggard (Local 9) and Steven Miros (Local 1). There will be an election for this position
- Environmental Officer: Michael Scott (Local 15) was acclaimed.

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

- *Leaflet* Editor: Ron Richardson (Local 9)
- Tabulating Committee: Les Hillier (Local 8), Glen Jackson (Local 5), Dave McLellan (Local 5)
- Tabulating Committee Alternate: Doug Narver (Local 8)
- Audit Committee: Les Hillier (Local 8), Tracey Mehmal (Local 2), Todd Smith (Local 5)
- Audit Committee Alternate: Chad Young (Local 5)

2016 CONVENTION will be held in Vancouver.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICER**ROD GALLANT**

I WOULD LIKE to thank you for the opportunity to run as our National Occupational Health and Safety Officer.

I am a member of Local 8. I am employed at Nanaimo Forest Products Harmac Pulp Mill and have worked at Harmac for the last 15 years. I am a Millwright and have been in the trade for 28 years.

I have been involved with safety since I began my trade. I was involved in safety committees within the building trades union I belonged to, as well as at Harmac since I started working there. I currently sit on a few committees at Local 8. I am the Master Shop Steward; the WCB workers' representative for our members, which I have done for the last 5 years; and an elected representative for many years on our Occupational Health and Safety Committee. I am also on our Local's Health and Welfare Committee. At the National level, I am an Alternate Trustee of the PPWC-Employer Trusteed Health and Welfare Plan.

Being the WCB representative for our members has given me lots of experience navigating a very difficult WorkSafe system. I have been involved with many claims at all levels, from the beginning of a claim to Review Board appeals and WCAT appeals. I have attended many courses and training in this area. I am passionate with working hand in hand with the workers and their disabilities from workplace injuries, listening to their issues and helping them understand this difficult process they have fallen into. I am involved in the process of their graduated return to work programs. I work with vocational rehabilitation at all levels.

Working with our Occupational Health and Safety Committee has given me valuable experience on safety in all of the mills within our Local. We have, as a team, brought safety to a very high level within our plants. I have attended PPWC and Joint Pulp & Paper Safety Conferences.

I look forward to getting even more experience in supporting our rapidly-expanding National Union membership as we move into more areas outside our traditional pulp mills and sawmills. Hospitals, bioenergy plants, educational facilities, and hotels are some of the areas we can together bring safety for our members to the highest level and have the companies that employ us be accountable for it.

I look forward to bringing new energy to this position and supporting all our Local committees on behalf of our National Union.

Thank you for your support.

**Voting took place April 28-May 11, 2015. Final tabulation was May 21.
Rod Gallant was elected.**



WAYNE WARAWA

ALL OUR UNION positions are filled by people off the floor: from National President to a Local Shop Steward, we are the Union. I want to thank you for participating in unionism by reading our election information and voting.

I have worked at Catalyst Crofton for 24 years. My life partner Donna and I are empty nesters, proud parents of two daughters who are successfully engaged in careers of their chosen fields. I am glad to have the health and passion to want to continue serving as your National Occupational Health and Safety Officer.

In my first NEB report in September, 2007, as Occupational Health and Safety Officer, I commented on the lack of training for our Health and Welfare Committees. With my continuing efforts to establish health and welfare training, we had our first union-wide Health and Welfare Conference in November, 2012. For three years the Health and Welfare Conference focused on legal training and reports. This year we will move to a workshop model, examining different scenarios, and apply our knowledge to get the best outcome for our members.

As National Occupational Health and Safety Officer, I successfully took a Local 9 request to NEB to have Dr. Don Melnychuk present Shift Work Fatigue to our PPWC Safety Conference last May. This year I convinced the Joint Pulp & Paper Safety Conference to include his presentation this upcoming May. Our company managers will then be educated on the science behind the safety and production benefits of New Shift Work Fatigue Management knowledge, including the value of scheduled naps in the wee hours of the morning, for a safe drive home.

My focus is to continue to provide our members with trained representation for assistance with loss of income due to illness or injury and strive to implement positive, effective changes to prevent workplace injuries.

Summary of election procedures

- 1 Local trustees will be responsible for the balloting in Local Unions.
- 2 Local trustees will provide a registration list of eligible voters, and each voter's name will be checked off at the time the voter receives the ballot.
- 3 Each voter will sign the ballot counterfoil before separating the ballot.
- 4 Voting shall take place during a two-week period. Each Local shall have up to a maximum of ten (10) days during which the Local will conduct the required balloting.
- 5 Locals shall ensure the privacy of voters by making available a polling booth.
- 6 Resumes of candidates for National Office within the polling area shall only be that distributed by the National Union. No other literature pertaining to the National elections shall be permitted.

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HEALTH AND WELFARE TRUSTEE



GARY FIEGE

IT HAS BEEN my pleasure to represent the members of the PPWC as I served as an Alternate Trustee on the PPWC-Employer Trusteed Health and Welfare Plan.

Our Plan is a well-run entity with both union and management trustees. Our job is to make sure we deliver the negotiated benefits to our members in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

In the first two years of the six years I have sat at the Trusteed Plan table, I attained my Advanced Trustee Management Standard from the International Federation of Employee Benefit Plans, which enables me to deal more effectively with the issues of the Plan. There is a lot to learn before you can competently do the job you were elected to do, be it your fiduciary duties to financial spreadsheets, from contracts with service providers, to training Health and Welfare Committees. During this time, I was also able to glean the knowledge of those who have gone before me, something I am grateful for. Learning the history is an important step in managing a Trusteed Plan, as it gives clarity to the language that was developed to guide the Trustees on the day-to-day handling of issues.

I feel I am now qualified to step up my role and help guide the Plan forward as we face new challenges. What role does the Plan play in wellness campaigns? What about the high cost of biological drugs on the market these days and how will it affect our Plan in the future? How do we ensure our privacy is protected as more information is being sought? These and many other questions are being dealt with at the Plan table now. As we deal with these challenges and with the ever-changing world we know, our challenges will change with it. This is what intrigues me. I like to face challenges, find solutions, and help members live a better life for it.

I am married to a supporting partner, Michele, whom I can't thank enough as she endures my focus and time being drawn to issues outside our home life. We have two children and their spouses, a lovely granddaughter with another on the way. Family is everything, and I would do anything to give them any and all opportunities.

I hope you support me to help serve the PPWC family!
Thank you.

**Voting took place April 28-May 11, 2015. Final tabulation was May 21.
Gary Fiege was elected.**



WAYNE WARAWA

THANK YOU FOR participating in unionism by taking the time to read our election information and voting.

I have worked at Catalyst Crofton for 24 years. My life partner Donna and I are empty nesters, proud parents of two daughters who are successfully engaged in careers of their chosen fields. I am glad to have the health and passion to want to continue serving as one of your elected Health and Welfare Trustees.

I have been your Health and Welfare Trustee for one 2-year term. During that time, I successfully completed all the in-depth training made available to me. At the training and conferences, I did find out we have a very progressive Health and Welfare Plan we can be proud of. I let my name stand for this position when I was convinced this workload would not adversely affect my duties as the National Occupational Health and Safety Officer.

My focus in the first term was on administration cost. I chose this focus because of the rising curve seen in the financials; now the curve is reversed. Ironically, after I made my concerns known to the other Trustees, my first Trustee training session included how long-term Trustees can become comfortable with administration providers, loosening the purse strings. The training went on to encourage new Trustees to do their research and stand firm, if the Plan as a whole would benefit.

In February, 2016, the Plan will provide Joint Health and Welfare Committee training. Our members will be better served if the committees have better communication with Desjardins, our weekly indemnity and long term disability carrier. I will suggest using some communications professionals I worked with in the safety arena to help establish better communications to avoid delays in claims payments.

Thank you for your support.

Summary of election procedures

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- 7 Resumes in voting areas shall not be marked or defaced in any way.
- 8 A voter's preference shall not be influenced by the trustees.
- 9 Joint Labour Agreement elections may be held in conjunction with National elections.
- 10 Voting will cease at 8:00 p.m. on the last day of voting, and ballots will be tabulated that evening. All Locals will telephone unofficial results in to the National Office within 24 hours after the closing of all polls.
- 11 Results of balloting by Locals will be circulated to Locals by the Tabulating Committee within seven days of counting.

FOREST RESOURCE OFFICER



REG HAGGARD

I GREW UP IN Port Alberni, BC, in a household of union activists and leaders. At this time in the 1960s to the middle 1970s, Port Alberni was known as the strike capital of Canada. Port Alberni was a thriving forestry town. After leaving Port Alberni as a young man, I went on to working in lumber mills in Maple Ridge (BCFP Hammond Division), Boston Bar (BCFP), and then to Houston, BC (Northwood).

I then moved to 100 Mile House, BC. I had my first opportunity to work directly in the logging industry. I started subcontracting when power saws were the most prevalent. I went through the transformation of automation and had to upgrade to purchasing feller bunchers, grapple skidders, etc. During break-ups (which are when the road bands limit the weights of what trucks can haul), I did some high lead logging in Boston Bar as a rigging slinger.

After realizing the cutbacks made to logging contractors, the diminished length of the allowable logging season, I decided to try mill life again. I have worked at Ainsworth Oriented Strand Board plant for the last 21 years. I have worked my way through virtually all production areas of the plant. I was then able to obtain with my seniority the right to an electrician apprenticeship and have been doing this for the last 15 years. I work as a shift electrician.

I have been involved in the union in some capacity for several years. I have been the Plant Chairperson for the last two plus years. I am asking for the membership's support for election to the position of Forest Resource Officer. During the time I have represented the PPWC with Local 9, I have gained experience and awareness I believe is necessary to work towards forest sustainability and ethical stewardship of this renewable resource. Forestry is our jobs. It supports our families and will provide our future if we manage it correctly. If elected to this position, I will promote PPWC policies and work with other forestry organizations to ensure we are proactive in preserving a stronger future for our forests.

Voting will take place June 6-22, 2015

(Locals to have polls open up to 10 days within this period)

Final tabulation July 3, 2015





CAM SHIELL

I AM CURRENTLY sitting as Local 8's Plant Chairman at Ladysmith Sawmill, which is owned by Western Forest Products. I have lived on Vancouver Island most of my life. I have been working at Ladysmith for the past three years, but have directly or indirectly worked in the forestry industry most of my life.

Forestry and our forests are very important to many aspects of our province's life.

For most of us, the forestry industry has become a sad song of hard and frustrating times. We are seeing boatloads of logs leaving our coasts, bound for overseas manufacturing plants or stockpiled in foreign countries. We all strive for the day a forestry worker is deemed a good career choice and for future generations. Governments and corporations should be held accountable for the destruction of our environment and an industry that once thrived in this province. Government should be investing in solutions to old, outdated manufacturing plants to keep jobs here in BC, as well as in Canada.

I have a lot to learn. I am going into this knowing I have to listen to and learn from the people who have come before me. They built this foundation that we need to finish. I bring new ideas to the table to help everyone in the future.

I am a single father of two boys, and I am worried about what kind of world and environment we are leaving our children. The PPWC is striving for strong industry and a healthy environment for future generations. I would like to be a part of making a difference in this world. For that, I am asking for your support.



LARRY WALKER

I WOULD LIKE to thank you all for the opportunity to run for Forest Resource Officer.

I currently work at Zelstoff Celgar, Castlegar Operations, and have been an active member of PPWC Local 1 for the past 25 years serving as Safety Chair, Master Shop Steward and Wage Delegate.

Being involved in the forest industry for over 40 years, I started my education and worked as a Forestry Technician, hold a Free Miners Licence, own and operate a trap line within the West Kootenay region. Due to my background, I spend a large quantity of time within BC's forests and have seen the good, bad and the ugly! It is my belief that we all must be aware of our natural resources and how important they are to all of our industries, our children and the provincial economy.

The wealth obtained from local resources has long served to build the communities we live in. The need to ban log exports and lobby our government over the softwood lumber agreement are subjects which I hold dear. I would ask you to allow me the opportunity to bring new energy to this position and keep these issues at the forefront.

Thank you for your consideration.

Conservatives shortchange workers

BY JOHN HANRAHAN

THE RECENT federal budget brought to you by Joe Oliver and the Harper Conservatives amounts to more of the same old tune we have heard from this government for ten years: tax cuts for the wealthy, cuts to programs, and very little for the vast majority of workers in Canada.

They claim it's a balanced budget, but at best this is sleight of hand, since they pilfered \$2 billion from a contingency fund for things like natural disasters and dumped \$4.1 billion in GM shares, a portion of which went to balance the books.

Not to mention a \$30 million fire sale last year of Canadian government properties around the world. This is like selling the furniture and robbing the cookie jar in order to break even for one year. All in all, it's a very poor job.

It also falls apart if we don't get the 2 per cent economic growth they've forecasted for this year. The Bank of Canada says there was zero growth last quarter. A real "balanced budget"? You decide.

In their ten years in power, the Harper Conservatives have managed to blow the billions of dollars in surplus that were there when they came into power. They have cut \$90 billion in program spending, and added \$150 billion to the country's debt.

But wait, how do you gut programs and spending and still go broke? Easy, you blow all the country's money in tax cuts to the wealthy and corporations, then claim the government is too broke to do anything for the average worker.

Maybe they were right to take from the disaster fund. After all, it's hard to call their financial record anything but a disaster.

Instead, workers in Canada need a progressive budget and government that addresses our concerns.

GOOD JOBS Most of the jobs created in the last six years have been part-time or precarious work. The

economy continues to bleed good jobs in the value-added sector. The youth unemployment rate is double that of the rest of Canadians. Wages have barely kept up with the cost of living while corporate profits grow and grow. We need to raise the minimum wage, strengthen labour standards, invest in training and creating good value-added jobs.

RETIREMENT SECURITY Far too many Canadians in the coming years will not be able to retire with dignity unless something is done. The Conservative plan of increasing the retirement age and telling people to fend for themselves on savings accounts and RRSPs

is not the answer. We need to increase the Canada Pension Plan and protect defined benefit pension plans.



John Hanrahan

HEALTHCARE The Conservatives have committed to cut \$36 in promised health-care transfers to the provinces. We can't afford this much of

our healthcare dollars to leave the system in order to pay for tax cuts to corporations and the wealthy. We need a new plan.

CHILD CARE In Quebec, accessible affordable childcare is a reality and, by putting people back in the workforce, it generates \$5.2 billion of extra economic activity. It's the right thing to do, workers need it, and it puts money back into the economy. Canada needs a national childcare program.

A BETTER WAY IS POSSIBLE We can have a government that puts the priorities of working people ahead of tax cuts for corporations and the wealthy. Workers have been shortchanged for the last ten years and it doesn't have to be that way.

I hear there's an election coming this October, and I'm sure you all hate getting shortchanged as much as I do.

John Hanrahan is president of the Confederation of Canadian Unions.

PPWC PUBLISHES

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you who work 8 hours a day in industry can do a hell of a lot better job of giving vent to the feelings and thoughts of yourself and your fellow worker. You are the best prepared to put down in every day working man's language what workers on the job think.

So dig those pencils out of the drawer and let's see the columns of this paper filled with comments from the workers. Any errors in spelling can easily be corrected by the editor. The next issue of our paper will see this column filled with some plain language of what the brother from Crofton or Castlegar thinks of the poorly ventilated and cramped hades department he works in.

Reg Ginn was a Local 3 (Woodfibre) member and the first editor of The Leaflet.

- The Leaflet, September 1964

PPWC awards bursaries

In December, 2014, PPWC selected recipients for the Angus Macphee and Orville Braaten Memorial Bursaries.



Local 9 president Chuck LeBlanc presents bursary to Kristina St. Amand

The successful applicant of the Orville Braaten Memorial Bursary, Shayne White, is a fourth-year student working on completing both a Bachelor of Science (Major in Biology) and Diploma in Business Administration at Vancouver Island University. He is the stepson of Michel Rivard, a Local 8 member.



Local 8 president Gerald de Jong (right) presents bursary to Shayne White



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Affiliated to the
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PPWC publishes union paper

BY REG GINN

tHE NEED FOR A union paper in our Canadian Union, the Pulp and Paper Workers of Canada, has for many months been obvious. While it is recognized this issue is on an experimental basis as far as cost factors, production and printing problems are concerned, we must all work to ensure that this will become a permanent feature of our Canadian Union.

The value of a paper to trade unions has long ago been established, and we can no longer afford to be without one in our union. What we will get out of a paper of our own can only be determined by what we are prepared to put into this venture. If the local unions do not contribute regularly to the columns of the paper, then of course its value to the membership will be greatly impaired. Too often, we in the local

unions are too lazy or indifferent to write a report on activities in our local union, or to prepare an article on some interesting topic, or to fire off a letter to the editor. This problem we must overcome by making certain that some member of the local is given the responsibility of getting the activities of the local into print. The membership should see to it that reports from their local are sent to the editor of the paper. Should you find news of your local not appearing in the paper, go to your local union correspondent and ask him why.

There is an even greater problem that besets many of us when it comes to writing an article for our union paper. Too many of us are scared to death at the thought of writing an article. We say, "I can't write good enough for a union paper". This is a fallacy, as the records show where union members, working in the industry, are the main contributors to a union paper, that union paper will soon prove itself among the best of any labour papers. Don't expect the professional writer to express your feelings on various subjects. Things will look quite different to him from the inner sanctum of his office than they will to the guy who skins his knuckles when the pipe wrench slips while he is working in confined and dirty quarters. The professional may cross all the t's and dot all the i's and his grammar may be letter perfect. But

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WE MUST ALL WORK TO ENSURE THAT THIS WILL BECOME A PERMANENT FEATURE OF OUR CANADIAN UNION.

THE VALUE OF A PAPER TO TRADE UNIONS HAS LONG AGO BEEN ESTABLISHED, AND WE CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT ONE IN OUR UNION. WHAT WE WILL GET OUT OF A PAPER OF OUR OWN CAN ONLY BE DETERMINED BY WHAT WE ARE PREPARED TO PUT INTO THIS VENTURE. IF THE LOCAL UNIONS DO NOT CONTRIBUTE REGULARLY TO THE COLUMNS OF THE PAPER, THEN OF COURSE ITS VALUE TO THE MEMBERSHIP WILL BE GREATLY IMPAIRED.