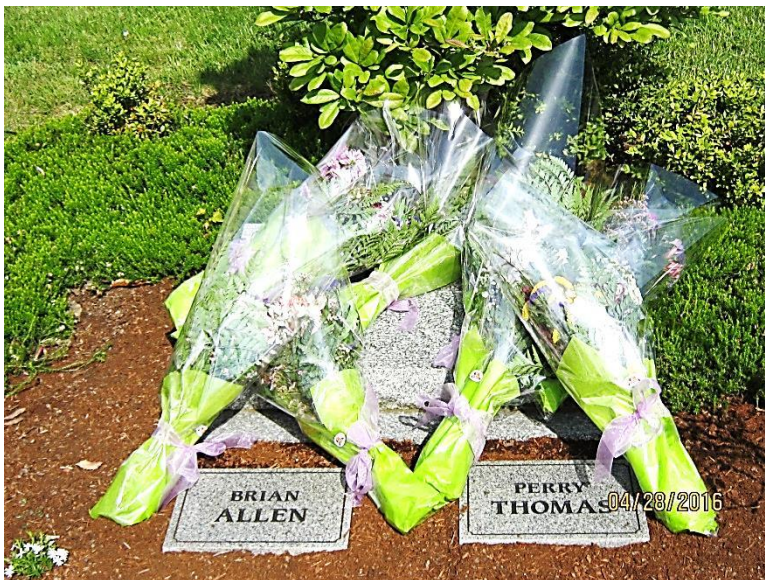


April 28 National Day of Mourning



On Thursday April 28 at 10:45am, a crowd gathered at the memorial plaque near the front gate to pay their respects to those who lost their lives to workplace accidents. The attendees were addressed by Mill manager Harold Norland, followed by Brian Hicks, representing PPWC Local 2, then Travis Gregson, president of UNIFOR Local 1132. After the speakers finished their remarks it was time to place flowers at the memorial. Each person who placed a floral arrangement came to the microphone and announced who they were commemorating, then proceeded place their flowers at the memorial. Once the floweres were placed a moment of silence was observed followed by the strains of Amazing Grace by piper Hugh Gallinger. In addition to the names inscribed on the memorial there were two new plaques at the site to memorialize Brother Brian Allen who died last January, and Perry Thomas who was the contract truck driver who died at the site in December of 2014.♣



All photos submitted by Tracey Mehmal

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Well, the PPWC Hockey tournament is officially over. Congratulations to Harmac #2 for winning the "A" final with a 5-2 victory over Harmac #1. Our team did well with a 2-1 record in the round robin, but ran out of gas in the "B" final, falling 6-1 to Harmac #3.

On a good note, we were the only team to defeat Harmac #2 in the tournament.

I would like to thank all of the players for coming out and for putting in an unbelievable effort. That was a lot of hockey in two days. And especially Mike Haine for all of his work organizing our team, both this year and last.

We look forward to next year.



PPWC Facebook post.

I really don't wish to offend anyone, but lots of people in my generation have been clamoring to understand why "The Millennials" aka "It's All about Me Generation" are so damned... irritating. Unfairly or not, many of those born between the mid 1980's to the early 2000's have been described as being rude, without loyalty, and exceedingly selfish. Scoffers claim every new generation is misunderstood and unfairly regarded by the preceding generations and that this is just simply part of the normal "passing of the baton" from the old to the new. Others disagree and point to the rise of the smart phone and the anti-social behavior it promotes. Certainly, images of young people texting and ignoring everyone else at the dinner table quickly came to mind. Some people point towards the decline of the middle class in North America and how children growing up during this period felt vulnerable and distrustful of society when the regularity of their family's income was anything but stable. Still others blame the bloated information-rich internet for its lack of social and moral guidance that use to come from parents and teachers during the type of childhood older folks remember.

One of the best explanations I have read on the subject of why so many of our young adults display such spoiled behavior blames... me! Or, at least... my generation. (*Somehow, I just knew this was all going to be my fault!*) Evidently, we have been guilty of pampering our children with too much praise. In a study of 565 children over 18 months, university researchers in Ohio and Amsterdam concluded that overvaluing children can inspire them to delusions of grandeur. Narcissism is linked to higher rates of anxiety and depression, not to mention feelings of entitlement and a generally really obnoxious false sense of superiority. The researchers' advice for raising kids with a healthy dose of self-esteem is not to overdo the praise. Be positive and encouraging, but always realistic about how well they did, how they look, or what their potential in life truly is. But wait... isn't this advice too little too late? Many of this generation have already entered the workforce and are now beginning to swell our union ranks.

What is important for the more mature portion of our local to recognize is that these young people need to be understood and treated a bit differently than past generations. Young adults today tend to be very well educated but, of course, still short on life experience. If they don't know the answer to a question, they can generally find one on their phone in about 3.5 seconds. It might not be the best answer or the one we would prefer, and I suspect few Millennials research farther than the first response that pops up. That could lead us to conclude they must also be lazy but I believe this is just another symptom of the glut-of-information age they have grown up in. Every new generation seems to distrust the previous ones and question why things have to be the way they are. Sometimes, that can be a good thing. Instead of being surprised or defensive, unionists should offer a reasoned response to young peoples' questions or observations. Few Millennials view their job as a career-long commitment, probably due to being raised in the volatile marketplace of the last couple decades. We must also expect some large egos to deal with and that fully developed sense of entitlement many young people will show up at our union hall with. Obviously, young adults are very much at home on the internet, and in fact many can't even remember a time without computers and smart phones. For this reason, Millennials crave "staying connected". Our local may soon have to consider changing with the times by offering social media options to our web page. Setting this up would simply require a young person willing to get involved with the union and take on the task of keeping the content current and accurate.

This latest generation will eventually inherit the world. It is up to us to display guiding union principles that young people of today will one day see as worthy of taking up as their own. Twenty years from now, they will be forced to deal with the young people of that time period and that's when we will get to sit back, smile and say...
"Payback Time!"

"The BriQ"

The Walbran *Submitted by Tiffany Hooper*

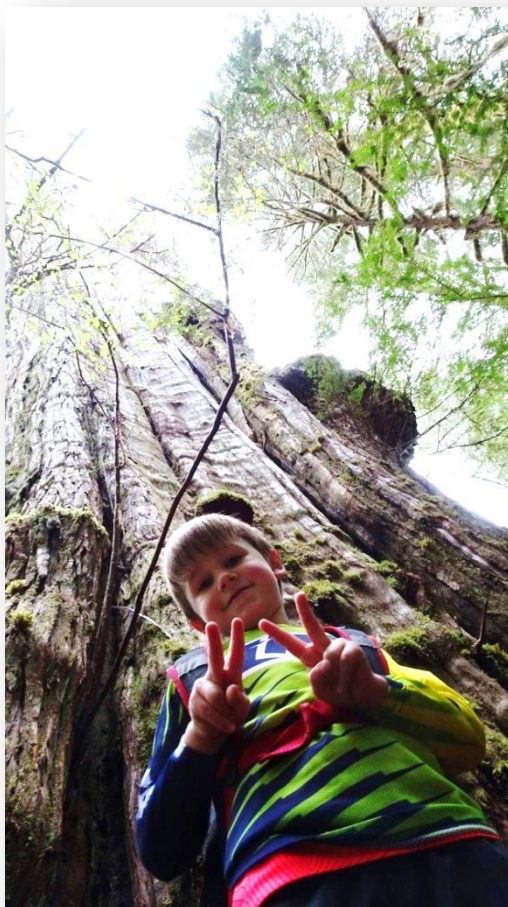
The sounds of cars rushing on the highway are replaced by the soothing current of the river. People arguing with one another are forgotten by the songs of the birds high above in the trees. The losses of interaction from the human race are found within the silence of the forest. This is the beginning of the experience that lays ahead when first arriving at the Walbran.

I've gone to the discussion groups and I've preached as to why we must save the Walbran. With the forest being over 1000 years old, the tree tops having its own ecological system that scientists are still exploring and the biggest Red Cedar in Canada is in the cutting block. However until I visited the site on April 10th I did not fully grasp why, now more than ever, we must unite and fight what cannot fight for itself. All the massive environmental changes British Columbia is facing with Site C, LNG, Fracking and transforming every town into a city, we as a species are losing the most valuable thing we have.... Humanity.

We've built a society of big houses, fast cars and the more toys the better, while leaving behind what our souls truly crave; peace and serenity. The Walbran offers us a chance to reconnect with ourselves to offload the crushing weight of stress we've created with the race to the top of the "empire".

My companions that day were my gracious tour guides, Rick and Lisa Bronson, PPWC President Steve Landygo, First Vice Dave Benjamin, Jen and my oldest

son Tavares. By the end of the day hunched over shoulders were pushed back with confidence, the clouded eyes had lifted and the attitude each of us possessed were replaced with an energy that I struggle to form into words.



With the positive vibe the Walbran has on each individual there was one person that day I noticed the most, my son Tavares. Tavares is an autistic child who at times can become very overwhelmed in the urban environment society has created. However, at the Walbran I experienced something much bigger than the trees that stood before me. I was fortunate to spend an entire day where there wasn't a moment I saw pain or suffering in my sons eyes from the struggles he faces on a daily basis with what the world throws at children; rules, expectations and guidelines. At the Walbran I witnessed my son for the first time just being himself, a five year old boy. That is a gift no amount of money could ever have provided me with.

From that moment the fight to protect the magnificent forest became personal. The want and need equaled out that day. The need for my son to have a therapeutic place and the want to have the opportunity to walk my grandchildren through the very same area where my son and I found a piece of ourselves that was missing.

My message is not to just sign a petition or form an argument as to why logging the Walbran would be devastating but to pack a lunch, strap on your best hiking shoes and physically go out to experience what my words cannot capture. The Walbran is much more than a place, it's a spiritual awakening.♣

The viewpoints and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of PPWC local 2.

Opinions: *Weekly Newsletter | Issue #33 | BCNDP Leader John Horgan*

When people and corporations with big money can pay \$20,000 a plate at fundraising events to sit down with the premier of the province, and some of that very money comes back to the premier in the form of a stipend, it's hard to know who the premier is working for. And that's a big problem for our democracy.

It just shows how important it is that we get big money out of politics in B.C.

We know it's what British Columbians want to see. A recent poll by Insights West found that 86 per cent of British Columbians would support a ban on corporate and union donations before the next election.

I gave Christy Clark a chance to do the right thing when I recently introduced legislation that would do just that – ban big money, and put a cap on personal donations. The premier voted against it.

It all shows just how out of touch Christy Clark is. If she took a look around once in a while, she would see that elsewhere in this province, people are struggling with the lowest minimum wage in the country, rising MSP and Hydro rates and flat wage growth.

And in Osoyoos last week, people were struggling with the premier's cuts to public education, as the town's only high school gets set to close. Local Liberal MLA Linda Larson didn't even show up to community consultations on the closure, and when we checked up on the education minister's claim that Larson had met with him daily to speak up for her constituents, we found the two hadn't sat down to a single scheduled meeting over two months.

British Columbians deserve a government that will fight alongside them. Christy Clark and her government are just looking out for themselves.

Until next time,
John Horgan

**Check out the new PPWC LOCAL 2 website at
www.ppwclocal2.com and we can be found on
Facebook**



Send your questions, thoughts, opinions, and suggestions to brianh@ketacable.net

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