



Providing information to our members and fellow unionists

ILWU Canada

April 2014

Waterfront News

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Official publication of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union Canada

Convention Report

The 33rd ILWU Canada Convention has come and gone, but the feelings of pride and solidarity that developed there will stay with us forever. The Convention was held in the Maritime Labour Centre in Vancouver from April 1 to 4, with delegates, both Pensioner and Active members, attending from all over BC and Saskatchewan, including delegates from our Affiliated Unions, the Retail Wholesale Union of BC, the Retail Wholesale and Department Store Union of Saskatchewan and the Grain and General Services Union mainly in Saskatchewan. Many of the delegates were at their first ILWU Convention.

We had many guests from our Union and some of the other Unions we work with. Bob McEllrath our International President and Wesley Furtado, International Vice President for Hawaii both brought greetings and warnings about some of the things they are going through in the Columbia River grain dispute and the upcoming bargaining for their master Agreement with the Pacific Maritime Association. We also had Brad Clark from Local 4 Vancouver and Rich Austin Jr. from Local 19 Seattle report on the Columbia River area grain dispute as they both sit on the bargaining committee. Our delegates were moved by these reports and I think it fair to say we are motivated to action on this issue. Through the Longshore Caucus, and with the support of non-Longshore Locals we have decided to give a do-

nation to help out and we have also put together an action plan to publicize this dispute which has had two grain elevators behind picket lines for over a year, and scabs loading the grain. We also had two guests from Alaska Longshore, Dennis Young and Sonya Travis.

Paddy Crumlin, President of the International Transport Workers' Federation to which we are affiliated, could not attend as his schedule was changed due to the sudden death of Bob Crow the National Secretary of the Rail, Marine and Transport Union in England. We missed Paddy but we were able to have Brother Bjorn Steffensen from the Norwegian Dockworkers attend. We had been invited to attend a Rally on April 5 in Oslo Norway to support their Union in the face of a vicious attack by employers and ship owners. They have been locked out since November from three ports, and have to watch scabs doing their work. We were not able to attend due to our convention, so we invited 'Broomba' to attend ours. Bjorn told of us the struggle they are going through, and we are showing our solidarity both with money and other support. No ships from this dispute visit North America, as most of their work is on smaller coastal and feeder vessels but we are reaching out to the employers and ship owners that are behind this dispute and letting them know how we feel. We were pleased to have Brother Bjorn with us, a great guest, who said that our hospitality was "fantastic".

Delegates heard Brother Jim Sinclair President of the BC Federation of Labour speak about the important role that Unions have in our society and some of the other disputes around BC, and Canadian Labour Congress Regional Director Amber Hockin spoke on the CLC campaign that is attempting to reawaken Union Members and stop the attacks of right wing governments on our Unions.

The Convention was also addressed by John Horgan the NDP MLA for Malahat-Juan de Fuca, who is running for the leadership of the Provincial NDP. John was quite clear in his statements of what he believes went wrong in the last election and what he would do differently. He did not shy away from

Sec-Treasurer's Report

Farewell to all

Hello Everyone,

As most of you have probably heard, I will be riding off into the proverbial sunset to ultimately throw my energies into who-knows-what.

In the short term I will be focusing on enjoying my family and involving myself in the renovation project of our home.

Importantly, the decision to leave has been entirely of my own making.

The time is simply right for me.

To all of the wonderful people whom I have had the opportunity to work with over the past 34 years - Thank You.

The times shared, friendships forged and the incredible successes which we have enjoyed have been an extraordinary part of my life.

I am very proud of what we have achieved and they have been times I will never forget.

As a good mate said during a chat recently, "everything has a beginning and an end".

The timing to end this chapter seems about as right as it could be.

But there was also another slogan passed on by one of our pensioners at the close of the convention :- "Retired from the Job, not from the Struggle"

I wish all of you every success for the future.

Stay safe and maintain the passion! ILWU

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resource development and striking a balance with environmental concerns. The delegates were happy with his approach and they enthusiastically agreed to give a donation to his campaign in the amount of \$7,500, the maximum allowed under NDP rules. All members are urged to show their support to this candidate who shows he is concerned about some of the same issues we are.

Five delegates elected at our Youth Conference last year attended the Convention. They reported on the Conference and took part in all Convention activities as non-voting delegates. They enjoyed the Con-

vention and were quite happy to be involved in the inner workings of our Union, as were we to have them attend.

We also had guests from other Unions, not just Maritime Unions. Some of the other Unions we work with attended. Gerry Gault of the Grainworkers Union, Lee Loftus and Tom Sigurdson from the BC Building Trades, Scott Lunny of the United Steelworkers Union and Chris Abbott of the BC Ferry and Marine Workers Union all attended, and we are proud to have these

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SEE CANDIDATES ON PAGE 2



PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE COURTESY OF CHAD HIPOLITO


ILWU Canada Election Candidates

Delegates to the 33rd Convention of the ILWU Canada held April 1 – 4, 2014, determined your candidates for office. Ballots to be sent to all local unions listing the candidates.

Keep your union strong... Get out and vote

President


RUNNING UNOPPOSED



Mark Gordienko
Local 500 - Vancouver

1st V. President


RUNNING UNOPPOSED



Robert Ashton Jr.
Local 500 - Vancouver

2nd V. President

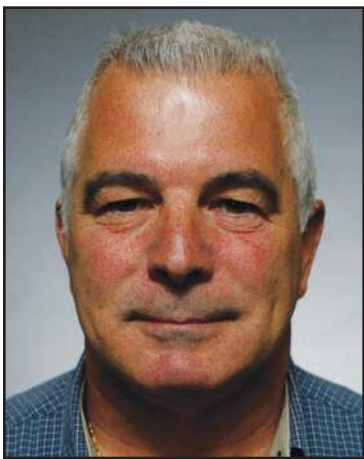
RUNNING UNOPPOSED



Steve Nasby
Local 514 - Vancouver


3rd V. President

RUNNING UNOPPOSED




Romeo Bordignon
Local 502 - New West.

Secretary-Treasurer



Bob Dhaliwal
Local 502 - New West.



Angela Talic
Local 500 - Vancouver



CONVENTION PHOTOS





CONVENTION REPORT...*continued from page 1*

friends of the ILWU with us.

Delegates debated and passed many Resolutions that will guide us over the next two years, until we are back in Convention. We have made some important changes to Members' Voting Rights, developed a Policy for helping Locals in financial trouble, a plan for organizing new members into our Union, and a realignment of Per Capita contributions from the Locals that should allow lower paid workers to more easily join the ILWU. We also passed a resolution that would allow ILWU Canada to collect e-mail addresses from members that request to be on a list and receive updates on current issues in and around our Union. More details will be coming out on that soon and we intend to set it up on the ILWU Canada webpage to allow you to register for this service. If you wish to get on this list right away please send e-mail to officers@ilwu.ca requesting to be added to the communications list. You will even be able to choose if you would like to receive the Waterfront News by e-mail in the future rather than having it mailed to you. If the ILWU International Union is agreeable we could even begin e-mailing the Dispatcher.

The debates got very serious and even a little heated at times, but delegates were always respectful of each other. Sometimes in the ILWU we have some tough talk but at the end of it we shake hands and go home knowing we are still friends and

have a common interest, our love of the ILWU.

Delegates also bestowed the title 'President Emeritus' on our past President Tom Dufresne. This was announced at the Convention Dinner with many past ILWU Officers in attendance. Tom felt very honoured by this and in his remarks at the banquet thanked the Membership for this recognition. He is happily enjoying his retirement.

Of course a Convention also has elections. President Mark Gordienko and Vice Presidents Robert Ashton and Steve Nasby were unopposed and were all re-elected at Convention. The new Third Vice President for Safety is Romeo Bordinon of Local 502 Brother Tom Doran did not run again due to the fact he is now Secretary Treasurer of Local 502. There is also an election to replace Jyalmen Sidhho as Secretary Treasurer as he is retiring. Two people are running for that position, outgoing Vice President at Large Angela Talic from Local 500 and Bob Dhaliwal from Local 502. There are more details on elections in this issue.

The Convention is over, the delegates have gone home, but the work of the ILWU never ends. The Officers will be hard at work implementing the new policies of the Convention and continuing on with the old ones. We hope everyone had a rewarding Convention and we know our Union is stronger for it.

We remember them well

2013 DECEASED PENSIONERS - LONGSHORE

LOCAL	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	AGE AT DEATH
500	Michael Kelnhofer	10-Nov-2013	65
500	Albert Yahemech	26-Nov-2013	84
502	Ernest Finnigan	01-Dec-2013	77
500	Arnoldus Korst	02-Dec-2013	89
500	Sohan Kooner	04-Dec-2013	74
500	Gunnar Kjarsdam	07-Dec-2013	95
500	John Morrison	15-Dec-2013	87
500	Daniel Kerluke	18-Dec-2013	82
500	Aladino Berti	19-Dec-2013	91
500	Ronald Skinner	22-Dec-2013	76
500	Louis Mura	23-Dec-2013	71
500	Vincent Landry	27-Dec-2013	74
502	Wahdat Jaghory	01-Jan-2014	70
500	Theodore Marshall	02-Jan-2014	80
500	Walter Wainwright	05-Jan-2014	69
500	Allen Peterson	06-Jan-2014	78
500	William Laboucane	06-Jan-2014	88
502	Anthony Carrington	08-Jan-2014	73
508	George Hendry	14-Jan-2014	100
500	Russell Vantassell	14-Jan-2014	85
500	Mario Martins	25-Jan-2014	74
500	Alan Douglas	28-Jan-2014	69
500	David Longworth	31-Jan-2014	86
500	Cornelius Giesbrecht	31-Jan-2014	84
500	Francisco Brito	03-Feb-2014	83
500	Nicholas Holomay	08-Feb-2014	89
502	Karel Reznicek	17-Feb-2014	82
500	Douglas Will	05-Mar-2014	74
500	Claude Curran	09-Mar-2014	87
500	James Curran	12-Mar-2014	75
502	Donald Danroth	19-Mar-2014	88

FOREMEN

PORT	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	AGE AT DEATH
514	Brian Northard	24-Nov-2013	68
514	Ralph Olson	05-Dec-2013	74
514	Phillip Wronski	06-Dec-2013	79
514	George Visser	30-Dec-2013	73
514	Reginald Hankey	13-Jan-2014	81

WIDOWS

PORT	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	AGE AT DEATH
500	Mary Jackson	09-Dec-2013	89
500	Ruth Young	23-Dec-2013	81
508	Patricia Davidson	30-Dec-2013	87
502	Isobel Burchell	01-Jan-2014	89
508	Beryl Watkins	08-Jan-2014	89
502	Erna Walhovd	13-Jan-2014	90
500	Ingrid Iverson	31-Jan-2014	83
514	Bessie Milliken (F)	25-Jan-2014	84
500	Rita Peluso	02-Feb-2014	78
502	Doreen Frick	21-Feb-2014	78
500	Anna Burinda	29-Jan-2014	85
500	Regilde Battistel	01-Mar-2014	90
500	Ethel Lawrence	08-Mar-2014	96

DECEASED ACTIVE MEMBERS

PORT	NAME	DATE OF DEATH	AGE AT DEATH
502	Christopher Playne	11-Dec-2013	51
500	Herbert Reedel	23-Dec-2013	63
502	Clifton Mawer	03-Mar-2014	54

Port Legend

- Local 500 - VANCOUVER
- Local 502 - NEW WESTMINSTER
- Local 505 - PRINCE RUPERT
- Local 508 - VANCOUVER ISLAND (Victoria, Chemainus, & Port Alberni)
- Local 514 - FOREMEN
- Local 517 - PORT AUTHORITY STAFF
- Local 519 - STEWART
- Local 523 - RIDLEY ISLAND

2014 Retired Longshore members

LOCAL	NAME	AGE	SERVICE	DATE
RETIREMENTS - FOREMEN				
514	Garry Beach	61.08	33.08	01-Feb-14
514	Kerry Webster	61.00	37.25	01-Apr-14
514	David Strom	64.58	44.50	01-Apr-14
RETIREMENTS - LONGSHORE				
500	Rachhpal Hayer	65.00	36.00	01-Jan-14
500	Marvin Evenson	62.25	35.00	01-Jan-14
500	Ken Veldhuis	64.92	34.00	01-Jan-14
502	Arthur Robbins	65.08	11.00	01-Jan-14
500	James Keogh	64.00	26.00	01-Feb-14
500	Gerald Copland	61.00	35.75	01-Mar-14
500	Locksley Mitchell	64.08	37.00	01-Mar-14
500	Peter Ward	62.00	44.00	01-Mar-14
500	Thomas Cunningham	67.17	46.00	01-Mar-14
500	Robert Reedel	61.92	43.25	01-Apr-14
500	Colin Hepburn	62.75	31.50	01-Apr-14
500	Joseph Kwaning	60.75	27.00	01-Apr-14
500	Antonio Glavicic	62.17	25.25	01-Apr-14
500	Nick Bartley	61.00	36.25	01-Apr-14
500	Ante Vivic	66.00	27.00	01-Apr-14

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