



# LOCAL 276 NEWSLETTER



February 2023



## Business Managers Report

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

It has been a very different environment than we have seen in recent years, with the rise of both inflation and interest rates, a threat of a recession and many of us still dealing with the last two years of COVID, it has been a lot to deal with on many levels. We are happy to see many of our members taking advantage of the supports we have within the local, for both mental health and other issues they may be facing.

Construction seems to be the main area that has kept our economy going and looks like will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. Our Local currently sits at less than 2% unemployment with many large projects slated for the next couple of years. This is a trend we are seeing right across western Canada with the expansion of Alberta.

Local 276 (Vancouver Island) 2% unemployment

Local 280 (Mainland BC) 3% unemployment

Local 8 (Alberta) 34% unemployment

Local 296 (Saskatchewan) 6% unemployment

Local 511 (Manitoba) 6% unemployment

With many economists talking about a recession in 2023, construction, quite often is the Government's way of rebounding the economy, by putting money into infrastructure projects which greatly benefits our members.

One of these projects is the Cowichan Hospital, a 1.6 billion dollar build that is currently underway. This project is under a CBA (Community Benefit Agreement) which is a bit of a different structure than a PLA. All labour working on the hospital will have to be signed up with a Building Trades local. They are just clearing the ground now, but we expect to see our members on site as soon as near the end of the year.

### Retirement of Mark Curtis

Mark Curtis, the former Business Manager of local 276, who had moved onto international staff for the last 7 years, has retired as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Mark was Business Manager for our local for over 17 years and was instrumental for the strength of our local today. His tireless work over the years of building our Pension and Health Care plans as well as the core of the local has been key to improving the lives of our membership and their families. We wish Mark the best in his well-earned retirement.

Steve Satter has been named as the new International Rep. for BC and Alberta and Mike Skrypnik for Saskatchewan and Manitoba.



**Jason Pedersen**  
Business Manager  
Financial Secretary

**Kevin Walsh**  
President

**Dustin McPherson**  
Vice-President

**Andrew MacDonald**  
Recording secretary



## Health and Welfare Update



Earlier this year the Health and Welfare trustees met to review the finances of our health plan and the services we provide. We are happy to say that once again, the Local can continue to offer not only the same extensive Blue Cross coverage but will continue to offer the extra union benefits as well.

These consist of:

- **Gym and Yoga:** \$400/ yearly
- **Wills:** \$650/ every 3 years per family. Simple will package available through the Local.
- **Bereavement Pay:** Covering up to 3 days wages.
- **Lifestyles:** Smoking cessation - \$500/lifetime, IUDs \$500/yearly, erectile dysfunction drugs - \$500/Yearly.
- **Health Spending:** \$450/yearly with \$250 available for work boots.

As always, we urge you to be mindful of your mental health as well as your physical health. As a member of the BC Building Trades, you have access to the Construction Industry Rehabilitation Plan, which offers a number of options to keep your mental health in check. CIRP offers long-term counselling to assist members dealing with depression, anxiety, substance use, pain management, and other mental health concerns. All services are free to members and their families. Visit the CIRP website, email [info@constructionrehabplan.com](mailto:info@constructionrehabplan.com) or call 1-888-521-8611 for more information.

If you have any questions about any of the benefits, please call the office at 250-727-3458 or email [carrol@smwia276.ca](mailto:carrol@smwia276.ca)

## Local 276 ski trip



This year's ski trip is happening on Sat, March 4th, 2023. If you wish to attend, please phone or drop by the office to sign up. We will only have tickets for those who have signed up. The cutoff date will be march 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

We will meet at the sunrise chair parking lot at 8:30am. Please bring the exact amount to pay Jason Pedersen for your lift ticket. The Local will provide lunch at 11:30am at the sunrise chair parking lot. The ski trip is open to members, family members and friends.

Any questions email [carrol@smwia276.ca](mailto:carrol@smwia276.ca) or 250-727-3458. See you on the slopes!

### Lift Tickets Prices

|               |   |         |
|---------------|---|---------|
| Adults        | - | \$75.00 |
| Youth (13-17) | - | \$65.00 |
| Child (7-12)  | - | \$45.00 |

## Trade Women Build Nations



A gathering of 3,300 Trades women, the largest in the world! A fantastic opportunity for women in the trades to network, learn and develop leadership skills. (A special thanks to the Vancouver Island Sheet Metal Contractors Association for their support in helping sponsor this event)

## New Union Organizer



With open calls with many of our associated contractors and numerous large projects coming up in the next couple of years, the Executive board and the membership made the decision to bring on a full time Organizer and recruiter. After a long search, Jake Jordan started with the local on Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

## Please update Personal Information

Tax time is coming up quick, please make sure all of your personal information is up to date at the office such as change of address, change of dependents, new dependents, change of beneficiary.

## Statutory Holidays for 2023

|                                 |                    |  |                                     |                    |  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| New Year's Day<br>(Day in Lieu) | Sunday<br>Monday   | January 1 <sup>st</sup><br>January 2 <sup>nd</sup> | BC Day<br>Union Holiday             | Monday<br>Friday   | August 7 <sup>rd</sup><br>September 1 <sup>th</sup>    |
| Family Day                      | Monday             | February 20 <sup>th</sup>                          | Labour Day                          | Monday             | September 4 <sup>th</sup>                              |
| Good Friday                     | Friday             | April 7 <sup>th</sup>                              | Truth and Rec. day<br>(Day in Lieu) | Saturday<br>Monday | September 30 <sup>th</sup><br>October 2 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Easter Monday                   | Monday             | April 10 <sup>th</sup>                             | Thanksgiving Day                    | Monday             | October 9 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| Victoria Day                    | Monday             | May 22 <sup>nd</sup>                               | Remembrance Day<br>(Day in Lieu)    | Saturday<br>Monday | November 11 <sup>th</sup><br>November 13 <sup>th</sup> |
| Canada Day<br>(Day in Lieu)     | Saturday<br>Monday | July 1 <sup>st</sup><br>July 3 <sup>rd</sup>       | Christmas Day                       | Friday             | December 25 <sup>th</sup>                              |
| Union Holiday                   | Friday             | August 4 <sup>th</sup>                             | Boxing Day                          | Saturday           | December 26 <sup>th</sup>                              |

### Union Meetings

Meetings in Victoria are held on the first Thursday of each month at 5:00 pm at the Union hall #302-791 Goldstream Ave.  
(Meeting are suspended for the months of July and August)

### Up Island Meetings

|   |                        |         |
|---|------------------------|---------|
| Campbell River - March 14 <sup>th</sup> | Anchor Inn             | 5:00 pm |
| Courtney - March 15 <sup>th</sup>       | Westerly Hotel         | 5:00 pm |
| Nanaimo - March 16 <sup>th</sup>        | #306 - 477 Wallace St. | 5:00 pm |

(Food at 5:00 meeting will start at 5:30)

### In Memory

Mike Ellingson - May 6/22  
John Milos - Aug 18/22  
William Bohaychuk - Nov 18/22  
David Reid - Dec 10/22  
Mark Grant - Jan 17/23



"Gone from our sight but never from our hearts"

### Members Making a Difference Out in the Community.



Members and Owner, of Lewis Sheet Metal, finishing up the renovation of the Cool-Aid Society downtown Community Centre.

The new renovations project for 2023 was just announced. "Power to Be", this incredible organization removes barriers for youth, families and adults living with cognitive, physical, financial and social barriers that want to experience the out doors.

Year after year we see our members and contractors step up to help this great organization. If you would like to volunteer your time and skills to this next project please call the office for more information.

### Union Office Contact Information

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|--|--|
| Jason Pedersen, Business Manager         | <a href="mailto:jason@smwia276.ca">jason@smwia276.ca</a>   |
| James Miller, Apprenticeship Training    | <a href="mailto:james@smwia276.ca">james@smwia276.ca</a>   |
| Jake Jordan, Organizer                   | <a href="mailto:jake@smwia276.ca">jake@smwia276.ca</a>     |
| Carrol Pedersen, Office Manager          | <a href="mailto:carrol@smwia276.ca">carrol@smwia276.ca</a> |
| Cathy Nelson, Accounting                 | <a href="mailto:cathy@smwia276.ca">cathy@smwia276.ca</a>   |
| Sarah Bogdanovich, Office Administration | <a href="mailto:sarah@smwia276.ca">sarah@smwia276.ca</a>   |

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