

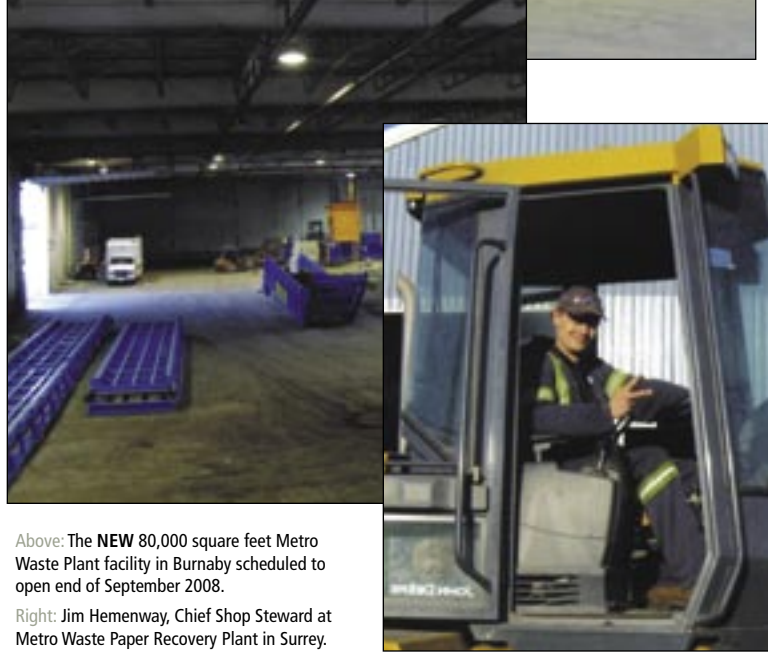
# In Solidarity

Fall 2008 Volume Six Issue Two • Construction and Specialized Workers' Union Local 1611 represents 6000 members in BC and the Yukon  
This Newsletter has been mailed to all members in the health care, security, recycling, parking lot, cemeteries, crematoriums, funeral homes and janitorial sectors

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standards please have them contact Dennis or myself. We can show them how to successfully pursue any backwages or unpaid overtime going back six months. We have recently helped a member receive thousands in unpaid overtime. This raises the standard for all security guards.

We also wish to let everyone in our sectors to know the **Rolly B. Gordon Scholarship** soon will be considering applications in the near future. If you currently have a son or daughter who is continuing secondary education we know how expensive it is and this is another way for the Local to give back to the community. For all those eligible to vote in the Federal and Municipal elections we encourage you to get out and vote this is your chance to have a say in how your country province or community will best represent your interests.

**SIMON FRASER**  
We are the new representatives for the Polyparty at Simon Fraser and it has been a pleasure meeting you and we look forward to working together with you in the future.



Above: The **NEW** 80,000 square feet Metro Waste Plant facility in Burnaby scheduled to open end of September 2008.  
Right: Jim Hemenway, Chief Shop Steward at Metro Waste Paper Recovery Plant in Surrey.

## Exercise Your Rights

As a worker in B.C., you have the legal right to feel safe and be safe. If you don't feel safe and have a problem you can contact:



Richard Saunders  
Workers' Advocate,  
Labourers Membership  
Services Officer

*The Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) Health & Safety Accident Reporting is in charge of enforcing safety rules and regulations in B.C. If you feel your rights have been violated, or you're at risk of injury, you can call the WCB anonymously at 1-888-621-7233 and after hours 1-866-922-4357. Make sure you also notify your job steward or your Business Representative immediately.*

Our Department will also assist members with problems involving the Employment Insurance Commission (EI) and Canada Pension Plan (CPP) Disability benefits.

Our phone numbers are: 604-437-6889 (Extension 224) or Toll Free 1-888-788-2888. Fax: 604-437-5684. Remember, be careful and watch out for each other.

### ALERT: JOB OPPORTUNITIES

We are in a period of severe supply shortage in the Lower Mainland and Southern Vancouver Island. We need skilled and experienced members and new recruits in the following classifications.

**GENERAL CONSTRUCTION**

- Hi-Rise Labourers • Carpenter Helpers • Concrete Labourers/Vibrator
- Riggers • First Aid Attendants

**UNDERGROUND WORK**

- Construction miners • Underground Labourers

**ROAD BUILDING/UTILITY WORK**

- Rakerpersons • Graderpersons • Pipelayers • Surveyors • Drillers and Blasters • High Scalars • Flag Persons (high volume traffic)

**INDUSTRIAL CONCRETE PLANTS**

- Carpenters • Concrete Finishers • Concrete Labourers • Steel Tiers

If you have any of these skills, or if you know someone who has any of these skills, call our Vancouver Dispatch Office at 1-800-663-6588 or our Victoria Office at 1-250-382-1511.

*Members must ensure that the Union Dispatch Office has correct unblocked telephone numbers and work experience information, and keep your dues current.*

*Dispatchers: Liana Biasuti and Merrick Walsh*

## A Call To Organize



Mark Olsen  
Business Manager

Your Union, the Construction and Specialized Workers' Union, Local 1611, has 6000 members, 1500 of whom (or 25%) work in the **Service Sector** including:

- Healthcare
- Security
- Parking Lot Industry
- Recycling
- Janitorial work
- Cemeteries, Crematoriums and Funeral Homes

We greatly appreciate the work of our service sector members, and we hope to expand our representation. Our Union is now part of an Organizing Fund across Western Canada. It is our desire to expand organizing efforts to include more service sector companies.

**We are now asking all service sector members to provide information to us of companies and workers we can organize.** The more we can organize the better off all workers will be.

**Do you have any organizing ideas or targets?** Please contact our Chief Organizer Manuel Alvernaz at 604-437-6889. All inquiries are confidential.

Our goal is to try and double our service sector membership over the next 5 years, and you can help. Let us know.

Take care, and above all please work safe.



James Bay Care Center



Above: Forest Lawn Cemetery in Burnaby with Brent Miotto, Carson Jones, Walter Borean, Vince Mastandrea, Ray Wilson and Dave Waring.



Sandringham Care Center

## Local 1611 Supporting Communities

Local 1611 has recently supported these charities and benevolent efforts;

- Collingwood Days • Leukemia and Lymphoma Society • Nigel Services for Adults with Disabilities Society • Miners Memorial Day Event • Douglas College Foundation • Vancouver Police, Victoria Emergency Services • Hispanic Community Centre of B.C. • Lower Mainland Police Association Charitable Society

# Members Very Important

Let me begin by extending warm personal greetings to the many hundreds of our Local 1611 members that are employed in the service sector industry.

**You do important work for our society and are much valued by your Local Union.** I would like to recognize and salute the good work of our Local Union Field Representatives **Dennis Morgan, Gary Palmiere and Shelley Moore**, who all do excellent work in looking after the wants and needs of our membership employed in the service sector.



Bruce Ferguson  
President

I would also like to recognize and thank those individuals in the service sector that have stepped forward and agreed to serve their Unions as **Job Stewards**.

Remember that the best Union negotiator or the best Collective Agreement means nothing unless you have Job Stewards willing to help make sure your Agreement is properly policed and enforced.

Your Local Union Executive Board is prepared to do its part; we are committed to Job Steward training that will be offered later this year and over the coming winter months. **So please volunteer and together let us make our Local Union even stronger!**

In closing stay healthy and work safe and I hope to see you at your next local Union meeting.

## BOYCOTTS/DO NOT PATRONIZE

WAL-MART: Over treatment of Unionized workers in Quebec

PRICE SMART (FOOD STORES): Requested by UFCW

NON-UNION POSTAL OUTLETS: Requested by CUPW

GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER COMPANY:  
(Goodyear and Motomaster tires) as requested by CLC

**Send a letter to your local area MLA and MP and ask them to get involved and support the workers.**

## DidYouKnow?

Local 1611 is the most diversified Private Sector Union in B.C. and Local 1611 represents workers in five (5) of the top six (6) growth industries in B.C.

- 1) CONSTRUCTION SECTOR ✓
- 2) MINING SECTOR ✓
- 3) SERVICE SECTOR ✓
- 4) UTILITY SECTOR ✓
- 5) Retail work
- 6) MANUFACTURING SECTOR ✓

# Thanks

Our **Service Sector** members, including health care workers, security, recycling and parking lot attendants are very busy. These members serve the public and are the first ones to leave a good impression on Mr. & Mrs. John Doe. Thank you for your continuing support.

When your Collective Agreements are up give the Union your ideas, tell us the things you would like to see changed or if possible improved upon.

We also have good news on the financial front. Your Local Union has been in a surplus position since 2004, which has allowed us to make additional investments and upgraded computers, phones and in organizing efforts.

Take care and work safe.



Richard (Rick) Clarkson  
Secretary-Treasurer

## UNION SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

CSWU Local 1611 has the following Scholarships available;

- **Vernie Reed Memorial Scholarship**  
All applications must be in by the last working day of March.
- **Rolly B. Gordon**  
All applications must be in by the last working day of October.
- **Cal Callahan Pipeline Scholarship**  
All applications, from pipeline members, must be received by the Pipeline Contractors Association by September 30.

Please call Donna in our Local 1611 Office at **604-432-9300** for scholarship information.

## ORGANIZE – ORGANIZE – ORGANIZE

Since our Spring 2008 newsletter, Local 1611 has organized, certified and/or signed Collective Agreements with these companies;

- Bechtel – Kitimat Project Agreement
- Universal Flagging
- Standard Pole
- Greeley Rock Ltd.
- International Paper Industries (LRB hearing ongoing)
- Accurate Concrete Cutting Inc.
- Hybrid Traffic Control

**Do you have any organizing targets for the Union? Call Manuel Alvernaz, Chief Organizer at (604)437-6889 ext. 222. All inquires confidential.**

# HealthCareSector



Shelley Moore  
Executive Board and  
Business Representative

I hope everyone had a great summer! Labour Day has come and gone, kids are back in school and Costco has Christmas Trees.

### An update for the Claimants re: Bill 29 Settlement

Letters have been sent with an explanation of the appeal process. All appeals must be registered through HEU, 1-800-663-5813 toll free. Please call Local 1611's Victoria office at 250-382-1511 for assistance and information. The community sector claimants are not as far in the process. I will contact you immediately when I hear any news.

FYI for members from both Facility and Community Agreements, the **EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM** is a customized return to work plan that involves employers, employees, union and the union and the Healthcare Benefit Trust (HBT). This program is for both facility and community sectors. If you have been off work for six scheduled shifts or ten calendar days due to an illness or injury, the program coordinator will contact you and facilitate a return to work program. Contact Local 1611's Victoria Office for more information.

### Facility Bargaining Association (FBA) Education Fund

To apply for funding to upgrade in a health care career, you must be a regular employee working at a facility covered under the Health Services and Support Facilities Subsector Collective Agreement. This also includes displaced employees still within the recall period.

Contact: FBA Education Fund  
c/o 5000 North Fraser Way, Burnaby, BC, V5J 5M3  
Toll free: 1-800-663-5813, ext 7146

### Union Solidarity

You are the UNION – old saying, but true. If you are interested in becoming active in the Union at your jobsite, please contact me, Shelley Moore, at 250-382-1511. The role of Job Steward can be both difficult and rewarding. The skills that you acquire through being a staff advocate, promote personal growth and leadership skills. Thank you to all stewards who currently work so very hard to support their co-workers. You all do such a great job!! Thanks.



Nigel Services for Adults with Disabilities

# ServiceSectorBusy

## PARKING INDUSTRY

With **Impark** and **Advance Parking**

having concluded new collective agreement's there still remains the day to day challenges and automation is the biggest threat to ever face the attendants. Please take the

extra steps to ensure the customers are presented with courteous service so the clients are aware of how much are attendants are appreciated by the customers, this may slow the process of automation. For those attendants that are used to working with three (3) part tickets please try and learn the new digital systems as you will become more employable. We know no one likes change however technology is coming and we need to adapt. If you require more training please ask as if you are experiencing any problems at all don't hesitate to contact Dennis or myself. On a final note please don't forget the mystery shopper person is still in effect please be diligent.



Gary Palmiere  
Business Representative



Dennis Morgan  
Executive Board and  
Business Representative

## SECURITY INDUSTRY

Security has many changes coming including the major change of how the guard owns the license. Dennis and I are monitoring the changes and have met with politicians, Harry Bains and Chuck Pukmeyer to raise our concerns for abuse by company's not even paying by basic employment standards this lowers the standard for all security guards. The collective agreements remain is fair and currently our certified companies' are still required to pay for licensing. If any one of you knows anyone who is working security non-union and not receiving basic employment

*continued on back*



The OLD Metro Waste Plant facility did not have the space to handle the high volume of material.

NEW PLANT NEXT PAGE