

ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING

Monday Sept 12<sup>th</sup>, 4:15 PM At the Ajax Legion Hall \* 111 Hunt St. Ajax

#### **LOCAL 905 EXECUTIVE**

President	Dave Thompson	See
Vice President	Dan Robertson	
Secretary	Doris Duck	
Financial Secretary	Kris Socha	ZEA MAS
Sentinel	Rob Blair	ZEA MASS
Trustees	Daryl Rowe Pavel Blaha	The ``905″
	Rasheed Houssain	Published by the International Associa-
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Our website: www.iamaw905.ca



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# THE "905"

JUNE 2011

JUSTICE ON THE JOB, SECURITY FOR THE FAMILY AND SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

## **Happy Retirement**

LL905 President Dave Thompson presenting Brother Gary Burns with the IAM union retirement cheque and thanking him for his dedicated service. Brother Gary is retiring after 25 years of service at Messier-Dowty. **Happy Retirement Gary!** 



#### THE "905"

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## Aerotek Manufacturing Contract signed

AeroTek members agreed to a 17 month agreement that established a "pay back" of wages owed as a result of the employer failing to honour the previous agreement wage increases and progression increments. The pay back came with a 3% charge for interest accrued.

#### **Bill Shipman/Editor**

## Legal Education Action Fund honours women on Equality Day

Congratulations to Sister Doris, who were among 8 women honoured by the Legal Education Action Fund Foundation. These women were selected for their abilities to create substantive equality in non-tradition jobs and their dedication in community service.

#### **LL905/IAM**



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## CELEBRATING YEARS OF SERVICE IN 905 DURING

#### THE MONTH OF JUNE THE MONTH OF JULY

- 30 Years Doug Brooks 24 Years Brian MacDonald 23 Years Daniel Godin 24 Years Philip Hamblin 24 Years Danny Robertson 21 Years Ajaib Uppal 23 Years Amrik (Rick) Bening 21 Years Daniel Myall 21 Years Caesar Posvlek 21 Years Robert Todd 19 Years To-Ming Ho
- 19 Years Tony Jordi
- 16 Years Bruce Cormack
- 16 Years Shawn Courrier
- 16 Years Lidia Jakubiak
- 16 Years Sorin Sav
- 15 Years Steve Anderson
- 15 Years Ronda Griffin
- 15 Years Rob Joice
- 15 Years Dave Shaw
- 11 Years Jim Hasson
- 8 Years Jean Vilolette
- 8 Years Dale Robinson
- Years Mark Avotte 7
- 3 Years Meyyan (Simon) Sabalinggan



- 19 Years Joseph Shannon 14 Years Steve Kilby
- 13 Years Barry Payne
- 13 Years Irek Kujawinski
- 5 Years Leroy Anderson
- 5 Years Karen Walker
- 4 Years Eustace Fernandes

- Get Well Soon Martin Bessel **Derek Bond** Angela D'angelo **Jamie Farr Delfin Flores George Gaffney** Leonard Green Martin Price **Pauline Reilly Douglas Teske**
- Justin Vongprachnah

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## Long hours can kill

New research says that those who spend more than 11 hours at work increase their chance of having a heart attack by two thirds.

U.K. researchers say the risk is so great that doctors should be asking patients how many hours they work along with how much they drink or whether they smoke.

A research team from University College London looked at more than 7,000 civil servants working over a period of 11 years and noted how many hours they worked on average a day.

From medical records and health checks, they also collected additional information like the condition of their heart. Over the 11 years, a total of 192 had suffered a heart attack. The study, published in the journal Annals of Internal Medicine, found that those who worked more than 11 hours a day were 67 per cent more likely to have one than those who had a nine -to-five job.

The researchers say their findings could potentially lead to preventing thousands of heart attacks a year by helping doctors get a better idea of how likely a patient was to have one. Patients already at high risk by being overweight or smoking, for example, would be encouraged to cut down on their working hours.

Lead researcher Mika Kivimäki says, "We have shown that working long days is associated with a remarkable increase in risk of heart disease."

"This new information should help improve decisions regarding medication for heart disease. It could also be a wake-up call for people who over-work themselves, especially if they already have other risk factors," says Kivimäki.

### UCS/CALM

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## Harmful effects of shift work

The Scandinavian Journal of Work and Environmental Health (SJWEH) says "shift work is definitely among one of the most serious occupational health problems of our time..."

The SJWEH is not alone in their concern. An expert working group convened by the International Agency for Research on Cancer in December 2007 said shift work involving circadian rhythm disruption was "probably carcinogenic to humans."

The human body functions according to a natural sleep-wake and day-night cycle referred to as a circadian rhythm. This rhythm, guided by environmental cues such as darkness and light, helps control sleep and maintain biological functions including body temperature and hormone levels.

Shift work, particularly involving work at night, disrupts this rhythm and can lead to a range of adverse health effects.

Canadian researchers have recently added to the body of evidence that shift work is damaging to worker health, finding nine per cent of workplace injuries are associated with shift work.

With an estimated 2.8 million Canadians working shifts, the need to raise awareness and explore and implement workplace and regulatory prevention efforts is essential.

#### WHSC/CALM



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WHO issues cancer prevention challenge

The World Health Organization (WHO) has published a global challenge calling for the prevention of environmental and occupational cancer.

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In the Asturias Declaration: A Call to Action, the WHO explained "Many cancers caused by environmental and occupational exposures can be prevented. Primary prevention prevention of the exposures that cause cancer—is the single most effective means of prevention. Primary prevention keeps cancer from ever occurring. Primary prevention saves lives and saves billions of dollars."

The WHO offered a number of recommendations including media campaigns in every country to educate the public about environmental and occupational causes of cancer as well as prevention strategies. They also called for the adoption and enforcement of a law to protect workers and the public and for corporations to comply with all rules and regulations in all countries in which they operate.

Here in Canada carcinogenic exposures remain common. Canadian researchers, working collectively as CAREX Canada and funded by Health Canada, have created a database that will eventually profile about 170 substances or exposures they've determined to be high, possibly high and moderate-priority occupational carcinogens. As of December 2010, 33 profiles were completed. Estimates for Canadians exposed to these carcinogens at work already exceed 7,000,000. The most common exposure is 2,800,000 Canadians who work shifts with potential for circadian disruption.

These exposures are killing workers. Though estimates vary, many researchers believe eight to 16 per cent of all cancer deaths are work-related. Based on these estimates and Canaure to pass on the savings resulting from crude oil price changes and exchange rate moves is reflected in the fact that the average excess profit jumped from 14 cents per litre on April 29 to 25 cents per litre on May 12.

The biggest gaps—in the 30 cent per litre range—are in Montreal and in western Canada. The smallest gaps—in the 15-20 cent range—are in Ottawa and in BC outside the lower mainland.

To put these numbers in perspective, one cent per litre across Canada generates excess profits at a rate of \$1 million per day. So an excess profit of 25 cents per litre is generating \$25 million in excess profit every day—\$9.125 billion a year.

In its rationalization of these price increases, the industry majors are fond of stressing the financial squeeze faced by gasoline retailers. True enough. But what they don't say is that it is the industry majors themselves who are doing the squeezing, and increasingly having trouble carrying the proceeds to the bank.

Canada's petroleum industry wins the prize for creative spin. One day, the problem is war in Libya; the next day it is floods in the southern United States. One day, the price is set in New York and out of our control; the next day prices are up because of a fire in a refinery in Canada. One day the problem is speculators in New York; the next day futures markets play an essential role in stabilizing prices.

The common thread? Every day, 365 days a year, one cent of price gouging generates excess profit of \$1 million.

#### Hugh Mackenzie/CCPA/CALM



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Oil companies crying all the way to the bank

The oil industry in Canada is second to none, at least when it comes to spin. It makes the most creative of Canada's political leaders look like amateurs.

The latest and most audacious story being spun to Canadians is that the oil industry stands to be hurt by high oil prices, that it finds itself in as tough a spot as Canadians as prices escalate. That's what we started to hear, not when retail gasoline prices were running up to record levels, but when prices kept going up at the same time as the price of crude oil was going down.

And now that prices have eased by about six cents a litre in much of Canada, we're supposed to be feeling better.

Before we get out our crying towels in sympathy with the poor helpless corporate giants that dominate the home heating oil and gasoline markets in Canada, a bit of a reality check is in order.

At the price of \$1.34 a litre being reported in the media in Toronto, the industry is making an excess profit of 25 cents per litre, based on normal production costs, today's crude oil price, today's exchange rates, and taking into account all taxes.

That compares with an excess profit of 20 cents per litre two weeks prior.

These figures are calculated using the Canada Centre for Policy Alternative's gas gouge meter (www.gasgouge.ca) incorporating current crude oil prices and exchange rates.

Although the average price in mid-May in these major centres across Canada was roughly the same as it was two weeks ago—\$1.33 on April 29, \$1.40 on May 12—the industry's fail-

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dian Cancer Society statistics, between 2,256 and 4,512 Ontarians were killed in 2010 as a result of work-related cancer.

#### WHSC/CALM

## It's true! Your boss can give you

A Harvard University study of almost 400 health care workers and their managers shows that inflexible managerial practices predict with startling accuracy the likelihood of cardiovascular events.

Those supervised by inflexible managers were twice as likely to accumulate multiple risk factors for heart attacks or strokes, and the odds increased to six times the risk for those working directly with patients, the study found.

#### ONA/CALM

## Poor wages east and west

General Motors workers at the Halol plant in India have entered the second month of their strike over unsafe working conditions, temporary workers' pay and the right to organize an independent union.

Five hundred workers marched in the city of Valodara, and more than half were detained by police. GM is continuing some production by using scabs.

In the U.S., GM recently won the right to pay half wages to some of the workers who build the small Aveo model, claiming it's too tough to make a profit on small cars.

The same car is made at the Halo plant—but apparently even Indian wages aren't cheap enough for GM.

#### Labor Notes/CALM

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## Changes to the CPP

Changes to the Canada Pension Plan have been finalized and we now know what the effects will be, starting January 1, 2012.

All the changes are staggered over a five-year period and are intended to encourage workers to remain in the workforce longer and think twice about collecting their Canada Pension Plan early.

The normal age when a worker receives 100 per cent of their CPP pension is 65. However, workers can choose to receive a reduced benefit beginning at age 60 or an improved benefit as late as age 70.

The new changes bring a greater reduction in benefits at age 60 and a greater increase up to age 70. The table outlines the percentage of reduction that will be phased in over the next five years. Once you begin receiving CPP and decide not to return to work, the percentage increase or decrease is permanent. CPP is indexed annually, so your pension will increase based on increases in the cost of living.

Under the new regulations, anyone returning to work before age 65 will recommence contributions. Between age 65 and 70, you can choose whether to contribute or not.

On January 1, 2012, contributors can begin receiving their CPP benefit without having to stop working. If you continue to work and receive CPP benefits, then they must continue to make contributions to CPP until age 65.

Periodically, you should receive a Canada Pension Plan Statement of Contributions from Service Canada. This outlines CPP contribution history and projects an anticipated CPP benefit at age 65. If you have not received a CPP statement in the JUNE 2011

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last two years, contact Service Canada at 1-877-454-4051 and ask them for one.

Percentage of reduction phased in over next 5 years

Age of elec- tion to receive CPP	Current pension adjust- ment	New pension adjustments					
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
60	-30 %	-31.2%	-32.4%	-33.6%	-34.8%	-36%	
65	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
70	+30%	+34.2%	+38.4%	+42%	+42%	+42%	

Rob Taylor/Teacher/BCTF/CALM



