

Our website: [www.iamaw905.ca](http://www.iamaw905.ca)



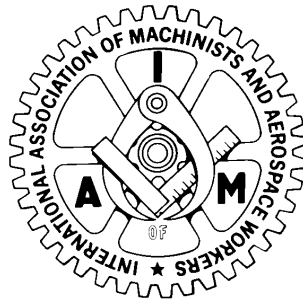
### ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING

Monday December 12<sup>th</sup>, 4:15 PM

At the Ajax Legion Hall \* 111 Hunt St. Ajax, ON

### LOCAL 905 EXECUTIVE

President	Dave Thompson
Vice President	Dan Robertson
Secretary	Doris Duck
Financial Secretary	Kris Socha
Sentinel	Rob Blair
Trustees	Daryl Rowe Pavel Blaha Rasheed Houssain
Committeeman	Shane Kingston
Chief Stewards	Dan Robertson Kent Danforth Janice McKenzie Don Beadle
Stewards	Lynn McKenzie Brian Hiscock Todd Desmoulins Gary Cooper Ian Kimble
Auditor	George Gaffney Wes Snellings



The "905"

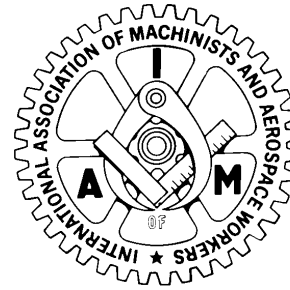
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# THE "905"

NOV 2011

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

## Ritchie Elected to CLC Executive Committee

IAMAW Canadian General Vice President Dave Ritchie, has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Canadian Labour Congress.

Ritchie was elected by members of the CLC Canadian Council, which consists of the top officers from all of the affiliated unions to the CLC. The Executive Committee, which meets at least four times a year, is responsible for the administration, affairs and activities of the CLC.

The Executive Committee consists of the four CLC Executive officers and ten Vice Presidents – five from the five largest private sector union affiliates and five from the five largest public sector union affiliates. Ritchie was one of two Vice Presidents elected by the members of the Canadian Council from the ranking officers of the national and international unions, which are not on the Executive Committee.

"I'm pleased with this election," said a satisfied Ritchie. "It's my job to ensure that the smaller affiliates have a voice. There was a perception that the smaller affiliates were shoved to the sidelines but now they will be part of the decision making process."

**IAM**



## Together at last

New Zealand with its national union federation has launched Together. Together is a national service being developed for the precariat—the rapidly growing cohort of workers who do not fit into the standard labourist model of industrial capitalism, or those who don't earn a living wage.

It cuts across regional, sectoral and strategic lines, it aims to bring together non-union workers in casual, small shop, contracted workers and their family members who don't currently have access to a union.

Membership fee is one New Zealand dollar a week, about 20 per cent of average union fees.

Together provides help to non-unionized workers with issues like workplace bullying, sick leave, holiday pay, employment agreements and sexual harassment.

For more details contact [www.together.org.nz](http://www.together.org.nz) .

### **New Unionism Network/CALM**

## Workers Hall of Fame

The Canadian Workers Hall of Fame is accepting nominations for the inaugural Canadian Workers Hall of Fame class of 2011.

Launched as part of the Workers Arts and Heritage Centre's 15th Anniversary celebrations, the Canadian Workers Hall of Fame will commemorate unsung heroes of Canada's Labour Movement. A website will honour exceptional people from the struggle for workers' rights and social justice in Canada.

Nominees must be 65 years or older, alive or dead. They will

## CELEBRATING YEARS OF SERVICE IN 905 DURING NOVEMBER

30 Years James Hughes  
 25 Years Eduardo Briones  
 25 Years Allan Gallimore  
 24 Years Sharon Delahaye-Holmes  
 19 Years Frank Zeiler  
 17 Years Terry Jobe  
 17 Years James Strickland  
 17 Years Simon Tong  
 17 Years Jesse Wilson  
 16 Years Yue-jin Mah  
 16 Years Murray Rehill  
 13 Years Ian Knightbridge  
 13 Years Robert Marlowe  
 13 Years Linda Payne  
 13 Years Eric Pinto  
 12 Years Todd DuMoulin  
 12 Years Jim Pearson  
 12 Years Gord Pearson  
 12 Years John Rideout  
 11 Years Neal Kent  
 11 Years Kevin Seaborne  
 7 Years Chad Gilmour  
 7 Years Mirko Zoric  
 6 Years Michael Bond  
 6 Years Robert Johnston  
 6 Years Ian Kimball  
 6 Years Gerard Koene  
 6 Years Donald Lockhart



### **Get Well Soon**

**Leonard Bernard**

**Derek Bond**

**Alan Brown**

**Randy Crawford**

**Angela D'angelo**

**Ali Elassal**

**Delfin Flores**

**George Gaffney**

**Bradley Godfrey**

**Leonard Green**

**Phillip Kellar**

**Michael McKelvey**

**Martin Price**

**Pauline Reilly**

**Douglas Teske**

**Steven Woolsey**

**Justin Vongprachnah**

**Bruce Wyatt**

neighbour, Saskatchewan.

The governor, a Democrat, announced in September that he will seek a waiver from the federal government to design his own health care system in Montana. His goal is simple: better care, for more people at less cost.

Schweitzer follows in the footsteps of Vermont governor Peter Schumlin, who signed a bill earlier this year to move toward a single-payer health care system. Vermont's system also requires a federal government waiver. The waiver won't be available until 2017, but legislation has been introduced to move that date up to 2014.

Schweitzer became frustrated with the health care debate in Washington, D.C., especially because lawmakers weren't looking to systems already working in other countries. Instead, they remained centred around U.S. insurance industry interests.

There are similar demographics between his state and the province to the north, but Saskatchewanans live two years longer on average and have a lower infant mortality rate than in Montana.

Schweitzer discovered the province spends about \$4,000 per person per year to provide care to all citizens—half what Montana currently spends per person to provide care to only a portion of the population.

The difference, he says, is that Saskatchewan's health care program is not centred around profits. The province's health care is about 70 per cent public and 30 per cent private, while Montana's is about 50/50; in Saskatchewan, 87 per cent of care takes place at community health clinics set up across the province, with contracted specialized services accounting for 13 per cent, according to the governor.

**Rebecca Leisher/Yes! Magazine/CALM**

have made exceptional lifetime contributions to the betterment of working-class life in union work, politics, social movements, culture or other activism.

A panel of labour activists and academics will review nominations and recommend who is to be included. The first honourees will be announced in this year.

The Workers Arts & Heritage Centre preserves, honours and promotes the culture and history of all working people.  
[www.wahc-museum.ca](http://www.wahc-museum.ca)

**WAHC/CALM**

## **Amnesty International is 50**

For 50 years, people around the world have worked together through Amnesty International to secure the release of people who have been wrongfully imprisoned and change human rights laws and practices in dozens of countries.

Amnesty International began in 1961 with one man who decided to do something about two Portuguese students who had been imprisoned for raising a toast to freedom. British lawyer Peter Benenson published an article, "The Forgotten Prisoners" in the Observer newspaper.

That article launched the Appeal for Amnesty 1961, a worldwide campaign. Reprinted in newspapers around the world, Benenson's call to action resonated with people everywhere.

To celebrate the 50-year milestone Amnesty International has launched a website that allows you to take action on campaigns like maternal health, the death penalty or corporate responsibility.

**Internet/CALM**

## Feds offer little protection to whistleblowers

The Public Service Labour Relation Board has ordered Health Canada to reinstate one of three scientists fired in 2004 for insubordination.

In a 208-page ruling, the board rejected the termination grievances of Shiv Chopra and Margaret Haydon and upheld the same grievance of Gérard Lambert. All three worked as drug evaluators and were well known for going public over years with their food safety concerns and departmental practices prior to their firing.

The scientists' testimony over drug approvals and inadequate protection of Canada's food system before a Senate Committee in the late 1990s made headlines around the world and led to a ban in most developed countries—Canada included—of Monsanto's controversial bovine growth hormone, even though it was already approved in the U.S.

Health Canada has repeatedly denied the scientists were fired for whistle blowing, saying their termination was because of insubordination.

The Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, which contested the dismissals, is labelling the ruling a sad day for public servants who are raising awareness on health and safety issues.

"The government of Canada offers little protection to whistleblowers," PIPSC president Gary Corbett said after the decision was released.

"In our view Dr. Chopra, Dr. Haydon and Dr. Lambert are practised and meticulous scientists. Devoted to protecting the health of Canada's citizens, the three scientists acted morally to defend the public from products they had reason to believe could have harmed the food chain and ultimately the lives of Canadians. Their only defiance is that they resisted commercial pressure and provided evidence to official parliamentary committees.

## Mexican migrant workers file Charter lawsuit against federal government

Three Mexican migrant agriculture workers have filed a lawsuit against the Canadian government and an Ontario agriculture operator for breach of contract and damages, after the workers were repatriated without a hearing or any explanation of why they were terminated. It is the first suit of its kind ever brought by migrant workers invoking their rights under Canada's Charter.

### LabourStart

## Worker strikes at companies in China

1000 workers went on strike at an IBM and LG parts manufacturer after the company requires staff to work overtime from 6pm to midnight. 200 workers staged a 5 days strike over pay and unachievable company production quota at a lingerie factory. Another 7000 workers at a shoe factory also went on strike for working condition and wages.

Companies have faced increasing demands for higher wages from workers in China as inflation remains high, income inequality grows and real estate prices soar.

### LabourStart

## Looking north for better health care

A little more than a decade ago governor Brian Schweitzer was bussing Montana senior citizens to Canada to fill their prescriptions as a way of protesting against the U.S. pharmaceutical industry's price gouging.

Now, Schweitzer is planning to establish a state-wide universal health care system modelled after that of the state's

## December 3 — International Day of Persons with Disabilities

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately 10% of the world's population or approximately 650 million people live with disabilities. Their challenges range from physical, mental, psychological or emotional conditions and their signs of disability vary from being visible to invisible. With an aging population, this is certainly bound to increase exponentially over the next few decades. Nonetheless, many people display a considerable lack of understanding of people with disabilities, and governments have a tendency to be lacklustre in bringing forward meaningful programs and legislation.

Around the world, the immense difficulties that our sisters and brothers with disabilities face in schools, workplaces, and other public and private places are sometimes overwhelming to the individual and their families, particularly when resources have not been adequately channelled for appropriate accommodations.

For instance, in Canada, according to some researchers the unemployment rate is 53% higher among disabled workers; and that only represents disabled persons actively looking for work. The real unemployment rate among disabled persons may approach 30% according to some researchers. Where are the federal Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) programs to address this issue?

### LabourStart



"Cases of dismissal like these do nothing good to help public service whistleblowers to come forward and denounce wrongdoing within their departments."

Over the past seven years none of the three scientists have found other jobs.

### Bulletin/CAUT/CALM

## One-minute message ad contest

The Canadian Labour Congress is looking for the best ad about the unfairness of shifting the tax burden onto working people and away from corporations while services are cut and government programs are eliminated.

Be clever, creative, ironic or funny... whatever it takes. The best ad will be one that effectively shows why working Canadians should come together and demand a better deal.

The target audience for the ad is YouTube viewers world-wide. The ad should speak directly to everyday Canadian working people affected by fundamental tax unfairness. Your video should inspire, move and entertain. It should encourage sharing it with friends on blogs and through social media.

The video needs to be positive and communicate the message that if people come together they can make a difference to both their own life and to the lives of other people.

There are cash prizes The winner gets \$2,000 and there are runner up prizes as well.

Entries must be received and accepted by the CLC by 16h00 EST (local Ottawa time), Friday, December 9, 2011.

For more info contact

<http://oneminutemessage.canadianlabour.ca>

### CLC/CALM

## The Toronto Labour Film Festival

November 19-20 & 26-27, 2011 weekends marked the third annual Canadian Labour International Film Festival (CLIFF). The screening took place at the Innis Town Hall on U of T St. George campus. This year the theme is on Work (It's what makes the world go round).

This is a unique festival, it brings together filmmakers, subjects, crews and the audience all united under common messages. Best of all it is provided free, less pop corns and commercials.

All documentaries are from real subjects and quite moving. The presentations are highly professional. Some stories teach us the history of hard-fought battles which earned us the rights and benefits we take for granted today; some stories alert us the plight of unsafe working conditions some still toil under; others stories illustrate the differences and commonalities with workers in far-off places; yet others give us a glimpse into the working lives of people we make contact every day. All give us a better understanding of the each other's working condition.

### Editor

## Teaching newcomers safety at work

A new resource from the Institute for Work & Health helps settlement agencies and others teach newcomers to Ontario about their health and safety rights and duties in the workplace.

Called Prevention is the Best Medicine, the 11-item toolkit contains everything needed to deliver instructional sessions: occupational health and safety and workers' compensation in Ontario.

The teaching resource was developed in the wake of IWH evidence showing that newcomers are not getting this information. The toolkit includes handouts for learners, sample lesson plans, slide show presentations and more. **IWH/CALM**

## Victory over bargaining interference

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers scored a significant victory in its fight against the Harper government's treatment of postal workers.

In a decision handed down October 20 in federal court, Judge Luc Martineau ordered a stay of proceedings relating to the Harper government's back-to-work law (Bill C-6) against thousands of locked-out postal workers in June. Arbitration will stop until the union's challenge of the government's hand-picked arbitrator can be heard in January.

"This decision shows that the union is on the right track. We are questioning the process by which this government has forced its will on postal workers," said Denis Lemelin, CUPW president.

Members of CUPW's urban unit went on rotating strike in June, were locked out by Canada Post and then legislated back to work.

The union has also launched a separate constitutional challenge against the back-to-work law itself, which directs the arbitrator to pick one side only without any possibility of compromise.

The Martineau decision bolsters CUPW's objection to Minister of Labour's appointment of Anthony Arthur Coulter Osborne—a unilingual judge without any previous experience in labour relations—to preside over the arbitration

Normally, arbitrators are assigned through an agreement between the union and the employer not imposed by government.

### CUPW/CALM