

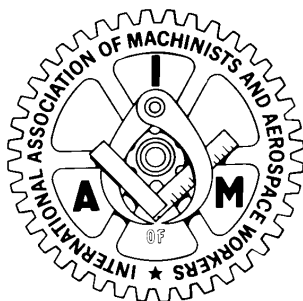
### ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING

Monday, April 9<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 Wise
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	Wes Snellings



The "905"

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# THE "905"

MAR 2012

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

## Government Attacks Workers Rights and Wages at Air Canada!

"The rights and wages of our members at Air Canada are being attacked by the federal government," stated a disappointed Dave Ritchie, "It's a sad day for any federally regulated worker in Canada because this legislation says you do not have the right to strike period!"

Federal back-to-work legislation introduced on Monday ensures there would be no work stoppage at Air Canada. It prevents the Machinists from striking Air Canada to back their contract demands. "This has allowed the government to back Air Canada and take away from our members the right to free collective bargaining. I am disappointed in Lisa Raitt, the federal Labour minister who has continually expressed concern for the Canadian travelling public and the economy. She has introduced legislation that goes beyond what was needed," explained Ritchie.

Ritchie says the deck is stacked in Air Canada's favour and the hands of the arbitrator are tied. "Final Offer Selection does not allow the arbitrator to take into consideration any one item for which it would make sense to change on either side's behalf," he said.

IAMAW represents more than 8600 Air Canada workers.

**IAM**

## Nomination Notice:

### Delegates to Grand Lodge Convention

Grand Lodge Convention will be held in Toronto from the 9th till the 15th of September 2012.

Please be advised that at the April 9th, 2012 regular monthly membership meeting, Local Lodge 905 will be accepting nominations for the Delegates to Grand Lodge Convention in September 2012.

Delegate Elections will be held on May14,2012 at the regular monthly meeting, located at the Ajax Legion Hall 111 Hunt Street Ajax, Ontario.

In Solidarity,

**Dave Thompson**  
**President LL905**

## Unions 101: What a Union is—and isn't

A union simply refers to an organization of two or more employees

who band together as a single entity to address hours, pay, and working conditions with their employer. Unions are democratic institutions with leadership at the national, regional, and local levels

elected by members. They promote and protect the interests of all employees, dues-paying and non-dues-paying alike, and even those workers who may never even be represented by a union. They collectively bargain with employers to secure written agreements for employees about pay, benefits, and working conditions. Unions represent employees in disciplinary processes, lobby for laws and

regulations that protect working families at all levels of government, and offer a range of member services to help employees outside of the workplace.

## CELEBRATING YEARS OF SERVICE IN 905 DURING MARCH

31 Years John Grylicki  
31 Years Peter Serjeant  
26 Years Ernest (Rick) Surman  
23 Years Patrick Hau  
23 Years Robin Keough  
20 Years Bobby Rayner  
17 Years Mike Fung  
17 Years David Hampson  
17 Years John Hudson  
17 Years Charles Millsom  
17 Years Rodolfo Vizcarra  
16 Years Allen Lien Chiu  
15 Years Ken Cousineau  
15 Years Barbara Joyce  
14 Years Gerry Kyle  
13 Years Doug Boyd  
12 Years Martin Price  
11 Years Bissoondial Ramoutar  
11 Years Guangcai (Gary) You  
8 Years Alan Symss  
7 Years Janice McKenzie  
7 Years Shawn Rose  
5 Years Matthew Mitchell  
5 Years Jason Shaw  
5 Years Nathan Stephenson  
5 Years Dave Shaw Jr.  
4 Years Gord Pearson  
2 Years Chad Gilmour



Years of Service during February

5 Years John Tapp



## Get Well Soon

**Leonard Bernard**

**Derek Bond**

**Alan Brown**

**Randy Crawford**

**Angela D'angelo**

**Ali Elassal**

**Delfin Flores**

**Bradley Godfrey**

**Dave Kamath**

**Phillip Kellar**

**Frank Krasevec**

**Janice McKenzie**

**Michael McKelvey**

**Martin Price**

**Pauline Reilly**

**Douglas Teske**

**Doris Wise**

## North's on-job carcinogen limits weakest in Canada

Working environments in Canada's isolated Arctic are "an embarrassment" when it comes to the amounts of carcinogens labourers can be exposed to, a federal toxicology expert says.

Outdated limits on cancer-causing agents — unchanged since the 1980s — allow labourers in the three territories to be exposed to doses many times higher than the rest of the country.

"It's kind of an embarrassment," said Bob Whiting, a technical specialist with the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, a Crown corporation.

Amid forecasts of an economic boom that promises to expand the North's labour market, health and safety officials for Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories are moving to toughen the standards for cancer-causing agents in workplaces.

Concentration maximums for most carcinogens stand between five and 500 times the limits set by other provinces, according to data from the B.C.-based research initiative CAREX Canada.

"We're a good 20 years behind on our occupational exposure limits," said Kurt Dieckmann, Yukon's director of occupational health and safety. "So we're really trying to do more work to bring them in line."

Dieckmann and his counterpart for Nunavut and the Northwest Territories are meeting for talks this month on how to stiffen carcinogen exposure legislation.

**CBC/LabourStart**

It's easy to forget that unions fought for many of the protections we take for granted in today's workplaces: the minimum wage, the eight-hour work day, child labor laws, health and safety standards, and of course, the weekend. But there's a danger in our nation's collective amnesia about why unions mattered then: we might not recognize the critical role they play today.

Unions advocate for workplace reforms that benefit all workers, serve as a check on corporate power, and defend the need for a balanced economy. So it's no surprise that, according to a recent study from Harvard University, the rising income inequality of the last three decades is directly tied to the decline in union membership.<sup>7</sup> But rather than support Americans' ability to form a union and bargain collectively for a better life, the right wing is ramping up the attacks on workers and their unions. As this unprecedented assault on the 99 percent continues to play out nationwide, it's more important than ever that we expand our thinking about the role of unions in society, a role that extends far beyond the weekend.

**IAM**

## Ontario Day of Action Against cuts

At **1:00 pm on Saturday, April 21, 2012**, the labour movement and community groups will hold a mass Day of Action against austerity cuts at Queen's Park in Toronto.

The province continues to hand out billions of dollars in corporate tax cuts through the front door while public and private sector jobs are disappearing through the back door. The Ontario government is preparing to table a slash-and-burn budget in late March or early April that will be guided by the hundreds of cuts that former TD Bank Economist Don Drummond is expected to propose later this month.

**OFL**

## **AVEOS layoffs violate Air Canada Public Participation Act!**

IAM leaders in Canada are responding angrily to the closure of Aveos Fleet Performance Inc. in Toronto, ON, calling the move a violation of the Air Canada Public Participation Act.

"The Layoff of 2,600 aircraft maintenance workers at Aveos Fleet Performance Incorporated is a direct violation of the Air Canada Public Participation Act," explained an angry Dave Ritchie – Canadian General Vice President of the IAMAW.

"The act stipulates that Air Canada must maintain aircraft heavy maintenance facilities or have such work performed at facilities in Winnipeg, Mississauga and Montreal," said Ritchie. Air Canada complied by having Aveos Fleet Performance conduct its aircraft maintenance in these centers.

"Since Air Canada is pulling this work from these facilities and seeking alternative suppliers, AVEOS has subsequently ceased operations affecting 1,785 highly skilled workers in Montreal, 412 in Winnipeg and 356 in Vancouver," explained Ritchie.

"This is exactly why we took Air Canada to court when it sold its maintenance unit to Aveos. We knew this could happen and now it has. Air Canada has an obligation to these workers, their families and the Air Canada Public Participation Act."

"We want the federal government to intervene otherwise a viable industry and its highly skilled workers will vanish forever."

The IAMAW represents more than 2,300 workers at Aveos facilities across Canada.

**IAM**

## **Turkey represses women unionists**

The ongoing police harassment of public Turkish trade unions is now aimed at women in the movement.

On February 13, 15 women—leaders and activists preparing for International Women's Day March 8—were arrested and taken into custody. Their homes and the offices of the municipal workers union, the health and social service workers union and the Confederation of Civil Servants Trade Unions (KESK) were raided and searched.

The Turkish government and police regularly use the pretext of terrorism to crackdown on trade union organizations.

"There is no doubt that Turkish trade unions are facing a harsh campaign of repression and intimidation. This is unacceptable in a genuine democracy where trade unions must be able to carry out their legitimate role of defending workers," said Sharan Burrow, general secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC).

After four days in custody, the women were charged with being members of an illegal organization. Pending trial, nine out of the 15 women were held in provisional detention and the other six released. Twenty-seven members of KESK are still detained because of their trade union activities.

Women trade unionists denouncing violence against women are regularly repressed particularly during celebrations on International Women's Day and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women in November.

ITUC is urging the Turkish government to take all necessary measures to stop this anti-union campaign. They are calling on the Turkish government to respect European and international law such as the ILO Convention 87 on freedom of association and the right to organize.

**Committee for Asian Women/CALM**

## Air Canada wildcat sparked by a sarcastic exchange

On March 22 Thursday evening Federal labour minister Lisa Raitt was walking through Toronto Pearson International Airport after returning from North Bay.

About 15 ramp employees gathered at the main exit out of the carousel section, slowly clapping in mock applause and taunting her with "nice job."

Three Air Canada ground workers followed her outside began clapping and heckling her, "Thanks for taking our right to strike". The three were suspended for three days. Another 37 employees were fired for participating in the illegal strike.

By 10:30 pm, the IAMAW ground workers were banding together for a brazen wildcat which would last 13 hours.

Employees in Vancouver, Montreal and Quebec City followed in solidarity, throwing Air Canada's domestic flight schedule into chaos for the day.

Air Canada obtained a court injunction on Friday night and arbitrator Martin Teplitsky issued a cease-and-desist ruling. Any further job action will be subject to the legal weight of stiff fines.

Air Canada retracted disciplinary action or fines against employees who had been threatened with suspension or possible termination after they walked off the job.

It's a confrontation nine years in the making. To keep the airline from bankruptcy, unions have agreed for their membership to take pay cuts, delayed pension payments, salary freezes and layoffs.

**Toronto Star/CBC/Globe and Mail/LabourStart/IAM**

**Don't forget to participate in this year's Earth Hour on March 31 8:30 - 9:30pm**

## International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

March 21 marked the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination but was largely invisible across Ontario.

Today in Canada we have legal protection for victims of discrimination and a constitutional guarantee of equality rights for all. Thus some would say that the March 21 commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is redundant since every day is a racism-free day in Canada.

According to an Angus Reid poll, while a third of Canadians (32 per cent) believe that racism is a significant problem in Canada, 55 per cent are satisfied that we have overcome it.

A recent Toronto Star series on Race and Policing indicated black males living in Toronto are three times more likely to be carded by police. No matter where they live, police stop residents more frequently in neighbourhoods that are largely populated by people of colour. Not only are racialized people considered a greater crime threat, they also face greater surveillance.

Studies have also documented racial disparities in income, health status, services, civic participation and in the labour market. Employment and income disparities persist for racialized people in Toronto and Canada, regardless of education. They are more likely to be unemployed and underemployed even though they are more willing and available to work."

**Colour of Poverty**



## **Study confirms: Wealthy people are unethical**

Rich people are more unethical, more likely to cheat, break the law or simply behave badly towards other people, a new study has found.

Researchers from the universities of California and Toronto found that wealthier people are more apt to behave unethically than those who had less money.

Unethical behaviour may involve upper-class people cutting off other motorists, lying in a negotiation, cheating to win a prize or even stealing candy from children.

The study contradicted the notion that poor people are more likely to act unethically out of financial necessity.

Instead, the researchers wrote the "relative independence" and "increased privacy" of the wealthy make them more likely to act unethically.

Poorer people by contrast may be less likely to cheat, because they are more dependent on their community at large.

Rich people also shared "feelings of entitlement and inattention to the consequences of one's actions on others" that may play into their moral decisions, study authors said.

The study, whose findings were published in the Proceedings of that National Academy of Sciences, analyzed a person's rank in society as measured by wealth, occupational prestige and education.

The authors say the differences in ethical behavior could be explained, at least in part, by the upper-class participants' more favorable attitude toward greed.

**Internet/CALM**

## **Jail for asbestos-related offences**

An Italian court has handed down 16-year jail terms to two corporate executives for failing to protect workers and communities from deadly asbestos exposures.

Stephan Schmidheiny and Jean Louis de Cartier, executives of corporations owned by Eternit Group of Companies, one of the world's largest producers of asbestos cement, were convicted of causing permanent environmental disaster and failing to comply with safety rules. Eternit operated numerous asbestos cement factories in Italy.

At the verdict, handed down to a packed Turin courtroom, the justices also read aloud the names of 2,768 victims awarded compensation for asbestos-related illnesses and deaths.

In a recent case closer to home, British Columbia's Supreme Court sentenced a B.C. demolition contractor to 60 days in jail for contempt of court in ignoring a WorkSafe B.C. order.

Contractor, Arthur Moore, failed to comply with a restraining order that stopped him from operating his asbestos abatement business and endangering the lives of workers.

Moore, repeatedly fined, failed to provide information and protection to workers routinely exposed to asbestos during building renovations. As many as 50 workers were exposed, many from vulnerable groups including teenagers and clients of rehabilitation centres.

In delivering the sentence, Justice Richard Goepel wrote, "Mr. Moore's indifference to the lives and safety of his workers, and his open defiance of the injunction, requires a severe response."

**WHSC/CALM**