

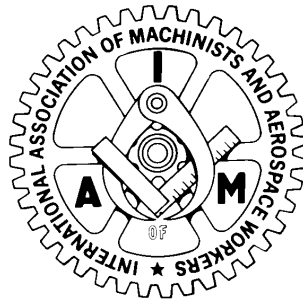
ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING

Monday, February 11th, 4:15 PM

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

LOCAL 905 EXECUTIVE

President	Dave Thompson
Vice President	Dan Robertson
Secretary	Steve Pennington
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 Jean Violette
Stewards	Gary Cooper Stephen Kilby Martin Bessel Jeff Tainsh
Auditor	Wes Snellings



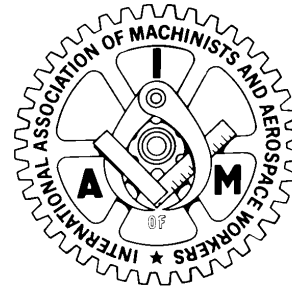
The "905"

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THE "905"

JAN 2013

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

Happy Retirement to Peter

Brother Peter Ward is shown here receiving a retirement cheque from LL905 President Dave Thompson. Brother Peter is retiring after 26 years at the Messier-Dowty plant.
Happy Retirement Peter!



IAMAW-LL905 Award Recipient

Local Lodge 905 President Dave Thompson presented Sister Doris Wise with the IAMAW-LL905 Award in appreciation for her dedication to the Labour Movement and her Service to Local Lodge 905.



CELEBRATING YEARS OF SERVICE IN 905 DURING JANUARY

- 32 Years James Wilson
- 29 Years Bryan Heroux
- 28 Years Michael Gatenby
- 28 Years Daryl Rowe
- 27 Years David Mette
- 26 Years Aly Ellassal
- 25 Years Ross Walmsley
- 22 Years Christopher Rhodes
- 17 Years Gary Nemisz
- 16 Years Shawn Ferguson
- 15 Years David Swerdfeger
- 8 Years Robert Curtis
- 7 Years Glenn Gaffney
- 6 Years Ken Ngai
- 5 Years Martin Bessel
- 5 Years Vishnu Tiwary
- 5 Years Justin Vongprachanh



**Get Well Soon
Mark Anderson**

Derek Bond

Shelley Chapman

Randy Crawford

Adam Currie

Angela D'angelo

Ali Ellassal

Delfin Flores

Dave Kamath

Pauline Reilly

Richard Sale

Dave Shaw

Douglas Teske



Labour activist sues Walmart for wrongful dismissal and wins

When Shenzhen Walmart employee Li Wan attended a collective bargaining training seminar in neighbouring Hong Kong in the summer of 2011, she hoped the experience would help in her fight to improve pay and working conditions at the store.

However, when Walmart discovered that she had taken sick leave to attend the seminar, it fired her and refused to pay any compensation for loss of employment. Walmart claimed her actions constituted "dishonest conduct" but as Li Wan told Southern Weekend on 18 January:

Walmart was worried that I would disseminate 'bad' ideas about defending our legal rights amongst the workers. That was the real reason why they fired me.

When she was fired, her co-workers rallied around and offered to pay her legal expenses during in her lawsuit against the company for wrongful dismissal, but Li Wan would only accept a maximum of five yuan from each co-worker. She explained that by limiting the size of the donation she could: "Let even more co-workers know about this matter and really gauge the level of support I had."

The support was more than enough to cover a year-long legal battle which culminated on 16 November 2012 when the Shenzhen Intermediate People's Court ruled that Li Wan had been illegally dismissed and awarded her the compensation she was entitled to under the law.

The court ruled that the definition of "dishonest conduct" in Walmart's Employee Handbook was too broad and had no specific criteria and that Li Wan was entitled to organize her own activities during her approved sick leave.

China Labour Bulletin/LabourStart

Elected members of Local Lodge 905 for 2013-2015



Standing:

Steve Pennington, Rasheed Houssain, Jeff Tainsh, Janice McKenzie, Daryl Rowe, Dan Robertson, Pavel Blaha, Rob Blair and Wes Snellings.

Front:

Kris Socha, Jean Violette, Dave Thompson and Kent Danforth.



Electrolux imprisons then sacks workers in Thailand

On 11 January 2013 Electrolux Thailand management called a meeting of all workers at 8am and announced a two-month bonus, but then refused to discuss the workers demands for fair wage increases and permanent employment for agency workers after 6 months.

Instead the managers forcibly removed the union president, Phaiwan Metha, from the meeting throwing him onto the street and dismissing him. When the gathered workers learnt of the dismissal they continued to sit on the floor and demanded his reinstatement and return.

Management then called security and police and surrounded the workers, preventing them from leaving for 8 hours, including a pregnant woman in her sixth month who tried to leave. At 5pm the workers were released, one by one by the security guards.

The workers returned to work on 14 January to find written dismissal notice for 127 workers. The dismissals followed more than a month of efforts by the union to negotiate on the new minimum wage and annual wage adjustments due to be implemented by 25 January 2013. The management had refused to accept the proposals by the union and instead attempted to impose wage adjustments that had not been agreed to.

In the letter to Electrolux IndustriALL General Secretary Jyrki Raina states that the company's actions "constitutes a crystal clear union-busting attempt to force upon workers an unfair collective bargaining process". Electrolux of Sweden is signatory to an International Framework Agreement on workers' rights.

IndustriALL/LabourStart

Korean union president on sit-down hunger strike

Kim Jungnam, President of the Korean Government Employees' Union, a PSI affiliate, launched a hunger strike on 15 January in the streets of Seoul outside the offices of the Presidential transition committee and has vowed to continue his hunger strike until the issues facing his union are resolved.

Kim Jungnam is protesting the dismissal of 137 workers, among them the KGEU General Secretary and President. The workers were all dismissed for their trade union activities.

In a recent rally on 19 January, attended by over a thousand KGEU officials, the union called once more on the President-elect and the presidential transition committee for a normalization of labour relations in the government sector, improvement of working conditions, and freedom of association and trade union rights.

The hunger strike has been on for more than 10 days, but so far, the presidential transition committee has not shown any will or reaction to solve this situation.

PSI fully supports its affiliate's demands and has written a letter of protest to President-elect Park Guenhye calling on her to respect ILO core labour standards including the fundamental right of freedom of association, to reinstate the dismissed workers and recognize the KGEU.

PSI also asks its affiliates to send letters of protest and solidarity through the Labourstart campaign.

LabourStart



Charlottetown single mom denied EI benefits for lack of transportation

Marlene Giersdorf wants to be gainfully employed and take care of her nine-year-old son.

But the humble pride of the single mom exploded into tears here Friday when she took to the streets with a one woman protest and handmade signs.

The 30-year-old resident of Lower Montague is the first visible victim of the federal government's Employment Insurance cutbacks.

After finally getting her first EI check at the end of November, she's now being cut off because she won't go to Charlottetown to work.

Not because she won't work, rather because she has no way to get there.

"I have no car because I can't afford it and there's no public transportation," she said, fighting back tears while protesting in front of the Services Canada building here.

"Of course I would take the job, but I don't have a car and there is no public transit....are they going to pay my taxi fare?" "When I said I can't get to town for a job, they cut me off and said go on welfare."

Services Canada denied her benefits on those grounds and said her only option was to apply to the provincial government for welfare.

"I don't want to go on income support," she said, standing in freezing winds while cars drove by straining to read her signs. "I've always worked but I've just hit a bad spot right now."

She's knocked on the doors of the federal MP, taken her plight to the premier and even gone to the Human Rights Commission without success. She has less than \$100 in her pocket.

Geirsdorf quit a job in the fall at a community care facility over the stress accompanying a 60-hour work week. Her old boss even provided a good, solid reference.

Steve Sharratt/The Guardian

Study reveals secret Canadian bank bailout

Throughout the 2008-2010 financial crisis, Canadian banks were touted by the federal government—and the banks themselves—as being much more stable than other countries' big banks. Canadians were assured that our banks needed no bailout. However, CCPA's latest study, *The Big Banks' Big Secret: Estimating Government Support for Canadian Banks During the Financial Crisis*, suggests that this was not the case. The study reveals that Canada's banks received \$114 billion in cash and loan support from both the U.S. and Canadian governments during the 2008-2010 financial crisis. The study estimates that at some point during the crisis, three of Canada's banks—CIBC, BMO, and Scotiabank—were completely underwater, with government support exceeding the market value of the bank. Due to government secrecy, the study raises more questions than it answers and calls on the Bank of Canada and CMHC to release the full details of how much support each Canadian bank received, when they received it, and what they put up as collateral.

Click here to read the full report.

<http://www.policyalternatives.ca/newsroom/updates/study-reveals-secret-c...>

CCPA/CALM



RALLY FOR RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

On Saturday, January 26 at 1pm nearly 100 buses rolled in to Toronto from towns and cities across Ontario, and as far away as Timmins. Over 15 thousand Ontarians from all walks of life join the Ontario Federation of Labour rally at Allan Gardens in Toronto (Jarvis and Carleton), followed by a march to the Ontario Liberal Convention at Maple Leaf Gardens to demand good jobs, public services, workers rights and the recall of the legislature only days before the final budget vote.



According to OFL President Sid Ryan, McGuinty's budget will hurt the poorest and most vulnerable people most and it will mean job loss and service cuts that affect every Ontario family. It is time to cancel tax cuts and loopholes for banks and corporations and reinvest this money in making Ontario more livable for our communities.

The rally was organized by nearly 90 community and labour groups who have come together under the banner, "We Are Ontario," to oppose budget cuts that will deliver deep cuts to jobs and services while continuing to subsidize corporate profits. The rally provided an unmistakably public expression of the widespread opposition to budgetary unfairness that has been reported in many recent opinion polls. A survey con-

ducted last month by Public Polling Inc. found that 68 percent of Ontarians want to see corporations pay their fair share to help reduce the provincial deficit and 58 percent support taking the issue of fair taxation to a provincial election.

OFL

