

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



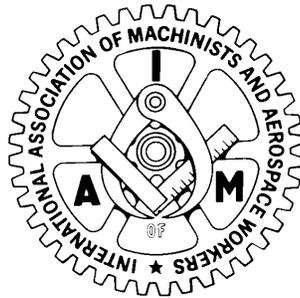
### ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING

Monday, Sept 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	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 Ian Kimble Michael White
Auditor	Wes Snellings



### The "905"

Published by the  
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and Aerospace Workers  
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# THE "905"

JUNE-JULY 2013

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

## President's Message

Being political is as easy as writing a short e-mail. Just tell those in position to make a difference how you feel. This e-mail was sent to our senators representing Ontario.

*Dear Senator*

*I write this note to each of you, because I believe the senate is the last stand for reason with a majority government that has introduced a selfish law (Bill C 377), at the detriment of the tax payers they represent. I do know that 52 of our 102 senators owe their appointment to the very same government that has introduced this bill. But you are not under the same control as the MP's that voted for this bill. Your sworn duty is to do the right thing and vote it down! Not one Liberal, not one NDP, not one Green Party MP voted for this bill.*

*Dave Thompson*

*Concerned Citizen*

**Sister Linda Payne is retiring after 15 years of service at the Safran Electronics plant in Peterborough, Ontario. Happy Retirement Sister Linda!**



**Sister Linda Logan is retiring after 12 years of service at the Safran Electronics plant in Peterborough, Ontario. Happy Retirement Sister Linda!**



**CELEBRATING YEARS OF SERVICE IN 905 DURING**

**THE MONTH OF JUNE THE MONTH OF JULY**

- |                                    |                           |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 32 Years Doug Brooks               | 26 Years Brian MacDonald  |
| 26 Years Philip Hamblin            | 25 Years Daniel Godin     |
| 26 Years Danny Robertson           | 23 Years Ajaib Uppal      |
| 25 Years Amrik (Rick) Bening       | 21 Years Joseph Shannon   |
| 23 Years Daniel Myall              | 16 Years Steve Kilby      |
| 23 Years Caesar Posylek            | 15 Years Barry Payne      |
| 23 Years Robert Todd               | 15 Years Irek Kujawinski  |
| 18 Years Shawn Courier             | 7 Years Leroy Anderson    |
| 18 Years Lidia Jakubiak            | 7 Years Karen Walker      |
| 18 Years Sorin Sav                 | 6 Years Eustace Fernandes |
| 17 Years Steve Anderson            |                           |
| 17 Years Ronda Griffin             |                           |
| 17 Years Rob Joice                 |                           |
| 17 Years Dave Shaw                 |                           |
| 13 Years Jim Hasson                |                           |
| 10 Years Jean Vilolette            |                           |
| 10 Years Dale Robinson             |                           |
| 9 Years Mark Ayotte                |                           |
| 9 Years Ian Cardwell               |                           |
| 7 Years Charlene Craig             |                           |
| 6 Years Meyyan (Simon) Sabalinggan |                           |
| 6 Years Doug Titterton             |                           |
| 5 Years Wilkins Lai                |                           |
| 5 Years Paul Kwok Wai Yuen         |                           |

**Get Well Soon**

**Doug Brooks**

**Shelley Chapman**

**Randy Crawford**

**Angela D'angelo**

**Ali Ellassal**

**Delfin Flores**

**Dave Kamath**

**Peter Kennedy**

**Pauline Reilly**

**Dave Shaw**

**Douglas Teske**



## STUDENT + LABOUR UNITY

More than 70 representatives of student unions, campus labour unions and the Labour Council met to dialogue about their common goals of tackling austerity. The symposium called "Students and Workers Unite" was hosted by Labour Community Services, the Labour Council and the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario office.

Workers and students discussed the many challenges faced in the post-secondary arena with added pressures of declining government support and increased privatization on university and college campuses. The common consensus build was that a united front of both students and workers must be presented in order to protect public education. Campus labour unions and student unions committed to building a framework of on-going communication and mutual solidarity in each of Toronto's three universities.

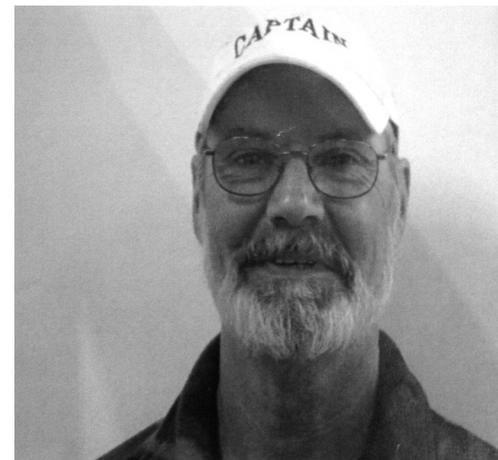
### Toronto & York Region Labour Council

## Family advocates for changes to Ontario inquests into migrant workers' deaths

A family of a Jamaican worker who died on the job on a farm in Brantford challenged the Ontario Coroner's Act at the Human Rights Tribunal for excluding migrant workers from automatic public inquiries into their deaths. The Act currently mandates inquests into the deaths of construction workers and miners but not migrant workers, a double standard that violates their human rights, according to the family. "Workplace situation of migrant farm workers is not improving," said lawyer Farah Malik. "To be blunt, the effect (of the provision) is racialized non-citizen agricultural workers will continue to work in dangerous work setting."

**CALM**

## Brother Bruce Cormack is retiring after 18 years of service at the NeFab plant in Peterborough, Ontario. Happy Retirement Brother Bruce !



## Bell accused of breaking labour law with unpaid interns

Two former interns from Bell have come forward alleging the company had them work long hours for no pay. The former interns allege that the company's practice of not paying interns for core work is exploitative and should be considered illegal. As a federally-regulated industry, the laws around what constitutes an internship are more vague than many provincial labour codes. In past situations, former unpaid interns have challenged their intern status and won compensation for their work.

**CALM**

## Machinists Flag Reaches South Pole

IAM Local Lodge 99 member Spencer Smirl of Calgary, Alberta, Canada has taken the IAM flag to the ends of the earth, literally.

At 28, Smirl is the youngest member of the "The Coldest Journey," a more than 2,000-mile-long coast-to-coast crossing of Antarctica that aims to raise \$10 million for the fight against avoidable blindness.

The trip is being made during the Antarctic winter, when the sun almost never rises and temperatures can dip to a life-threatening -90 degrees Celsius.

It's a feat that's never been done before.

Smirl is one of two mechanics on a journey that will last more than six months, including 273 days on the ice. The expedition, which left its base at Crown Bay on March 21, 2013, is using two CAT D6N track-type tractors to pull an "ice train" – two cabooses that contain accommodations, storage and scientific lab units. The CAT D6N's were donated by Finning International and extensively modified for the expedition. Smirl and fellow mechanic Richmond Dykes are responsible for maintaining the tractors during the historic trek.

Smirl has been working at the Ekati Diamond Mine facility near the Arctic Circle since 2011, so he's used to working in isolation and braving sub-zero temperatures in near-total darkness. Two days out of Crown Bay, he took time to pose with the Machinists flag when the temperature was -67 degrees Celsius.

**IAMAW**

## SHREDDING THE SAFETY NET

Only 1 in 5 unemployed Torontonians received Employment Insurance (EI) benefits at any given time last year according to a study just released by the Canadian Labour Congress.

The study found that numerous changes to EI since 1990 have reduced the duration for benefits, reduced eligibility and increased the number of hours of work needed to qualify; highlighting that the recent changes by the Conservatives government will only make matters worse.

"Those changes will further erode our confidence in the safety net long considered one of the keystones of Canadian democracy" says Tam Goossen, a long-time community activist and co-chair of Good Jobs for All, a coalition of 30 grassroots and labour groups in Toronto.

The Conservatives dramatic changes implemented in early January are designed to narrow access to benefits, requiring the majority of EI claimants to accept work at a 20-30% pay cut, in a job outside their current profession, after just six weeks of job search. Claimants must accept commutes of one hour or more, depending on where they live.

### Toronto & York Region Labour Council

#### EASYJET

Paddy calls WESTJET to book a flight.

The operator asks, "How many people are flying with you?"

Paddy replies "I don't know! It's your bloody plane."

#### Internet

## Striking Labatt workers call for boycott

Striking Labatt Brewery workers set up an information picket line near Memorial University's campus Monday morning at the intersection of Westerland Road and Prince Philip Drive in St. John's.

The members of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Public and Private Employees (NAPE) handed out information cards about their dispute with their employer. They have been on strike since April.

The information picket line was part of NAPE's organized boycott of the brewery's products.

NAPE president Carol Furlong said Friday that with billions of dollars in annual profit, Labatt Brewing Co. and its parent company Anheuser-Busch InBev shouldn't seek concessions from workers in Newfoundland and Labrador, who have been on strike for two and one-half months.

Wade Keller, a Labatt spokesman, said a boycott — happening as summer approaches, the most profitable time of year for beer producers — would hurt not just the company, but many others, including the workers.

Beers on the Canadian boycott list include Stella Artois, Becks, Hoegaarden, and Boddingtons.

### LabourStart

### Drive By

A guy broke into my apartment last week. He didn't take my TV, just the remote. Now he drives by and changes the channels. Sick S O B!

### Internet

## People's Shadow Summit & Mass Rally

Sisters and Brothers,

Canada is facing an important next step in our Medicare history.

In 2014, the 10-Year Health Accord - that sets terms for health care funding and priorities between the federal and provincial governments - will expire. This summer in Niagara-on-the-Lake, all provincial and territorial premiers from across Canada will get together for the last "Council of the Federation" meeting before the Accord elapses.

The OFL is working with the Canadian and Ontario Health Coalitions, the Council of Canadians, seniors' and patient advocacy groups, unions and others to organize a Shadow Summit and Mass Rally at the Council of the Federation meeting on Wednesday, July 24 and Thursday, July 25, 2013.

Our goal is to pressure the federal government to return to the table and negotiate a renewed Health Accord.

The situation is serious. Last month, Stephen Harper's Conservative government cancelled funding for the Health Council of Canada, a council created out of the Accord negotiations in 2004 to track the progress and quality in health care.

This is just the latest step in the withdrawal of federal leadership on health care.

The signals are clear: the Harper government has done nothing to uphold single-tier public Medicare, and now intends to retreat from a strong role in upholding national standards, improving coverage for drugs and home/community care, and ensuring stable and adequate funding for health care.

### Sid Ryan

### OFL

## Global Breakthrough as Retail Brands sign up to Bangladesh Factory Safety Deal

The world's leading retail labels commit to the Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh before the midnight deadline. The Accord now covers more than 1000 Bangladeshi garment factories. Implementation starts now!

IndustriALL Global Union and UNI Global Union in a powerful alliance with leading NGOs, Clean Clothes Campaign and Workers Rights Consortium have changed the rules of the game for workers in Bangladesh. We welcome the decision of the companies who have signed up to the Accord for acting responsibly in the light of the Rana Plaza tragedy. First, H&M started the ball rolling and we now have the major global household brands on board.

The following companies have signed on: H&M, Inditex, C&A, PVH, Tchibo, Tesco, Marks & Spencer, Primark, El Corte Inglés, jbc, Mango, Carrefour, KiK, Helly Hansen, G-Star, Aldi, New Look, Mothercare, Loblaws, Sainsbury's, Benetton, N Brown Group, Stockmann, WE Europe, Esprit, Rewe, Next, Lidl, Hess Natur, Switcher, Abercrombie & Fitch, Bonmarche, John Lewis, Charles Vögele, V&D, Otto Group, s.Oliver.

IndustriALL Global Union General Secretary, Jyrki Raina said, "The companies who signed up are to be applauded. H&M showed the way by being the first to sign this week. We will not close the door on brands who want to join the Accord after the deadline but we will be forging ahead with the implementation plan from today. Those who want to join later will not be in a position to influence decisions already made. The train moves on and these companies will drive the process – there can be no uncommitted passengers because the stakes are too high. We are talking improving the working conditions and

lives of some of the most exploited workers in the world, earning \$38 a month in dangerous conditions."

UNI Global Union General Secretary, Philip Jennings said, "We made it! This accord is a turning point. We are putting in place rules that mark the end of the race to the bottom in the global supply chain."

Commenting on the no-shows Jennings said, "Walmart, the world's largest retailer, is out of step. By not signing up the Walmart brand sinks to a new low. We will make progress without them."

In agreeing to the binding programme of fire and building safety reforms based on independent inspections, worker-led health and safety committees and union access to factories, signatories commit to underwrite improvements in dangerous factories and properly confront fire safety and structural problems. Importantly the Accord grants workers the right to refuse dangerous work, in line with ILO Convention 155.

### IAMAW

Note: Gap still refuse to sign on.

## Making precarious work more fair

NDP MP Andrew Cash is working with precarious labourers, artists and part-time workers to create a private members' bill that would better protect workers in precarious jobs. He intends the bill to expand access to EI and pensions for part-time workers, end the use of unpaid internships, enable income averaging for workers with incomes that fluctuate and restrict employers from laying off workers and re-hiring them as independent contractors.

### T&YRLC