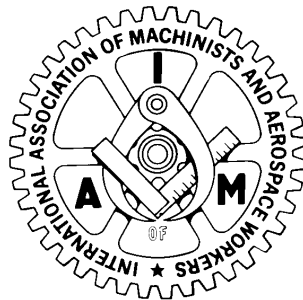
**ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING**Monday, Nov 11th, 4:15 PM

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 Ian Kimble Michael White
Auditor	Wes Snellings

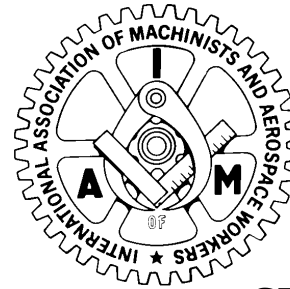
**The "905"**

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OCTOBER 2013

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

Machinists Ratify with Safran Electronics Canada Inc

"This is a good agreement across the board for all of our members, considering the new benefit improvements that are in addition to the GWI," explained IAM Grand Lodge Representative Bill Shipman.

The four-year deal provides wage increases of 2 per cent in each of the first three years and 2.25 per cent in the fourth year. Other agreement highlights include:

- An additional week vacation after 20 years of service
- Orthodontics coverage \$1000.00 lifetime employee & dependents under 20 years of age.
- Major restorative dental coverage at 50% to \$1000.00/yr.
- Pay progression for new hires shortened to 2 years from 3 years.

Safran Electronics Canada Incorporated develops, produces and supports embedded computers and systems for aerospace and defense applications.

Bill Shipman IAM GL Business Representative

Happy Retirement to Dave

Brother Dave Kamath is shown here receiving a retirement cheque from LL905 Communicator Leonard Yeung. Brother Dave is retiring after 18 years at the Messier-Dowty plant.

Happy Retirement Dave!



The "905" Classifieds

We are starting a new For Sale/ Wanted Listing service for Members of Local Lodge 905 with this November issue. Forward your listing to info@iamaw905.ca. We will inform you by email once it got accepted for posting. So remember to include your email address.

Editor

CELEBRATING YEARS OF SERVICE IN 905 DURING OCTOBER

28 Years	Doris Wise	7 Years	Allan MacDonald
21 Years	Romulo Munarriz	7 Years	Bill MacDonald
20 Years	James Devries	7 Years	Sean Robinson
19 Years	Pauline Reilly	6 Years	Margherita Cardillo
19 Years	Guy Belanger		
19 Years	Dabinder Beesla		
19 Years	Thani Nagalingam		
19 Years	Michael Mckelvey		
19 Years	Krzysztof Socha		
19 Years	John Janowski		
19 Years	Phong Vong-prachanh		
18 Years	Randy Crawford		
16 Years	Dean Biernacki		
16 Years	Leonard Green		
16 Years	Choonde Mwanag'onze		
15 Years	Larry MacArthur		
13 Years	Loraine Runciman		
13 Years	Michael Blazek		
11 Years	Karen Johnson		
10 Years	Rodney Newell		
9 Years	Gary Cooper		
9 Years	Matthew Cevela		
9 Years	Timothy Heyman		
9 Years	Michael White		
8 Years	Darryl Colquhoun		
8 Years	Robert Johnston		
8 Years	Ian Kimball		
7 Years	Edgardo Alon		
7 Years	Julie Collingham		
7 Years	Reynaldo Jimenez		



Get Well Soon

Pavel Blaha

Shelley Chapman

Randy Crawford

Angela D'angelo

Ali Elassal

Peter Kennedy

Pauline Reilly

Dave Shaw

Douglas Teske

Bob Todd

Ontario pitches idea of provincial pension plan

Ontario's government says it might offer mandatory public pension plan, if federal and other provincial governments don't agree to enhancements when they meet in December.

More than 11 million Canadian workers don't have workplace pension plans. The Canadian Labour Congress has been campaigning to double Canada Pension Plan (CPP) benefits, pushing maximum payments to \$24,000 per year and average payments to \$12,600 per year.

The Ontario Liberal government says it would prefer the federal government agree to enhance the CPP, but Harper has been obstructing the provisions of CPP legislation, which state that amendment can be approved by two-thirds of the provinces representing two-thirds of the Canadian population. A CIBC report warned that, upon retirement, people born in the 1980s could face a 30-per-cent drop in their standard of living.

CALM

Contract talks with CN Rail stall as union cites rail-safety concerns

Debates over rail safety have stalled negotiations between the Canadian National Railway Company and workers represented by the Teamsters Canada Rail Conference. The union, representing 3,300 workers, argued that a strike may be called by Oct. 28.

The union argues that the concessions being proposed by management would make employees work longer hours with less rest time between trips.

CALM

STOP HOSPITAL CUTS IN SCARBOROUGH AND AJAX

Public Meeting Tuesday October 29, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Ajax Public Library, Main Branch (Rotary Room) located at 55 Harwood Avenue South Ajax, ON

For more information: Kim Johnston, Campaign Director 416-441-2502; and Kingsley Kwok, Scarborough Health Coalition chairperson 416-835-3377

The Scarborough and Ajax hospitals are facing a \$28 million in cuts to services next year. These coming cuts are on top of a slew of cuts already happened.

The Scarborough Hospital just cut two operating rooms, 20 surgical beds, arthritic care, physiotherapy and more than 100 registered nurse positions. The Ajax Hospital also has recently gone through a period of very severe cuts.

Hospital budgets have been frozen, which in real terms is a cut. Hospitals have been forced into deficit to maintain existing service due to a lack of provincial government funding, and now must cut millions of dollars in services to eliminate these deficits.

We can save our services, if we act now!

Ontario Health Coalition

Jim Flaherty's EI surplus

Flaherty publicly pledged in 2008 to keep the EI fund in balance. Never again, he promised, would Canadians see the massive surpluses (\$54 billion) that the Liberals chalked up.

But five years later, the EI fund is growing at an accelerating rate. Last year the government took in \$2.6 billion more than it paid out. This year, Flaherty projected a \$3.6-billion EI surplus, but it is already clear it is going to be much bigger than that. In the first three months alone, Ottawa collected \$6.5 billion from workers and employers and doled out \$4.2 billion to the jobless claimants. At this rate, the surplus would be \$9.2 billion by year's end - on top of the \$3.6-billion buildup from previous years.

To resolve this dilemma, Flaherty announced a three-year freeze in EI premiums. "More people are working so more people are paying into the operating account of the EI plan and fewer people are claiming. It's two sides of the same coin," he told Canadians last week. The media were caught off-guard. Earlier in the year, Flaherty had suggested he would keep raising EI premiums by five cents a year until 2016. Workers were relieved, although the savings amounted to a modest \$24 a year.

But the real story lies in what he left out. A large proportion of jobs that have come on-stream in 2013 have been part-time, temporary, short-term, casual or intermittent. Last month, for instance, 41,800 of the 59,200 new jobs Statistics Canada reported were part-time. People who don't work full-time seldom qualify for EI. But they have to pay into the fund. More contributors and fewer beneficiaries add up to a rising EI surplus.

The federal government has systematically restricted access to jobless benefits this year. It imposed a requirement that re-

FROM DEMONIZED TO ORGANIZED

Nora Loreto launched her new book, *From Demonized to Organized: Building the New Union Movement* on Thursday, Oct. 17, 6:30pm at Ryerson's (unionized) campus bar, the Ram in the Rye.

Loreto's book challenges labour activists to re-think how they approach organizing young people. She explains unions to her generation, many of whom have never had positive interactions with the labour movement. Her book is a call to action to do things differently, re-engage workers at the grassroots and build a movement strong enough to take on the policies of neoliberal governments. www.policyalternatives.ca/offices/ontario.

Toronto & York Region Labour Council

MINIMUM WAGE ACTIONS

The fight for Minimum Wage continues! Volunteers leafleted St. Lawrence Market to remind shoppers about who puts food on the table – and what they get paid. ACORN held a "turkey-burger" cook-up outside Premier Wynne's office.

On Friday October 18th Scarborough activists turned out at the No-Frills plaza at Kennedy & Eglinton from 11am – 1pm. Labour activists are starting to build momentum for the Public Forum in Scarborough on Tuesday November 5th.

Contact Andria at ababbington@labourcouncil.ca 416 441-3663 x 223, and ask all your friends and co-workers to send a message to the Premier through the campaign website www.RaiseTheMinimumWage.ca

Toronto & York Region Labour Council

Harper approach to economy is example of "circuses, not bread"

Harper's claims to be a sound economic manager don't stand up to the evidence, argues Toronto Star columnist Thomas Walkom. After briefly engaging in stimulus spending, Harper has shifted back to austerity, pulling money out of the economy.

It has also attacked anything that keeps wages up, undermining employment insurance and unionization. And it continues to say that Canadians don't have the right skills to get existing jobs, a claim dismissed by former bank economist Don Drummond. Walkom says it is no surprise that Harper is trying to take focus off his actual economic record. "When bread is lacking, circuses always come in handy," he writes.

CALM

Federal inmates go on strike to protest pay cuts

Federal inmates have gone on strike to protest a 30 per cent cut in their pay. On average, inmates make \$3 per day. Until the cuts, the pay could reach as high as \$6.90 per day. The rates were established by a parliamentary committee in 1981. While prison costs have increased by 700 per cent, workers have had their wages frozen for 32 years. The move was announced by former MP Vic Toews as a cost-saving measure to pay down the federal deficit. This move will save just \$4 million of a total prison's budget of \$2.6 billion. Howard Sapers, correctional investigator of Canada and federal ombudsman for prisons, criticized the cuts and argued that it both deincinivizes work as a means for rehabilitation for prisoners and will also make saving for their futures a virtual impossibility.

CALM

peat EI claimants accept any job within 100 kilometres of their residence that pays as little as 70 per cent of their previous wage. It launched a crackdown on "false and inappropriate claims," visiting EI recipients at their homes, unannounced, to check whether they were out looking for work - and grill those who were not. And it raised the threshold to get full EI benefits in all but a handful of regions.

The awkward reality is that the EI fund has never broken even since Flaherty announced his reform. He suspended the directive himself in 2009, fearing the political consequences of raising EI premiums during a recession. Two years later, the freeze was lifted revealing a \$9.2-billion shortfall in the fund. Ottawa boosted rates in 2011 and 2012 to mop up the red ink. Now Flaherty has suspended his own rule again, imposing a three-year rate freeze.

It is unlikely this gentle restraint will bring the fund into balance. The surplus is growing too fast.

What it will do is position the finance minister perfectly to announce on the eve of the 2015 election that the Conservatives are cutting EI premiums.

Carol Goar/Torstar/IAM



TWEEDLE DEE AND TWEEDLE DUMB

AFL blasts Harper for stripping Canadians of work through T F W P

The Alberta Federation of Labour condemned Harper for helping a company in Fort McMurray lay off 300 Canadians and prepare to replace them with foreign temporary workers.

The workers were employed at the Husky Sunrise tar sands project but were laid off in September and the contracts for their jobs have since been taken over by Toronto-based Saipem Canada Inc.

The Temporary Foreign Workers program lowers employment standards, creates opportunities for exploitation and displaces well-trained Canadian workers. Despite Conservative government claims that no Canadians would lose their jobs, the AFL says even more Canadians will be displaced under a secretive new government program that allows employers to skip straight to hiring foreign workers without first advertising the jobs locally.

Government vows broad changes to public service in throne speech The Conservative Government's Speech from the Throne confirmed their intention to make broad changes to the public service, including freezing spending and firing workers.

The Throne Speech highlighted nine points the federal government plans to implement in order to downsize the public sector, including selling federal assets, changing disability and sick leave benefits and reducing IT costs by laying off human resources and finance staff. Since 2011, 20,000 civil service jobs have been cut.

CALM

U of M & professors avert strike

A tentative three-year agreement was reached between the university of Manitoba and the faculty association.

While the university said the deal covers all major issues, it also said some unresolved issues will go to binding arbitration.

The university did not reveal what those unresolved issues are and faculty association president Sharon Alward could not be reached for comment.

"I extend my congratulations to the bargaining teams for all their efforts to reach a negotiated settlement," U of M president and vice-chancellor David Barnard said. "Most importantly, I am pleased to be able to inform our students that we will be open and operating with no disruption to their learning." No details on the terms of the settlement were available.

The tentative agreement was reached with the help of mediator Michael Werier, appointed by the provincial government late Friday after talks between the two sides had reached an impasse.

The faculty said the major stumbling block was the independence of faculty: a professor's right to criticize the university and to freely choose research without interference. It appeared the university was strongly opposed to any language in the collective agreement that protected academic freedom, language the faculty said was common at most other Canadian universities.

Before the agreement was reached, the university was proposing a four-year deal with wage increases of 2.9 per cent the first year and two per cent in each of the three remaining years; the faculty countered with a two-year deal with increases of 2.9 per cent each year.

Winnipeg Free Press