

The Transmitter



BARGAINING FOR A BETTER FUTURE



Message from the President



Dear Members,

This is a pivotal year for the Telecommunications Workers Union (TWU) as we prepare to negotiate a new Collective Agreement with Telus. The Bargaining Committee was elected during the Policy Convention in February 2010 and is working diligently to ensure all of our members are heard and represented throughout the process.

The Union's bargaining convention endorsed and refined the Committee's recommended package of bargaining proposals in late April.

Bargaining will begin face-to-face with Telus on July 26 as the current Collective Agreement expires this year on November 19. Your Bargain-

ing Committee will keep all members informed of the Committee's progress in the coming months.

As we move forward with this year's plans, many have inquired about the award-winning *Keep Jobs in Canada* campaign. The campaign was a fantastic effort and plans are already underway for a second phase. The TWU is thrilled to have received the support from thousands of concerned citizens across Canada. I have no doubt that the publicity generated from this campaign helped to educate Canadians about the devastating effects of offshoring, and forced many companies to seriously review their positions. It was no surprise to see that, for example, Shaw publicly emphasized its position towards employing workers in Canada through their widely publicized advertisements.

Supporters of the Labour community can all agree that the Harper government did not do nearly enough in its budget to help Canadians who are presently out of work or whose Employment Insurance (EI) benefits

will soon run out. Despite this reality, the federal government has yet to fix the train wreck that is the EI system. In addition, far too many companies are taking advantage of the lack of federal regulation to offshore more jobs away from Canadians. This is an outrage. Not only are we losing jobs in Canada to offshoring, the jobs are not being created here at the rate they should be. Imagine for one moment how greatly communities in Canada would benefit from increased employment and job creation if companies like Telus were forced to comply with proper legislation. It's time the government holds

companies like Telus accountable. The TWU is working hard to make this happen.

Please stay tuned as we keep you informed of all

of TWU's initiatives in the coming months.

On behalf of the TWU, I want to thank all our members, our staff and supporters for their hard work in supporting our many activities and goals.

We encourage everyone to visit the TWU website daily (www.twu-stt.ca), read the Hotline, Transmitter, bulletins, attend local meetings and call your local shop steward with any questions and comments.

In Solidarity,

George Doubt
TWU National President

“This is a pivotal year for the Telecommunications Workers Union as we prepare to negotiate a new Collective Agreement with Telus.”

Telecommunication Workers Benefit Plan Presentations

The TW Benefit Plan Administrator, Debbie Ellis, is available to provide presentations on the coverage offered by the TWU Benefit Plan as well as the benefits and cost. This presentation is extremely informative and can be enjoyed by both participating and non-participating members upon the TW Benefit Plan Administrator receiving a request from a Local. The Trustees urge all TWU members who would like a presentation to put forward a request at a Local meeting or contact their Local Executive. For information regarding addresses and telephone numbers, please refer to the TWU website at www.twu-stt.ca.



THE TWU BARGAINING COMMITTEE (LEFT TO RIGHT): Dave Turcotte, George Doubt, Maria Zonni, Colin Brehaut, Harmony Jackson, John Bass, Jacqueline Straw, Allan Haggstrom, Laura Thorson, Kelly Thompson, Jennifer Bucholtz, Lance Trevison, and Lee Riggs.

Meet Your Bargaining Committee

In a landmark decision that took place on June 8, 2007, the Supreme Court of Canada determined that the right of workers to bargain collectively is so important to society as a whole that it is protected by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Unions across Canada unanimously celebrated the Court's decision, remembering how only 20 years earlier, the same court had refused to recognize collective bargaining as protected by Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

As the Telecommunications Workers Union prepares for its upcoming 2010 Collective Agreement negotiations with Telus, the Bargaining Committee, elected during the last Policy Convention in February, worked very hard to sort through hundreds of resolutions sent in by members and to prepare a package that is now being refined and approved by the Bargaining Convention.

Please be sure to follow regular updates from the Bargaining Committee on the TWU website at www.twu-stt.ca.

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Bargaining Committee

PRESIDENT

- George Doubt

OFFICERS

- Colin Brehaut, Business Agent, Burnaby
- Lee Riggs, Business Agent, B.C. Interior
- Maria Zonni, Business Agent, Ontario

RANK AND FILE

- Jennifer Bucholtz, Local 51
- Al Haggstrom, Local 5
- Harmony Jackson, Local 203
- Jacqueline Straw, Local 502
- Lance Trevison, Local 4
- Dave Turcotte, Local 601

RANK AND FILE ALTERNATES

- Laura Thorson, Local 50, 1st Alternate
- John Bass, Local 213, 2nd Alternate
- Kelly Thompson, Local 7, 3rd Alternate



The Telecommunications Workers Union and the United Steelworkers have signed a strategic alliance to work together on issues of common interest in Canada and globally.

USW and TWU Sign Strategic Alliance

The agreement was signed February 8, 2010, in Ottawa, Ontario, by George Doubt, National President, TWU, and Ken Neumann, National Director for Canada, USW.

“The United Steelworkers and the Telecommunications Workers Union are strong, progressive unions with an intense focus on collective bar-

“We will seek to increase our cooperation in many ways to better serve our members.”

gaining, servicing our members, organizing and political action,” George Doubt said. “While the TWU and USW will remain independent and autonomous, we will seek to increase our cooperation in many ways to better serve our members.”

The alliance will allow the two unions to benefit from each other’s expertise, resources and programs, and to pursue joint initiatives in areas such as member education, political action and lobbying.

“The USW is proud to join forces with TWU members in Canada,” Neumann continued. “Our union has a history of developing productive, forward-thinking partnerships with Labour and other progressive organizations in Canada and throughout

the world. Through these closer ties, we are better able to work toward social justice and better working and living standards for all.”

The USW is the largest private sector union in both Canada and North America, with more than 280,000 members working in every economic sector in Canada, and more than 800,000 members continent-wide.



Ken Neumann, National Director for Canada, USW, and George Doubt, National President, TWU, sign strategic alliance documents.

Pension Increase for TWPP Retired Members



The Board of Trustees of the Telecommunication Workers Pension Plan approved a 1.25 per cent pension increase for all members who retired prior to January 1, 2008. The pension increase will be effective July 1, 2010.

The Income Tax Regulations limit post retirement increases to the increase in CPI (Consumer Price Index) since retirement. Since the rate of inflation was so low in 2008 and 2009, and in some cases there was deflation, there will not be a pension increase for

members who retired on or after January 1, 2008.

Members receiving a pension increase will receive a Notice of the Change in their Net Pay, effective July 1, 2010.

If members have questions concerning the amount of their increase, the Administration office is asking members to refrain from contacting the pension office until after they have received their July 1st payment.



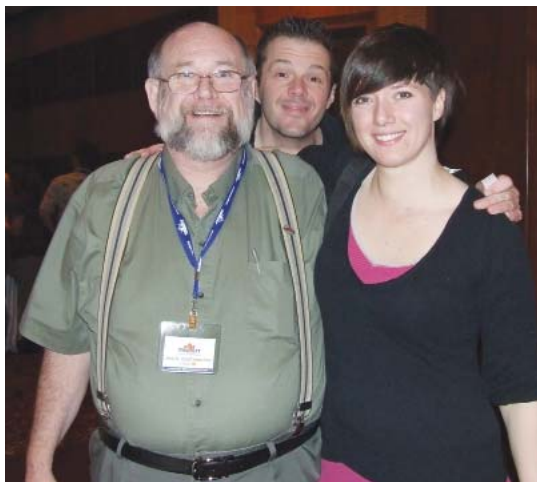
Maxine Johnson, Local 26 Delegate, Prince George, Carol Nagy, TWPP Trustee and R55 member, Laura Thorson, Local 50 Delegate, Burnaby, and Birgit Woolmer, Local 5 Delegate, Burnaby.

TWU 2010 Policy Convention

The 2010 Telecommunications Workers Union Policy Convention took place in Gatineau, Québec, from February 1-6. National President, George Doubt, addressed Convention delegates and invited guests, who rose up in solidarity as he concluded the opening morning speech, with words that poetically summarized the overall theme during the week: "I strongly believe that if we work together... we can succeed and create a positive outcome for our members. United, the members will never be defeated."

The Executive Council's report as well as a recommendation to form a strategic alliance between the TWU and the United Steelworkers was passed with a majority vote during the Convention. The agreement between the TWU and USW maintains "Both unions will fully retain their autonomy and independence, leaving undisturbed their constitutions and bylaws, their assets, memberships and collective agreements."

Candidates running for elected positions, which included the position of President and bargaining nominees, delivered their speeches throughout the week. The following election results were announced on the last day of Convention followed by the swearing in of newly-elected Officials (see sidebar).



The TWU would like to thank all invited guests for attending this year's Policy Convention and for their continued support.

Monte Worthington, Local 60 Delegate, Shaw, John Carpenter, Vice-President, TWU, and Tamara Wong, Local 203 Delegate, Calgary.

President – 3 years

George Doubt – elected

Business Agents - Burnaby – 3 years

Tamara Marshall – elected

Colin Brehaut – elected

Business Agent – Calgary – 3 years

Betty Lockhurst – elected

Business Agent - Montréal – 3 years

Martin Cabral – elected

Alternate Business Agents – B.C. – 3 years

Denise Chrisholm – elected

Roy Driver – elected

Mike Lucas – elected

Chris Stephens – elected

Alternate Business Agents – Alberta – 3 years

Bonnie Devine – acclaimed

Karen Hannah-Masse – acclaimed

Donna Hokiro – acclaimed

Juanita West – acclaimed

Alternate Business Agents – Ontario – 3 years

Brenda Forward – acclaimed

Brian Harlow – acclaimed

Jacqueline Straw – acclaimed

Alternate Business Agents – Québec – 3 years

Pierre-Luc Dick – acclaimed

Pierre-Richard Joseph – acclaimed

Martin Plourde – acclaimed

Constitution Committee – 2 years

Guy Mousseau – elected

Lawrence Singh – elected

Juanita West – elected

Monte Worthington – elected

Finance Committee – 2 years

Brenda Forward – acclaimed

Karen Hannah-Masse – acclaimed

Donna Hokiro – acclaimed

Finance Committee – 1 year

Wendy Haill – acclaimed

Finance Committee Alternates – 1 year

John Hockley – elected 1st Alternate

Lori Travis – elected 2nd Alternate

Education Committee – 2 years

Denise Chrisholm – elected

Bonnie Divine – elected

Nancy McCurrach – elected

Education Committee Alternates – 1 year

Karen Philipps – elected 1st Alternate

Kim Woodroffe – elected 2nd Alternate

Convention Chair – 2 years

Chris Stephens – acclaimed

Convention Vice-Chair – 2 years

Al Haggstrom – acclaimed

Bargaining Committee

Please refer to page 2 of this Transmitter for final results.

According to the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, 1,036 workplace deaths were recorded in Canada in 2008 alone.

Steps to Resolve Workplace Health and Safety Concerns

Telus employees are required to follow an Internal Complaint Resolution Process when they identify health or safety hazards in the workplace. This is an escalating process designed to resolve issues in an efficient manner.

Please note that while the Internal Complaint Resolution Process is an accepted procedure for dealing with identified workplace hazards, it is



the Policy Health and Safety Committee co-chairs. The Policy Health and Safety Committee will investigate and recommend necessary corrective action and will respond back to the Committee in writing.

4. If the Policy Health and Safety Committee cannot resolve the issue, it may be referred to HRSDC (Labour Canada) for follow-up.

“It is important that workers follow proper health and safety standards and never put themselves at risk of injury or worse.”

important that workers follow proper health and safety standards and never put themselves or others at risk of injury or worse. If you come across a situation that poses an immediate danger to yourself or co-workers, it needs to be reported, addressed and resolved immediately before any work can continue at that location. This includes invoking your right to refuse dangerous work if necessary.

The following is a summary of the Internal Complaint Resolution Process:

1. An employee identifying a health or safety hazard in the workplace that they cannot correct themselves will first contact their manager and bring the hazard to their attention for corrective action.
2. If the manager does not agree a hazard exists, or does not take the necessary corrective action, report the issue to your workplace Health and Safety Committee or Representative. If the hazard is an immediate threat, the Committee co-chair, or designates, will conduct an investigation and take corrective action. If the hazard is not an immediate threat, the Committee will discuss the hazard and include it in their minutes at the next meeting.
3. If the workplace Committee is unable to resolve the issue, or the Committee comes to an impasse, the Committee will refer the issue in writing to



Online Health and Safety Courses Now Available

The TWU National Health and Safety Committee is offering online training through the Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS). Courses are open to TWU Health and Safety Committee members.

Two courses are available to all members: Accident Investigation and Violence in the Workplace. In addition, an Ergonomics course is available to non-Telus certifications.

Interested committee members should send an email to Greg Kadey (greg.kadey@twu-stt.ca) or Dave Turcotte (dave.turcotte@twu-stt.ca).



TWU members Robert Messier, President, Local 602, and June Garden, Vice-President, Local 1.



TWU Celebrates 65th Anniversary

The Telecommunications Workers Union celebrated its 65th anniversary on September 25, 2009. Approximately 200 people from across the country attended the boat cruise and helped to celebrate

this great milestone. Robert Messier, President, Local 602, from Montréal, Québec, made a memorable toast to “unite our solidarity from the east to the west.” We thank everyone who worked diligently to make this a very successful event. The TWU would also like to thank our Labour affiliates who took time out from their busy schedules to attend.



The world watched in horror as a devastating earthquake hit the island nation of Haiti on January 12, 2010. In homage to his native land, a TWU member from Montréal, Québec, Hans-Woosly Balan, wrote this touching tribute.

HAITI, I LOVE YOU

It has now been five months since the most tragic event hit my beautiful island of Haiti. All Haitians in the world are mourning.

Even though I was not born or even raised there, Haiti flows through my veins and in my heart. I was there on vacation during the Holidays, two weeks prior to the events. Knowing that I have lost friends, family members and people that I will never be able to see again, the past month has been hard for me. I console myself by knowing that the last memories of them were joyful.

Being where I am right now, I feel completely useless. I should be there with my brothers and my sisters to help them rebuild, heal the sick, and feed the poor. However, circumstances do not allow me to do so at this moment. To all those who have been helping, I thank you.

Please remember one thing: Even though monumental places, artifacts,

and houses were completely destroyed by the earthquake, rest assured that the love and passion of the Haitian people were not destroyed.

“Ayiti mwen rinmen-w. Haiti, I love you.”

We thank God for the gift of life and we will always remember the ones that we have lost.

Ayiti mwen rinmen-w. Haiti, I love you.

Hans-Woosly Balan
TWU, Local 602



“Unemployment in Canada is far worse today than it was 16 months ago and the federal government must do more to help laid-off workers,” says Ken Georgetti, President of the Canadian Labour Congress.

Jobs’ Crisis Remains Serious

Georgetti was commenting on the release by Statistics Canada of labour force figures for February 2010. The unemployment rate is at 8.2 per cent and 1.52 million Canadian men and women are out of work. “Rose-hued news reports keep telling us that we’re seeing an economic recovery, but we’ve lost over 250,000 full-time jobs since October 2008 and it’s going to take a long time to replace them,” Georgetti says.

He says that the federal government missed an opportunity in its recent budget to provide more help for unemployed workers as they search for new jobs. “This government has tinkered around the edges, but has refused to fix an EI system that is broken.” Georgetti says that only about

“Rose-hued news reports keep telling us that we’re seeing an economic recovery, but we’ve lost over 250,000 full-time jobs since October 2008.”

half of those who are unemployed are actually receiving benefits and many of them are running out of EI because they can’t find new jobs.

He says that he is especially worried about the plight of young workers, whose unemployment rate remains unacceptably high. “There was really nothing in the federal budget to give hope to young workers as spring and summer approaches. The government simply has to do more to help these people.”

Quick Analysis from CLC Senior Economist Sylvain Schetagne

About six months after many declared the recession in Canada was over, the unemployment rate in February remained high at 8.2 per cent. There were 20,900 jobs created in February 2010, all in the public sector. The participation rate, that is the percentage of the population working or actively looking for a job, is decreasing. This shows that many Canadians are discouraged about not being able to find a job.

The “real” unemployment rate, which includes discouraged workers and involuntary part-time workers, was 12.1 per cent last month. Back in February 2008, that “real” unemployment rate was 8.9 per cent.

The number of unemployed remains more than 33 per cent above what it was before the beginning of the jobs’ crisis, with 1,519,400 workers unemployed last month, compared to 1,137,400 in October 2008.

Among unemployed Canadians, the percentage who were unemployed for more than six months reached a record level of 20.36 per cent in February 2010, up from 12.19 per cent in February 2008.

Finally, younger workers are still experiencing a deterioration in the labour market. Workers aged 15-24 represented about half of all those laid off in the middle of the recession, and their unemployment rate increased in February. It was 15.1 per cent, compared to an unemployment rate of below 12 per cent before October 2008.

The original press release can be found on the CLC site at: <http://www.canadianlabour.ca/national/news/jobs-crisis-remains-serious-georgetti-says-government-must-do-more-help-laid-workers>

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Calgary activist training class.

Activist Training Classes a Success

Beginning in September 2009 and for the next three months afterwards, Telecommunications Workers Union educational trainers and members of the Executive Council, held activist training classes which took place at selected venues across the country from Victoria, B.C., all the way to Halifax, N.S.

The courses were taught over a period of two days and covered various Labour-related topics. Information sessions were held separately following the two-day activist training class and were open to all TWU members who wished to ask questions of concern to them.

“The activist courses were a unique opportunity for members to learn more about their role as Labour activists and come away with a better understanding of bargaining issues, the Canadian Labour Code, legal processes, the Canadian Industrial Relations Board, dispute preparedness and a number of other related subjects,” explained George Doubt, National President, TWU. “In light of the fact that the TWU will soon be negotiating a new Collective Agreement with Telus, the information sessions allowed members to ask questions about specific issues and share how they were feeling.”

Discussions during these classes were informative and always very open. Most importantly, the feedback from attendees has been invaluable. Written comments were also collected once the classes ended which proved to be extremely useful to the TWU’s Bargaining Committee as it prepares to renegotiate a new Collective Agreement this year with Telus.



The TWU is very proud of this achievement and would like to thank everyone who helped make the classes and information sessions a success.

Victoria activist training class.

Unemployed Running Out of Benefits

A new report reveals that hundreds of thousands of unemployed Canadians may run out of Employment Insurance benefits before they can find a new job.

The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives report says 500,000 Canadians who launched EI claims last year could have benefits run out with no job prospect on the horizon.

Is EI Working for Canada’s Unemployed?, written by Canadian Labour Congress chief economist Andrew Jackson, highlights that 120,000 more unemployed Canadians could not collect benefits as of October 2009, compared to October of the year before.

“We can expect that the total number of new regular claims in 2009 will (have) hit about two million,” Jackson said. “If the exhaustion rate were to remain the same as in 2006-07, we could eventually see some 500,000 plus exhausted claims in late 2009 and into 2010.”

Although the report credited the government for extending benefits by five more weeks, it said these changes were not enough to handle the additional demands caused by the recession.

Even with EI system improvements, only about half of those unemployed across Canada were collecting benefits as of last October.

In Ontario, which has been hard hit by the recession, the number collecting benefits is about 41 per cent, Jackson said.

The original version of this article can be found on the CAW website at:

<http://www.caw.ca/en/8319.htm>

Members have been asking if the Telecommunications Workers Benefit Plan will offer another open enrolment. The answer: It's highly unlikely.

Members Can Still Enrol in the TW Benefit Plan

The open enrolment was offered in past years during a period when the TWBP expanded its membership to include members in Alberta (2006) and members nationwide (2009). The open enrolment gave members the opportunity to enrol in the Plan without the requirement of medical evidence of insurability during a limited time period. When the open enrolment period expired this did not mean members could no longer join the Benefit Plan. In fact, the TWBP welcomes new members all the time.

All Telus regular bargaining unit employees and temporary bargaining unit employees, after nine months, are eligible to join the Benefit Plan at any time. The only difference between enrolling now and in the past during an open enrolment period is the requirement of a medical evidence of insurability form. This is a short, simple medical questionnaire that requires no medical tests, blood work, etc. This medical questionnaire is reviewed by BC Life to determine eligibility to enrol.

If a member has no medical condition and no further examination is required, then the member will be eligible for enrolment in the Plan. If a member does have a medical condition that requires further examination, BC Life may request more medical information to determine eligibility. This does not mean the member will be denied enrolment. In most cases, the Plan office has found the vast majority of members who apply for enrolment, which includes the completion of the medical form, were approved.

Becoming a member of the TW Benefit Plan is easy and completing the forms only takes a couple of minutes. For information about the benefits of being a member of the Benefit Plan, please see the Plan website at www.twplans.com or call the Plan office at 604-430-3300, or toll-free at 1-877-430-3302. The staff is ready to answer all of your questions.



Outstanding Membership Dues from 2005

In the spring of 2005, Telus refused to collect and submit Union dues for six pay periods prior to the lock-out. A letter was recently mailed to Telecommunications Workers Union members regarding these overdue membership dues. Hotlines and Bulletins were sent at the time to inform members that it was their responsibility to submit their dues for these pay periods. However, many did not comply, were unaware of the situation or may have simply forgotten over the years.

We understand that this dates back many years and that members may be asking why the TWU is again asking for these dues after so much time has passed. The TWU is facing an exceptional situation as a result of a decrease in the amount of members' dues and a significant increase in the number of arbitrations. Telus continues to offshore jobs, close offices, hire contractors to do bargaining work, and replace retiring members' jobs with part-time workers or no position at all. With decreasing revenues, it is the Union's fiscal responsibility to cut costs and collect money where it is owed.

If you have received a letter recently, please contact Tamara Marshall, Acting Secretary-Treasurer, at 604-437-8601 (collect calls are accepted) to discuss a payment arrangement or email: tamara.marshall@twu-stt.ca.

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Letters of Appreciation

Retirement Thanks

I wish to thank the TWU for the \$1,000 given to me on my retirement. I also wish to thank the Union for my pension. They have managed our money so that I can enjoy a healthy pension at the end of my almost 35 years in the company.

Wishing you still working, a generous contract for this year's negotiations.

In solidarity,
Marilyn Ames
Formerly Local 1

I am writing to thank the TWU for my retirement gift of \$1000, the nice plaque and pin along with the Honorary Life Membership.

It is with great appreciation and sincerity that I thank the Union for all the hard work over those years that has provided me with my pension and benefits. I will continue to support the TWU in any way I can.

Sincerely,
Diana Bouwman
Formerly Local 3

I would like to thank the TWU for my retirement gift that I received after my retirement from Telus/AGT.

My thanks goes out to George Doubt, Kelly Thompson and Dale Warner, who were all helpful with information on retirement and membership in the Union after retirement. I hope every member stays strong for October 2010.

Yours truly,
Rick Johnston
Wetaskiwin, Alberta
Formerly Local 211

I wish to thank the TWU for the \$1,000 retirement gift and the Honorary Life Membership.

Thanks also to the TWU and all of the membership for 35 years of support and accomplishments.

Sincerely,
Irene Pearson
Formerly Local 50

Thanks so much to the TWU for the \$1,000 retirement gift and honorary membership! I realize how lucky I am to have been a member of such a great

union for the 29 years I worked at BC Tel/Telus. The pension I'm receiving now is very much appreciated. Thanks for all your hard work and support over the years.

Best of luck with the current round of contract bargaining!

Debbe Berryman
Formerly Local 50

I just wanted to thank the TWU for the gifts upon my retirement. I would also like to thank all my brothers and sisters for the 37+ years at BCTel/Telus. It was quite an enjoyable ride. Best of luck on future negotiations.

Thanks,
Tom Cullen
Formerly Local 5

I would like to thank the TWU for the great retirement gift. After 37 years with BC Tel/Telus, it was a comfort to know that the Union was there to support me throughout. Good luck to all members in future negotiations.

Rick Cook
Formerly Local 32

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Retirement of Bobby Schneider

The Telecommunications Workers Union would like to thank Bobby Schneider for her hard work and dedication as a Business Agent, representing members in Edmonton, Alberta, and across Canada, for the past three years.

After a successful 30-year career, where she began working for Telus in 1980, we can all agree that this retirement is certainly well-deserved.

Bobby will be missed by friends and colleagues who have had the pleasure of working with her over the years.

On behalf of everyone at the TWU, we are profoundly grateful for Bobby's contribution and wish her much health and happiness.

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WEBSITE: www.twplans.com

General Thanks

I wanted to send a big thank you for all the help, support and hard work given to me throughout my grievance. I never will forget the phone call I received from Laura Thorson on Friday, December 18, 2009, to let me know that we had won the grievance!

I want to send a special thank you to Business Agent, Cindy Orivolo, and Shop Steward, Derek Mason, of Local 51, for their help throughout this entire process. I have never had to file a grievance before and Derek Mason was absolutely outstanding in his knowledge and professionalism. He has fantastic listening skills. He was always there for me and gave me a lot of confidence and support in pursuing this grievance.

Thank you again TWU for all your support and perseverance throughout this entire process. I will never forget it.

Sincerely,
Kim Skalle
Local 50



Hi Brothers Dave and Colin,

I just wanted to drop you a line and tell you how much I am enjoying my new sweatshirt. I can't tell you how many compliments I am getting on it, especially from our Union Sisters! It's enough to make a Brother blush! Thanks again for the new shirt.

Yours truly,
Brother Tony Zacharias
Local 1

Opinions

Congratulations on your initiative to address this on-going issue [referring to *Keep Jobs in Canada* campaign].

I totally support a company's right to make profits and run their corporation the best way they see fit to make those profits, keeping the company healthy and the shareholders happy.

But, and this is a big but, when a

healthy, profitable corporation continues to move their best resource, healthy, profitable employment, to countries whose economies are so poor that their citizens are forced to work for incredibly low wages, what does that do for our own economy?

Instead of raising the bar, moving those countries closer to our economic values, we lower the bar, moving our economy closer to theirs.

This started with moving jobs from one province to another. Now those jobs are moving right out of the country. And if those countries receiving these jobs think it will stop there, they're wrong. This will only open jobs for a few years until another country undercuts them and offers employment for an even lower scale.

By the way, I used to work for Telus. I lost my job in 2003.

Good Luck,
Deborah Guthrie
Formerly Local 16

I thought we would send you these notes of satisfaction from retiring members of the best Union ever to operate in B.C.

With unions, we were able to buy lots, build houses, earn decent salaries, medicare, etc. The list of benefits is endless. Corrupt governments, and the corrupt private sector that they are taking their orders from, are bilking the system.

The more unions there are, the better the economy. They give the working people a voice in the economy.

Jack Holliston
Formerly Local 5

THE TRANSMITTER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TWU

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