

USW LOCAL 1944 EXECUTIVE BOARD MET IN BURNABY

The Local's Executive Board met on January 22nd and 23rd, at the Local's headquarters in Burnaby, BC, for a face to face meeting to do the business of the Union. Administrator Omero Landi, Acting President Donna Hokiroy, Acting Vice-President Pierre-Luc Dick, Secretary-Treasurer Michael Phillips, Regional Executive Officers (REOs) BC Denise Chisholm and Corey Mandryk, REOs AB Steve Durrell and David Skrober, REO QC Robert J. Briza, Trustees Ross Brown and Jennifer Dunsmore-Turner were present. REO ON Brooke Downey attended via videoconference.

The meeting started off with the swearing-in ceremony of our new Officers, REO BC Corey Mandryk and REO QC Robert J. Briza, and Trustees Ross Brown and Jennifer Dunsmore-Turner. Executive Board members then proceeded to discussing reports of Officers, International representatives and Committees, and approving financial statements.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for April 14th and 15th, 2020, via videoconference.

More pictures at <https://1944.fyi/wo8>



Swearing-in of the Local's new Officers. From left to right: Acting President Donna Hokiroy; Trustee Jennifer Dunsmore-Turner; Regional Executive Officer QC Robert J. Briza; Trustee Ross Brown; Regional Executive Officer BC Corey Mandryk

AFL/CLC ANNUAL WINTER SCHOOL

The Alberta Federation of Labour held its annual Winter School on January 12th–17th, in Jasper, Alberta. Seven USW Local 1944 members attended the Winter School: Acting President Donna Hokiroy, REO Alberta David Skrober, Trustee Jenn Dunsmore-Turner, Karen Hannah-Masse (Unit 207), Ken McPherson (Unit 208), Kim Piea (Unit 201), and Richard Blais (Unit 214).

Participants had the opportunity to attend courses such as A Path to Reconciliation, Collective Bargaining, Labour History, Mental Health in the Workplace, and Workers Compensation Essentials, among many others.



From left to right: Richard Blais (214), Kim Piea (201), Scott Lunny (USW District 3), Acting President Donna Hokiroy, Ken McPherson (208), REO AB David Skrober, Karen Hannah-Masse (207), Trustee Jennifer Dunsmore-Turner

"It had been some years since we, as a Local Union, had attended AFL's Winter School. 1944's participants found the experience invaluable, citing outstanding course selection with accomplished facilitators; beyond that however, it is the solidarity that one experiences that proves to be priceless. We find our collective voice and strength from each other in gatherings such as these. The mentorship goes well beyond the classroom and lifelong friendships are built because of these weeklong schools. I hope that Local 1944 will be able to send members for years to come. Members in British Columbia will partake in Harrison's Winter School in February and I am equally looking forward to hearing back from them with respect to their experiences." — *Acting President Donna Hokiroy*

"It's hard to sum up the entire experience of winter school. I took the membership engagement program, a systematic approach to building up membership in an organization. I took a lot in from this course and I believe I will be able to apply it not only to our Local but to my local labour council as well.

Being in a room with 250+ people trying to better themselves for their membership and communities was amazing. It's something that I will always take with me in life and that I hope we can be able to allow more members to attend in the future."
 — *Richard Blais, Unit 214*

"The tools and resources I took away will improve further my well-being and that of those around me. I came away with a greater appreciation for those working in other sectors, such as healthcare. We will all have to fight hard just to keep what we have now, and harder still for more. Mental health and safety affects us all. It is the invisible disease that more people need to be talking about."
 — *Kim Piea, Unit 201*



Trustee Jennifer Dunsmore-Turner, Acting President Donna Hokiroy, REO AB David Skrober



Acting President Donna Hokiroy, Karen Hannah-Masse (207)

STRATCOM BARGAINING UPDATE



Unit 63 Stratcom Bargaining Committee, from left to right: Benny Chou, Acting President Donna Hokiro, Local Union Representative Perry Pasqualetto and Al Pasternak

On January 8th and 9th, Unit 63's Stratcom Bargaining Committee consisting of Al Pasternak, Benny Chou and Local Union Representative Perry Pasqualetto, met to review the members' survey feedback and set the Union's bargaining priorities.

Administrator Omero Landi and Acting President Donna Hokiro took time to meet with the Bargaining Committee and discuss bargaining issues and concerns raised in the bargaining surveys.

The Collective Agreement expired on November 30th, 2019, but its terms and conditions remain in full effect until a new Collective Agreement is ratified by the membership or an impasse is declared.

Stratcom bargaining updates are available at <https://1944.fyi/Stratcom-Barg>



"I want to thank Al and Benny for their dedication and commitment over the years and for taking on this challenge of negotiating a stronger collective agreement for our Stratcom members. We are proud of these members and we are committed to working hard to protect their futures. We look forward to productive negotiations with Stratcom."
 – Acting President Donna Hokiro



HOW ARE THINGS GOING IN YOUR WORKPLACE?

Because a right denied to one is a right denied to all, Local 1944 members need to hear from you!

Contact your Local Union Representative

Share your story by email at communications@usw1944.ca



2020 CALENDAR OF RELIGIOUS AND SPECIAL DAYS

Use this calendar to recognize special holidays of many faiths and plan events so that all members may attend.

[Download the pdf](#)



DID YOU TAKE THE SURVEY YET?

The Local Union has been hearing examples of members being instructed they are no longer allowed to use company time for a Bio Break, while other members report they are not having any "blow back".

Take 3 minutes to answer our online survey
Your feedback is important to make progress



RALLY IN SOLIDARITY WITH SWISSPORT WORKERS

Members from USW Local 1944 and Steelworkers rallied with International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAMAW) Local Lodge 2301 Swissport workers in front of the company's offices in Ville St-Laurent, Quebec.

"On Wednesday, January 15, 2020, I joined a rally in support of the employees of Swissport Canada and members from IAMAW Local 2301. These strikers are aircraft refuellers, fuel storage mechanics, dispatchers and refueling maintenance workers. The strike was called on December 31, 2019. The employees have been without a contract since August 8, 2019. The main points of the dispute are the working conditions (working alone in temperatures varying from -30 degrees in winter to 30 degrees in the summer), work-life balance, and wages (\$16 per hour)." — Pierre-Richard Joseph, Local Union Representative Quebec

"Contract flipping penalizes employees financially. Because of this practice, a worker with 25 years of experience find themselves faced with the choice of changing jobs or re-applying for the same job, accepting a major decline in their working conditions. Currently, Swissport pays its workers approximately \$16 per hour, whereas before 2016, to perform the same tasks in the same place with the same responsibilities the same schedule and the same equipment, the previous employer paid \$24 per hour. We must show solidarity with these members who are fighting an injustice. District 5 Director Alain Croteau announced a \$5,000 donation to IAMAW Local 2301, which demonstrates our empathy as an organization that supports the challenges of other unions." — Hans Woosly-Balan, Local Union Representative Quebec



Local Union Representatives Quebec
Pierre-Richard Joseph and Hans Woosly-Balan

More pictures at <https://1944.fyi/ayk>



A WORD FROM THE CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS: "WE STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH CO-OP REFINERY WORKERS"

Amid escalating tensions and recent arrests of Unifor Local 594 workers on the picket line in Regina, Local 1944 affirms its commitment to stand in solidarity with the locked-out workers.

APRIL 15-16, 2020 | TORONTO

3rd NATIONAL GATHERING OF INDIGENOUS STEELWORKERS

[Submit your application online](#)
before Friday, February 7, 2020,
at 12:00 pm Pacific Time

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The National Gathering will be a place for Indigenous Steelworkers to share their experiences and to contribute to our Union's ongoing strategy for advancing the rights of Indigenous workers and communities.



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Union Savings is celebrating 30 years of providing valuable benefits and discounts for union members and their families across Canada.

From now until June 30th, prizes will be given away with a grand prize draw of \$10,000 in July!

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While you are registering, take a peek at what you can start saving on!

UNION SAVINGS LOCAL 1944

HOW IT WORKS
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