



CONNECTED

IUOE 955 email update curated by Business Manager, Chris Flett
linktr.ee/iuoe955

**MARCH IS HERE!
 IN LIKE A LION, OUT
 LIKE ONE TOO?**



It's been quite the month here at IUOE 955, with one of the more prominent issues being the collapse of crane bargaining with the Alberta Crane Owners Association. You can read more on that, as well as find dates for March crane bargaining info meetings across the province, in the pages below.

And while the state of crane bargaining is shaken at the moment, we know the strength, resolve and unity of our membership is more solid than ever, leading me to be confident the deal our crane members deserve is on the horizon. We will not give up or back down.

Beyond this, the March issue of Connected is chock full of awesome content, including: a great deal for members at Liebherr; a brand new hoodie design; historical training dollars for 955 from Pathways Alliance; an awesome Member Spotlight featuring one of our Peace Officer members in Parkland County; info on the NB Coutts Scholarship Award and more!

We hope you enjoy this issue and remember, "united we bargain, divided we beg."

IUOE 955 VISITS CUPE SUPPORT STAFF ON LEGAL STRIKE IN FORT MCMURRAY

IUOE 955 Business Manager, Chris Flett and Business Agent, Luke Shea hit the CUPE Locals 2559 and 2545 strike line on Feb. 10 to show support and solidarity with education support staff who have been on legal strike for 15 weeks.

This is not a partisan issue; it's about standing up for a fair agreement that treats workers with the value and respect they deserve in a time of ever-rising costs.

CUPE school support staff in both Edmonton and Fort McMurray have taken job action over the last few months.

Visit: alberta.cupe.ca for the latest, and support the lines if you can.



Let's get some work done!

This year is another busy one for IUOE 955 turnaround work. If you are interested in being dispatched to a turnaround, please call Local 955's dispatch services: (780) 483-0972.

Check out the 2025 turnaround schedule at www.oe955.com (members section) for more info.



LIEBHERR

AGREEMENT REACHED



Wage boosts and language improvements over life of 2-year agreement

- 2025 - \$180/hour increase for all classifications equaling 2.9% up to 6.7% depending on classification
- 2026 - Guaranteed 3% increase up to a maximum of 6% depending on average percentage change of Alberta CPI
- More Job Steward roles
- 11.5 hrs straight time + 0.5 hrs overtime/day instead of 12 hours straight time for those working under the Hours Averaging Agreement
- 12% increase on the Hours Averaging Agreement Premium from \$3.60 to \$4.00
- 15% increase to the Night shift premium from \$3.00 to \$3.50
- Addition of National Truth and Reconciliation Day as a named holiday
- Reduction in the years of service required to earn more holiday time
- Addition of Parts Journeypersons to the \$5,000/year Licensed Retention Bonus
- New Un-Licensed Retention Bonus giving all un-licensed members a \$1,500/year bonus
- Change of Sick Days to Paid Family Health and Wellness Days



Feb. 15 marked National Flag of Canada Day.

At the stroke of noon on Feb. 15, 1965, Canada's red and white maple leaf flag was raised for the very first time on Parliament Hill. On the same day in 1996, National Flag of Canada Day was declared.

Our national flag is a symbol that unites Canadians and reflects the common values we take pride in. Seems to hit a bit different now, eh?

Know a member who should be featured in IUOE 955's Connected, and on our social media? Email us!

GOOD JOB!

connected@oe955.com

WEAR YOUR IUOE 955 PRIDE!



We've had a fantastic response to our initial run of "This Is What A Real Union Looks Like" hoodies. So, we're bringing more in!

Pick one up next month at the Fort McMurray, Edmonton or Calgary offices.

Being union never looked so good!



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - GWEN KLIMOSKO

Folks are sometimes a bit surprised when they find out IUOE 955 represents law enforcement professionals, but in fact, we have done so in a handful of Alberta municipalities for many years.

Professionals like Officer Gwen Klimosko, who has been keeping the community of Parkland County safe for close to 14 years.

Gwen's always had a passion for law enforcement, with a particular interest in traffic and commercial vehicle enforcement, which she gets to do as a Peace Officer for Parkland County.

Gwen tells us that it's, "nice to go to work and work in a community that knows I have their backs. I also know that behind the scenes, I have a union that has my back."

Thanks for all you do, Gwen. We're proud to have you and your colleagues part of the growing 955 family.

IUOE 955 RECEIVES SIGNIFICANT FUNDING FROM PATHWAYS ALLIANCE FOR CRUCIAL SKILLED TRADES TRAINING

EDMONTON – The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 955 received a sizeable investment from The Pathways Alliance - a collaboration between Canada's six largest oilsands producers - to ready more Operating Engineers to help the group meet its expanding labour needs.

"IUOE 955 is incredibly proud and grateful to receive this kind of substantial contribution from private business to skill up more trades professionals," said Chris Flett, IUOE 955 Business Manager.

"It was great to hear our union is viewed by Pathways as one with the ingenuity and collaboration needed to bring success; and we plan to do that with the help of this support."

The Pathways Alliance is a partnership between: Canadian Natural, Cenovus Energy, Conoco Phillips Canada, Imperial, MEG Energy and Suncor. The group works together to provide energy the world needs while advancing environmental innovation.

"This funding from The Pathways Alliance shows the group is serious in its efforts to advance eco-friendly innovation projects, like carbon capture storage and more, by ensuring it has the workforce needed to develop and maintain modern, environmentally sound projects for decades to come."

IUOE 955 was also the recipient of the very first union training funding from the Government of Alberta as well. This historical support was announced at its training facility by Advanced Education Minister, Rajan Sawhney, in April 2024.

IUOE 955 proudly represents more than 12,000 hard-working members in diverse sectors of the economy, from road building to pipelines, crane operation, renewables, health care, education, municipalities and much more.

PATHWAYS ALLIANCE IUOE 955 TRAINING SUPPORT

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CHRIS FLETT, IUOE 955
BUSINESS MANAGER



IUOE 955



CRANE BARGAINING INFO MEETINGS

Fort McMurray union hall
March 10 at 7:30pm

Calgary union hall
March 11 at 7pm

Edmonton union hall
March 12 at 7pm



united we bargain, divided we beg 

CRANE BARGAINING BREAKS DOWN, LEGAL STRIKE VOTE COMING



Following close to 20 bargaining sessions and multiple dates of mediation, formal talks between IUOE 955's crane bargaining committee and the Alberta Crane Owners Association (ACOA) collapsed on Feb. 20 in Edmonton.

"Following time away from the table in January and early February for both parties to discuss the state of bargaining with their respective groups, we are incredibly disappointed to say the ACOA returned to the table with a reduced offer.

This is both unacceptable and disrespectful to the good and important work our crane members do, every single day," said IUOE 955 Business Manager, Chris Flett.

The actions of the ACOA have been beyond frustrating, but your committee remains dedicated to getting you the fair deal you deserve in a time of ever-rising costs.

Your continued resolve and solidarity are appreciated.

We have now entered a cooling off period, which ends on March 7.

Province-wide information meetings will be held:

Fort McMurray union hall – March 10 at 7:30pm

Calgary union hall – March 11 at 7pm

Edmonton union hall – March 12 at 7pm

At this point, please continue to go about doing the incredible work you do, every day.

Stay tuned and watch for future communications from your bargaining team.

APPLY NOW! NB COUTTS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - DEADLINE, AUG. 22

The NB Coutts Scholarship Award Program will begin May 1, 2025. All documents must be official transcripts by the post-secondary or high school the applicant last attended.

Apply here: oe955.com/our-union/scholarships-bursaries/

Scholarships may be awarded to students who are members or dependents of a member in good standing with the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 955.

Eligibility Requirements:

- The total amount of each scholarship is \$5,000 to be paid over two consecutive years of academic study, in increments of \$2,500 per year. Recipients will receive \$2,500 in the first year and \$2,500 in the second consecutive year, while attending a full-time program at an accredited post-secondary institution.
- To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must provide IUOE 955 with: the N.B. Coutts Scholarship Application form, official transcripts of the most recent year of study including proof of satisfactory academic standing (High School Grades or GPA Score), confirmation of enrolment and course load list for the subsequent year of studies.
- The minimum course load must be 80% of a "full course" load as defined by the institution and indicated on the course load transcript or confirmation of enrolment.

High School Applicants:

- High school transcript is required (core subjects are English, Math, Social Studies and one Science).
- Post-secondary transcripts including course load information.
- Second instalment requirements: Applicants will need to resubmit the N.B. Coutts Scholarship Application form, confirmation of enrolment transcripts, previous year's marks, and upcoming course load.

Deadline to apply is August 22nd, 2025.