



THE VIEW

FROM

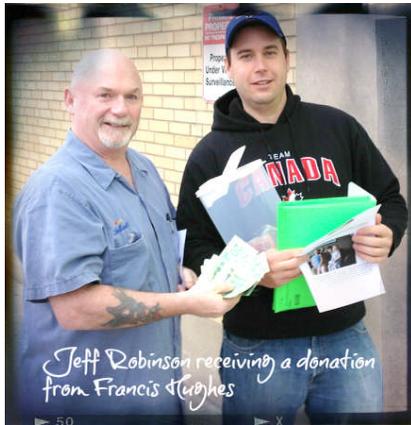
Local 2

August 2013 Edition

on location

In Nova Scotia and Mississauga, training

Earlier this year a WSIB training session covering both Level 1 and Level 2 of the ODRT (Ontario Disability Response Team) Ontario training program was held in Mississauga. Eight representatives in total from McMaster O&M, McMaster Hospitality, Woodbine, Labatt Transport, and SEIU Local 2 successfully participated in this 3 day event.



Jeff Robinson receiving a donation from Francis Stuyves

On April 26th and 27th, 2013 Steward Training Courses were held in Yarmouth and Halifax. At the training in Yarmouth members attended

from three bargaining units: Tri County Regional School Board, Universite Ste Anne, and the Villa Acadienne. In Halifax stewards from GDI, Casino Nova Scotia, Windsor Elms, Dykeland Lodge and Acadia University participated in the program. These were both very successful sessions and we thank the members for their active participation and interest.

There is more training to come, in the fall and early next year two sessions of Political activist training will be held, and additionally, more WSIB and Stewards training will be held in the months to come. Stay tuned for an opportunity near you, or contact your Local 2 rep. if you are interested in any upcoming opportunities

SEIU Labatt members raise money for striking families in Newfoundland!

When the Company they work for closed the doors on workers at the Brewery in Newfoundland, Local 2 Labatt London members stepped up to make a difference. After watching and hearing reports of hard-line negotiations with severe concessions over a number of weeks, the time for encouraging words was over

and the need to do something real for the families in Newfoundland was here. SEIU Branch Local 1 members did more than just "help", with some organization

from the Local Union, a money drive was initiated that resulted in over \$7000 being raised. The response from the members was tremendous and the money received was truly appreciated by those

fighting for a fair contract. Newfoundland Union President Frank O'Leary personally thanked SEIU for their support at the July Brewery conference in Halifax and went on to explain how big an impact this type of support had on their members morale as the smallest brewery continues to fight against this giant global corporation.

Leuven (Belgium) and Halifax

Recently SEIU Local 2 representatives attended two separate Brewery related



conferences.

An international conference of AB Inbev workers represented by 20 Unions and over 50 delegates from around the world,

met for 3 days in Leuven Belgium to discuss creation of a global alliance and report on issues.

The group participated in work-shops on building global solidarity and created a joint declaration that was delivered to the top management of AB Inbev to signal the common concerns about the direction of the Company. Additionally, a small working group was created to continue to foster the lines of communication and this has already culminated with workers in South America and elsewhere sending



Halifax Brewery Conference

meaningful support to striking workers in Newfoundland.

A Canadian conference of brewing industry Unions representing workers from all the major corporate players and distribution companies, was held in Halifax Nova Scotia in July.

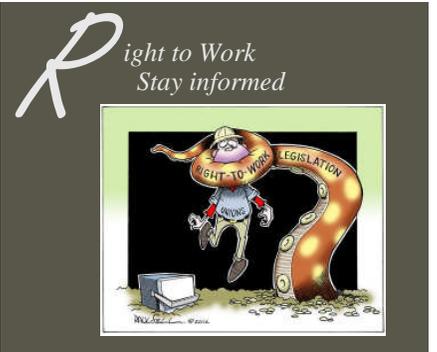
Representatives from SEIU Local 2 chaired this meeting, as usual, and 40 delegates from many various Canadian Unions took part. Over 2 days the reps. reported on general industry trends and issues, as well as, break-out groups participated in Company specific dialogue.



Mary Sturt, Aubrey Clarke and Jennifer MacLellan - April 2013

Jennifer MacLellan leaves the Security Department at Women's College Hospital after 24 years. Jennifer has been active in the Union for a number of years and most recently has held the position of Chief Steward. We thank Jennifer for her many contributions to her membership and to the Union.

Aubrey Clark has assumed the role of Chief Steward. Congratulations Aubrey!



Bargaining Updates



Doral Holdings (Seaway Mall, Welland)

Our Local 2 members employed at the Seaway Mall in Welland recently settled their contract negotiations. Highlights include 2% across-the-board wage increases in each year of the 5 year deal. Vision coverage increased to \$300. Annual Employer-paid RRSP contribution increases to \$925, \$935, \$945, \$950, and \$1000 in each year respectively. In addition, a new provision providing for Employer-paid benefit coverage for early retirees (retiring between age 60 - 65) was also achieved. Not surprisingly, the tentative agreement was unanimously ratified.

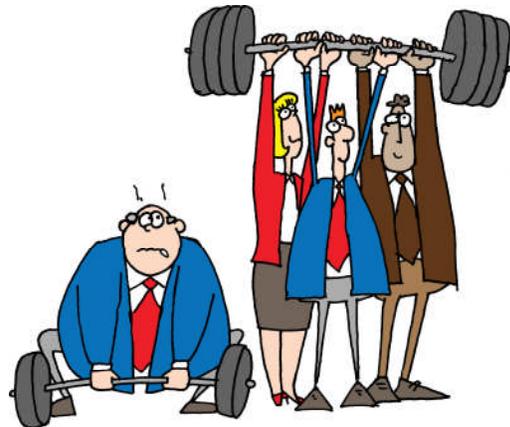
Nova Scotia

More than 150 members of Local 2 who are employed in food service for Aramark at Dalhousie and Saint Mary's University in Halifax have reached a new tentative three year collective bargaining agreement. Gains during this round include:

- ◆ Annual Wage increases of: 3%, 2%, and 2% retroactive to the expiry date of the old agreement.
- ◆ A new RRSP shared contribution plan of 1% employee contribution matched by the employer at 1%.
- ◆ An increase in sick leave as well as a raised cap on lifetime medical coverage.
- ◆ An increased footwear allowance
- ◆ One additional paid holiday
- ◆ And last but not least a 50/50 cost shared dental plan.

The Pepsi Bottling Group

Members at the Pepsi Bottling group in Sault Ste. Marie and Timmins recently ratified a new 5 year agreement which resulted in \$1.55 wage increase over the term, a \$750 lump sum payment in the first year, and a \$25 increase in boot allowance. Members were concerned about the economic climate of the market and opted for a longer term agreement.



GDI – Vancouver

After a lengthy process, it was determined that approximately 43 members of the bargaining unit were being paid .25 cents less than that as stipulated in the collective agreement. The Employer has since made the appropriate corrections which also resulted in lump sum payments to those affected.

Kwik Lok

A new 3 year agreement was reached at Kwik Lok by Business Agent John Cunningham. Some of the highlights:

- ◆ New classification was added – “Slitter Setup”; Increase in retirement plans; Wages increases for the three years at 2%, 2%, 2%; and negotiations are set for 2015 for conversion of current benefit plan into the SEIU Local 1 & 2 Benefit Trust.

Wesley Urban Ministries

Following very difficult negotiations where the Employer demanded significant concessions a new Memorandum of Agreement was reached at Wesley Urban Ministries only hours before a strike vote was scheduled.

All the employer demanded concessions were withdrawn and the new agreement included a multi-year wage increase of 0.5%, 2%, and 1% respectively.

There was a record turnout at the ratification vote and the new contract was overwhelmingly ratified.

Congratulations on a job well done!

SCRAP THE CHANGES!

On June 22, 2013 Branch Local 902 in Nova Scotia joined brothers and sisters from unions across Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour in a demonstration against recent amendments to Employment Insurance which will impact workers across the country.



In Nova Scotia our members working in school boards are paid for only 10 months of the year. In many smaller communities, where seasonal work is the only work available, EI benefits provide meaningful and crucial support to families and their communities.

final inspiration...

Employees at a Just Us! Coffee Shop in Halifax successfully joined Local 2.

Union Organizer, Jason Edwards said “It’s really an effort on the part of young workers stepping up and coming to the realization that these are the jobs they have — and they seem to be having for [several] years — [they are] working to make those livable jobs.”

These, usually university-educated, workers often realize that their stop-gap employment has become more long-term and they are motivated to turn these jobs into careers.

Workers at two Second Cup outlets in the city also recently voted on joining Local 2, although the Labour Board has yet to release their results.

Shelby Kennedy, who has worked for more than a year at one of the Second Cup outlets participating in this unionization, said her interest in organizing stemmed from a desire to have more rights, regardless of her background.

“This is our livelihood, [regardless of our education],” said the 21-year-old. “We just want to be treated with dignity and respect.”

