

Message from Regional Manager James Dawson



Brothers and Sisters,

I want to begin by thanking our members from all seven Locals 1386, 2262, 683, 2716, 2717, 2821 and 911. This has clearly been an unusual and stressful year for everybody whether they were working or had to stay home. Although this Winter may continue to be bad in terms of COVID-19 numbers, I'm hopeful that with multiple vaccines on the way, our industry will be in full bloom when the construction season ramps up in the Spring.

I would like to highlight a number of recent legal issues about which many members may not be aware. The Financial and Consumer Services Tribunal issued a decision in August 2020, that upheld the pension rights of Fredericton police officers who are members of Local 911. This is a continuation of our long pension battle to defend our members from the City's attempts to undermine police pensions. A year and a half ago we began one of the largest organizing campaigns seen in Canada in many years, by signing up New Brunswick Licensed Practical Nurses' who wanted to leave CUPE and join our Union. We received over 80% support from the LPN's and filled an application for certification in June 2019. The Labour Board hearing concluded in November 2020 and we hope a decision will be issued in early 2021.

We recently ratified new Commercial and Industrial Agreements in Saint John and Moncton. I know there was some concern about the length of the contract and the monetary, but I am very pleased that these offers went through considering some in our industry are taking pay freezes. The Government of New Brunswick just announced a complete freeze on both union and non-union employees which starts out with a zero percent increase for 2021. While others in our industry are remaining stagnant and other workers across New Brunswick are facing pay freezes, we will be gaining 17-22% over the next 3-5 years.

I'd like to give a special thank you to all our Shop Stewards who have had to adapt to differing site conditions. All our Stewards have now taken a COVID-19 safety course to ensure our sites are as safe as possible. Any member can take this course whether or not they want to be a Shop Steward so if you are interested please contact the Training Center.

Finally, I hope you are able to celebrate Christmas with family, whether in-person or virtually. Here is to 2020 being over and better years ahead.

Work hard and stay safe.

James Dawson



End of the Year Update

This time last year I was envisioning what 2020 had in store for our locals in New Brunswick and everything was pointing towards a great year ahead. Both January and February were an increase in hours and were leading us to believe that we were going to have a record year. Then came COVID-19 and everything went downhill for months. There is no way around it, 2020 was a terrible year for our members as everyone already knows. There are some bright spots that have occurred since the height of the pandemic that I would like to point out though. Employment in the Fall has actually more than stabilized since last year; we have seen an increase in hours for September, October and November. More importantly, no jobs were actually cancelled this year, just postponed. This means that there is work that necessarily needs to be done in 2021 at the Mills and Refinery, assuming COVID-19 remains under control.

NB Shop Update

This has been a trying time for our organization, with COVID-19 affecting our everyday lives. Very few of the industrial shops were affected by layoffs during the pandemic and it is definitely a credit to the hard-working members who continued working during these trying times. I would like to thank all our Industrial Shop members whose dedication during the pandemic ensured that many essential services were able to remain open and available to the public. With the holidays upon us here is hoping that everyone gets to spend some time with their loved ones and families. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Years!

Stay safe,

Nick Barnett, Business Representative



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Millwright Update

Good Day Sisters and Brothers,

In my October newsletter I indicated that I would be holding membership meetings both in the north and the south but due the upswing in the COVID Virus this was not possible. Because of this it was decided to hold the Tele Town Hall for Local 2262 members on December 15. While work is not plenty in NB at the moment, I have reached out to MRCO about upcoming work. I have been advised that the Sarina Local may be looking for assistance at the Bruce in late January or early February. Anyone interested in this must contact Kelly at the Saint John office to have the security clearance forms filled out (these are not the same as Pickering and Darlington clearance forms) Also over the winter there may be some assistance required by the Toronto Local to do the retooling on the GM Plant in Oshawa. All members are encouraged to monitor the ACRC website for the latest news.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members and their families and Merry and Safe Christmas and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Darrell Melvin, Business Representative



The Office to Advance Women Apprentices New Brunswick

The Office to Advance Women Apprentices launched in November of 2019 to build the foundation for our office in New Brunswick. In light of the crazy ride, we have been on in 2020 we still have managed to grow our database and network of women in the skilled trades to over 50 women! We thank the ACRC head office and staff in Saint John for all their help in supporting us this past year. Also, to our Sisters in the Brotherhood for their tremendous support, guidance, and mentorship throughout the year.

We wish you all a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season. Looking forward to seeing more smiling faces (maskless!) in 2021!



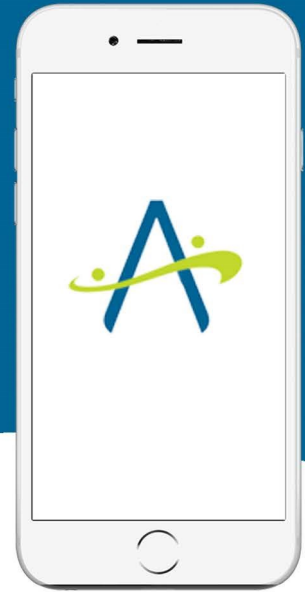
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Message from EST Deb Romero

The ACRC kicked off 2020 with a bang. Hours for January and February were higher than previous years, and we anticipated that this would be a ringer year for work for our members. In March, COVID became a reality for Atlantic Canadians and our world, and the world around, us changed dramatically. Project cancellations and slowdowns caused tremendous job losses for Brothers and Sisters across the regions. Some regions recovered by late summer while others still have not overcome the losses caused by the impact of COVID.



To say the very least, it has been an incredibly difficult year for most. As 2020 ends and we look to 2021, we are filled with optimism. Our provinces will begin to administer vaccines in the next few days. Work for 2021 is very promising with government pledging to invest in infrastructure to boost the flailing economy. Many projects that were put on hold due to the virus will move forward in 2021. This means jobs and plenty of them. – if we continue to control the spread of COVID.

Government restrictions on travel and the creation of the Atlantic Bubble gained worldwide recognition for our provinces as one of the safest places on earth to live. As the holiday season draws near, we must continue to practice safety. Many of our members are working away and travelling home for Christmas, or will have family members returning home for the holidays from other areas of the country and abroad that have had significantly more cases of COVID. It is important for all of us to follow the rules put in place by our various Premiers to ensure the safety of our families and all citizens of Atlantic Canada.

Christmas this year will look very different from past ones and we need to be creative as we find new ways to communicate with our families and friends. Take some extra time to think about who may be alone for the holidays and check in on them by reaching out to give them a call. During these difficult times, we all need to support each other. I would like to remind all members that we do have support available through our health plan if you or a family member are not coping well with the extra stress.

On behalf of the Executive Board, delegates, and staff of the Atlantic Canada Regional Council, I would like to extend a heartfelt wish for a safe and happy holiday season for you and your family.

EST Deb Romero



Carpenter Millwright College
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The Carpenter Millwright College (CMC) continues to work with its Local Union membership and signatory contractors to ensure workers and union job sites are in compliance with Occupational Health & Safety regulations. As various zones move in-and-out of recovery phases, we have attempted to adapt our training schedule to help fill required training around the Province. We are excited to host our **UBC Canadian Scaffold Program** and our **CWB Welder Qualification Program** to start the New Year. Additionally, we will have new course offerings members and supervisors. Be sure to stay informed by liking our page on Facebook and following us on Instagram (@cmc_nb).

Lastly, make sure your phone number and e-mail are up-to-date with the Union. On behalf of all staff at the CMC, we would like to wish our members a safe, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Email Address

The fastest way for your local to reach you is by email. If you do not receive emails from us, please call your local Union Hall to update your profile!

St. John— 506-632-8840

Fredericton— 506-450-4024

Moncton— 506-859-4069



Dispatch Update

This past month, Local 1386 has had a steady amount of dispatches.

For the month of October, Local 1386 had 23 job orders, dispatching 42 members to work.

Stay in the loop and get news and information on demand, and about the Atlantic Canada Regional Council.



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