

June 2016 Meeting in Burnaby

Due to unavailability at the Croatian Cultural Centre the June 4, 2016 General Membership Meeting will be held at the IUOE Local 115 Hall, 4333 Ledger Avenue, Burnaby, BC. **Please see insert.**



Change of Address/Phone Number

If you have changed your contact information please ensure to update the union office in addition to the VSB. The union uses the latest data in our d-base for mailings/contacts so it is important that this information is up to date. Fee free to use the form below and fax to **604-876-5687**. Thank you!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/CONTACT INFORMATION

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY IN INK

IUOE Local 963: Please change the contact information accordingly

Name: _____

My new Address: _____

My new Phone #: _____

Phone Number: _____

IUOE LOCAL 963

**Next General Membership Meeting:
Saturday June 4, 2016**

IUOE Local 115 Hall, 4333 Ledger Ave., Burnaby, BC

Meetings start at 10 a.m.

Phone: 604-876-6287
Fax: 604-876-5687

WEB SITE
www.iuoe963.ca

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International Union of Operating Engineers Local 963

**Standardized Extended Health Benefit Vote
June 4th**

Pursuant to the 2014-2019 collective agreement there will be a membership vote on whether to adopt a “standardized” Extended Health Benefit Plan or keep the same plan we have now.

This decision has to be made prior to July 2016, therefore , the union meeting on Saturday June 4, 2016 (to be held at the IUOE Local 115 Hall– see last page for details) will feature a presentation on this issue followed by a vote.

What are we voting about?

During the last round of provincial bargaining, the government and support staff unions agreed “to pursue a voluntary standardized extended health plan to be implemented in accordance with the terms laid out in Appendix C.” (Provincial Framework Agreement, June 7, 2014, item #4).

The new “standardized” plan will be compared with our current plan. An actuarial study by the benefit provider, *Morneau Shepell*, has indicated that the “standardized” plan (which includes a prescription direct card that IUOE successfully negotiated in 2001) is an overall reduction in the value of our benefit plan by -9.36%.

It is important to note that where the local union in a district determines their existing plan has superior benefits and the local union elects not to participate in the standardized plan, “the local union shall retain their existing plan.” (Appendix C, item #4).

Lastly, in the event the vote is to accept a standardized Extended Health Plan, the changes would take effect in September 2017.



**The
Newsletter
For VBE
Operations Staff
Supervision Aides
Cafeteria Staff**

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Per Capita Tax/Minimum Dues

In accordance with Article XI, Section 1, of the IUOE Constitution the General Executive Board has determined at its April 5, 2016 meeting that a \$0.50 per member per month increase in the per capita tax “would be necessary at this time to adequately protect and preserve the interests of the International Union.”

Effective July 1, 2016, the per capita tax (and minimum dues) will increase by \$0.50 per month. The adjusted per capita effective July 1, 2016 will be \$12.25/month/member and minimum dues will be \$19.25/month/member.

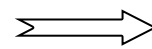
VSB Budget Rejected by Trustees

In a 5-4 vote, Vancouver school trustees rejected the preliminary budget proposals as designed by senior management. These proposals addressed a budget deficit of more than \$24 million for fiscal year 2016/2017 and cut many positions and services.

The *School Act* requires school boards to pass balanced budgets by June 30th. At the time of writing this article, the Superintendent of Schools has been instructed to apply this budget as if it had been passed. In other words, proceed with the cuts.

A poll of Vancouver adults conducted jointly by IUOE, VSTA, VESTA, CUPE 15 & CUPE 407 the week of April 21-26 (widely cited in media) highlighted the following:

- ◇ Nearly two thirds (64%) think the provincial government is responsible for the VSB's shortfall and the consequences.
- ◇ A clear majority (56%) think the VSB should pass a deficit budget to avoid cuts and pressure the government to increase funding. Support rises to 61% among respondents who have a child or grandchild enrolled in a public school.
- ◇ 57% are opposed to forcing school boards to pay for non-educational related costs like MSP or BC Hydro increases that are downloaded by the provincial government.
- ◇ 73% are opposed to asking parents to pay more fees or fundraise to make up funding gaps for core educational services. That rises to 81% among re-



Budget Cont'd

- ◇ 58% disagree with closing schools to balance the budget. Disagreement is strongest in the east side (66%) and among residents aged 35-54 (62%)

Attendance Management Program

A reminder that should you be asked to attend any meeting regarding the School Board's Attendance "Support" Program, you are entitled to union representation and should call the union office (604-876-6287 or a shop steward) for assistance. A union representative will explain your rights to you.

At present, the employer is taking the position that the union is not entitled to know members names prior to Formal Interviews with employees. This is, in the union's view, a violation of the statutory duty to represent workers pursuant to the *Labour Relations Code*. A grievance has been filed.

Support Local Trustees Rallies

In an ongoing effort to highlight public education underfunding, Local VBE-affiliated unions have been staging rallies on the lawn of the Education Centre on Wednesdays at 4:30 PM

Come out and sign the banners. Show your support.

