

IUOE LOCAL 963

Next General Membership Meeting: Saturday Jan. 7, 2017

Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.

Meetings start at 10 a.m.

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

WEB SITE www.iuoe963.ca

EXECUTIVE BOARD

BUSINESS MANAGER: Tim De Vivo

PRESIDENT: Tim Chester

VICE-PRESIDENT: Harjit S. Khangura

TREASURER: Andrew Bennett

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Bruce Olson

RECORDING SECRETARY: Paul Loeman

TRUSTEES: Parm Malli, Chad Stuart, Bruce Olson

AUDITORS: Antoinette Cominetti, Livia Hisaoka, Kulwant S. Johal

CONDUCTOR: Analida Leung

GUARD: Harry Lowe

Check Website for Newsletters/Bulletins

The VBE system is phasing out the use of fax machines in an effort to cut down on printing costs and transition to online communications. In a few schools, this has already happened.

In an effort to ensure member communication the local union will post Newsletters and Bulletins on our website at: www.iuoe963.ca and transition to online communications.

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: _____



International Union of Operating Engineers Local 963

Seasons Greetings

Your Executive Board wishes all members and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Tim Chester, Tim De Vivo, Harjit Khangura, Paul Loeman, Bruce Olson, Andrew Bennett, Parm Malli, Chad Stuart, Antoinette Cominetti, Livia Hisaoka, Kulwant Johal, Analida Leung & Harry Lowe.

The Newsletter For VBE Operations Staff Supervision Aides Cafeteria Staff

Inside this issue:

Seasons Greetings 1

United Way breakfast fundraiser 2

VSB Update 3

Communications 4

Change of Address Form 4



The Local will be making a donation to the Food Bank in lieu of issuing greeting cards.

12th Annual IUOE/OPERATIONS United Way Breakfast

The 12th Annual IUOE Local 963/Operations United Way Breakfast Fundraiser will be held at **Churchill Secondary School Cafeteria, Wednesday December 21, 2016, from 8:00 am to 10:00 am.**

A minimum \$5.00 donation (feel free to donate more) will get you a seat at this great annual event.

There will be grand prize raffles for a 55" 4K UHD television as well as 2 tickets to see Tim McGraw and Faith Hill in concert next May. Make sure you buy a ticket for these special prize draws. Plus– Door Prizes and a 50/50 Draw!

Great food, great company and a worthy cause all add up to a successful event. We have collectively donated greater than \$50,000 to the United way of the Lower Mainland. Hope to see everyone there!



VSB UPDATE

On Monday October 17, 2016 the elected school trustees of the Vancouver school district were fired by the Minister of Education. The primary reason cited was the Board's failure to pass a balanced budget, as required by law.

The Board was set to pass the balanced budget in the evening of October 17th, but were fired just hours before they could do so.

The real reasons for the firing are clearly political as it was the Vision Vancouver and Green Party school trustees who consistently challenged the inadequacies of the public education funding formula which is about **\$1,000 less per student than the national average.**

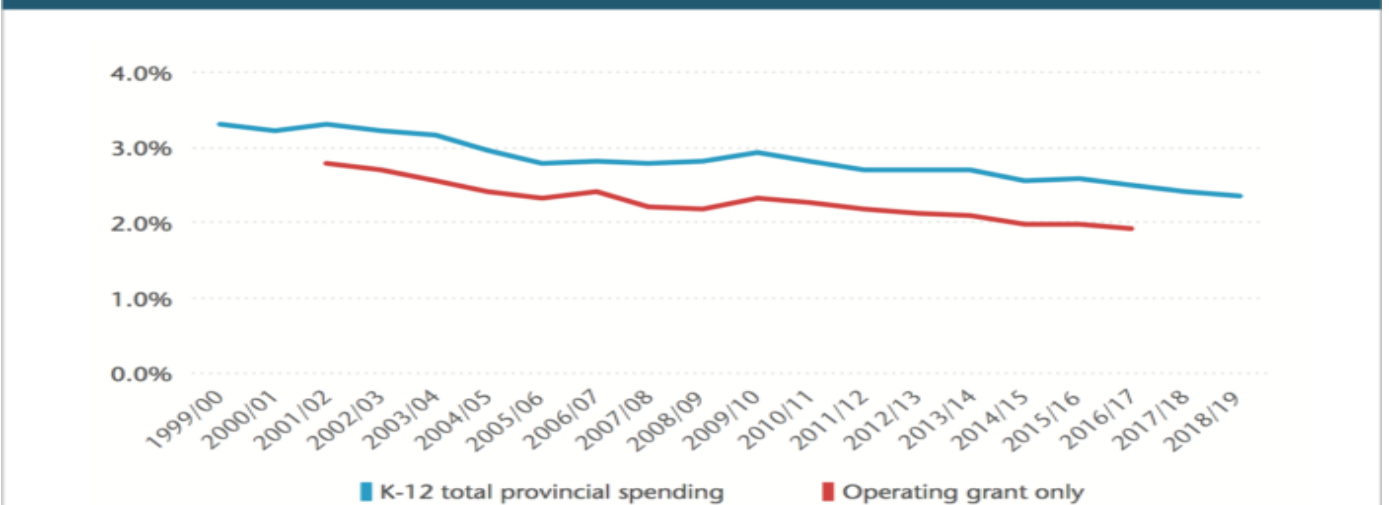
These community-minded trustees said "no" to more school cuts. They pointed out that Vancouver citizens are paying more school taxes than are being returned to the district.

They argued for a fairer funding formula, one that is competitive with the rest of Canada and much more.

The chart below (source: Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives *What's the real story behind BC's education funding crisis?* by Alex Hemingway) shows the funding decline relative to gross domestic product. This is not a positive trend as this figure continues to drop.

It means that during the 1990's public education was funded at 3.3% of GDP but **has dropped to a projected 2.5% in Budget 2016, which is a 25% decline.**

Figure 1: Provincial K-12 education spending as a share of the BC economy (% of GDP)



Source: 2015 BC Financial and Economic Review; 2016 BC Budget; BC K-12 Operating Grant summaries. Note: 2017/18 and 2018/19 are forecasts from the 2016 BC Budget.