

**Next General Membership Meeting:**

Saturday Nov. 4, 2023

Meetings start at 10:00 am

Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive,

**WEB PAGE:**  
[www.iuoe963.ca](http://www.iuoe963.ca)

Vancouver, BC

**EXECUTIVE BOARD 2023-2027**

BUSINESS MANAGER:  
Tim De Vivo

PRESIDENT:  
Tim Chester

VICE-PRESIDENT:  
Harjit Khangura

TREASURER:  
Tim De Vivo

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:  
Chad Stuart

RECORDING SECRETARY:  
Harjit Khangura

TRUSTEES:  
Antoinette Cominetti  
Herman Sheng  
Tim Chester

AUDITORS:  
Livia Hisaoka  
Yvette Menges  
Bandula Pathacharige

CONDUCTOR:  
Analida Leung

GUARD:  
Herman Sheng

**School Closures– Why You Should Care**

Public schools belong to the public. They are funded almost exclusively by tax dollars. Which is why discussions about the selling off or leasing out of any school building or portions of school-owned land must be undertaken using accurate data and realistic projections of growth potential. The most obvious direct impact to members is the loss of a worksite. To a community, it can be a devastating loss.

Unfortunately, for those who may have followed this saga, the VSB is being accused of not using all available data while declaring particular sites as “surplus to the educational needs of the school district.”

This is a risky proposition that could end up costing taxpayers mightily in the future should the VSB need to re-acquire buildings or land. As everyone knows– except perhaps some VSB school Trustees as exhibited throughout the process– the Metro Vancouver area has limited geography and land prices are some of the highest in North America.

As you may know, last year Queen Elizabeth Annex was declared “surplus to the educational needs of the school district” and is in the process of being sold or leased, likely to the Francophone School District.

On May 29, 2023, at a Private Session of the VSB, a motion was carried to “consider the potential declaration of the eastern portion of the Graham Bruce Community Elementary school site as surplus to the needs of the school district.” The students will be left with a hill to play on while new owner/leasee will utilize the flat portion of the property.

Critics have pointed out that the student enrolment projections used by the VSB as contained on the Long Range Facilities Plan are “baseline forecasts and **do not include local assessments of the impact of changes to residential housing stocks in a local area.**”

This community pressure has forced the VSB to recently put a temporary halt on the “surplussing” of both Carlton Elementary and Graham Bruce field to gather more data on proposed zoning and development, something that should have been done prior to making any decision. Please support your school PAC’s and other stakeholders in opposition to the selling off/leasing out of schools or portions of land.

**Change of Address? Phone Number?**

If you have moved or changed your contact information (including non-VSB email) please ensure to inform the union office at 604-876-6287. Thank you!



**International Union of Operating Engineers Local 963**

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

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**Web Page:**  
[www.iuoe963.ca](http://www.iuoe963.ca)

**Twitter:**  
[@iuoe963](https://twitter.com/iuoe963)

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604-876-6287

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604-876-5687

**New Collective Agreement**

The IUOE Local 963/VSB 2022-2025 collective agreement is posted online at [www.iuoe963.ca](http://www.iuoe963.ca) (go to “LINKS”). It can also be found on the VSB’s website by typing “collective agreements” in search.

Once printed, hard copies will be sent to all schools; one for Operations staff, one for Cafeteria staff and one for Supervision Aide staff, as applicable. The union office will have a limited number of hard copies available-please contact the office if you would like one.

**Highlights of New Contract Language**

The July 1/22 to June 30/25 collective agreement features a number of new contract provisions:

**Market Adjustments:** Market Adjustments were successfully negotiated for hard-to-fill positions.

Engineers holding a 4th class power engineer certificate (or higher) **and who hold a position requiring such certificate** receive a lump sum payment in each September of **\$600.00** (2023), increasing to **\$650.00** in 2024. [Article 11 C (8)]

Assistant Building Engineer 2’s holding a 4th class power engineer certificate (or higher) receive an additional **\$400.00**. This payment was retroactive to July 1, 2022. [Article 11 C (8)]

Cafeteria workers holding a Trade qualification (TQ) receive a lump sum payment each September of **\$500.00**. This payment increases to **\$525.00** in 2024. [Article 13 B (6)]

**Shift Premiums have doubled:**

Operations Staff **Afternoon Shift to \$0.78/hr** (from \$0.39/hr); **Night Shift to \$1.60/hr** (from \$.80/hr). (See Rate Pages)

Cafeteria Staff **Afternoon Shift to \$0.56/hr** from \$0.28/hr. (See Rate Pages)

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Executive Board Swearing-in Ceremony

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS, LOCAL 963  
EXECUTIVE BOARD 2023-2027



**Left to Right:** Tim De Vivo (Business Manager), Chad Stuart (Financial Secretary), Herman Sheng (Trustee/Guard), Livia Hisaoka (Auditor), Harjit Khangura (Vice-President), Analida Leung (Conductor), Tim Chester (President), Bandula Pathacharige (Auditor), Dave DeSousa, International Representative.  
Not in photo: Antoinette Cominetti (Trustee), Yvette Menges (Auditor)

At the General Membership meeting held Saturday September 9, 2023 the Local’s Executive Board took the Oath of Office as administered by International Representative Dave DeSousa.



Highlights of New Contract (Cont’d from page 1)

**Lead Hand Allowances have increased:**

Operations Staff **Lead Hand to \$0.90/hr** (from \$0.45/hr); **Lead Hand 2 to \$1.80/hr** (from \$0.90) (See Rate Pages)

Cafeteria Staff **Lead 1 to \$1.00/hr** (from \$0.60/hr) (See Rate Pages)

*NEW* Cafeteria Lead Hand 2 , Commissary Kitchen (See Rate Pages), **\$2.00/hr** (See Rate Pages)

**NEW Vehicle Vandalism Coverage:**

“Vehicle vandalism coverage shall be provided upon the provision of the Vehicle Vandalism Compensation Declaration of the Claimant; proof that the vandalism occurred on the property of the Vancouver School Board; and a certificate or receipt from the I.C.B.C., garage, or auto-body shop documenting that repairs have been done and the deductible amount has been made on such a claim. The Board shall refund the impacted employee one hundred per cent (100%) of the claim up to the deductible amount stipulated by the employee’s I.C.B.C comprehensive option, to a maximum of four hundred dollars (\$400.00). Collision and hit and run claims will not be reimbursed.” [Article 9 (N)]

**NEW Transit Reimbursement:**

“A fund capped at \$10,500 per calendar year shall be available for all IUOE Casual (On Call) Operations staff/Steady Part Time staff, Supervision Aides (Permanent and On Call), Cafeteria Staff (on Call) to access one (1) one hundred dollar (\$100.00) per calendar year reimbursement for the purpose of offsetting the cost of a monthly transit pass. Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis, and will require sufficient proof of purchase of a monthly transit pass, until the fund is depleted in any calendar year.” [Article 9 (O)]

Members are encouraged to take advantage of these new provisions. More to come next edition.

Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) Winter School 2024

The Local will be electing three (3) members to attend *Canadian Labour Congress* Winter School training at Harrison Hot Springs in the new year. The Local will pay the registration fee, which includes room and board and wages for one week.

Local Union policy requires, among other things, that applicants have attended a minimum of four (4) General Membership meetings in the current year to be eligible to attend Winter School. Those who attended last year are not eligible to apply this year.

If you are eligible and interested in taking a labour studies course please respond by Wednesday November 1, 2023. You can respond by sending us a FAX to: 604-876-5687 or by EMAIL to: [reception@iuoe963.ca](mailto:reception@iuoe963.ca)

The three members will be chosen by vote at the November 4, 2023 General Membership meeting.