

## “Members Corner...”

*Before I became a union member, my first impressions were kind of overwhelming. To get to where I am now, where to go from here, who will I meet, what kind of people are they going to be. What will my room look like, where is the dining room. All of these things were wandering around my head. People here were very helpful right from the start and have been very supportive as time goes by.*

*I was glad when the day came that I became a union member because I was part of an organization that promotes mutual respect between workers and clients.*

*We foster good work ethics and performance and maintain high professional standards. We have an excellent support network for those who might need it. Safety is number one and starts with number one. Benefits are excellent especially in the long run.*

*I was raised by both my grandfather and my grandmother. My grandfather was a union member for over 30 years. My grandmother has been a union member for over 7 years now which is why I feel strongly about being a union member and staying a union member. My grandmother is still working in the union, my grandfather is now retired though I am sure we all share the same sense of belonging. All in all this is a nice experience for me and I was made to feel at home.*

*Thank you very much.*

*Sincerely,*

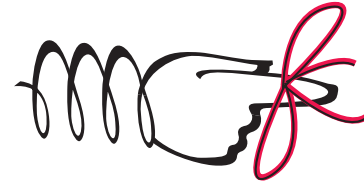
*Andre Pahtayken  
Local 47 member, Chelsea Lodge,  
CNRL Site*

## REMINDER...

### REMINDER... REMINDER... REMINDER... REMINDER

All members are responsible for making sure their union dues and burials are paid up to date at all times.

**MOVING? MOVED? TAX RECEIPT?**  
Please remember it is the responsibility of the member to inform the Union Hall of any changes in address.



*Thank you  
to everyone who  
contributed to this  
Newsletter.*

*If any member would like to  
contribute to the Newsletter please  
contact Sister Joanne Moody at the  
Union Hall or [joanne@local47.net](mailto:joanne@local47.net)*

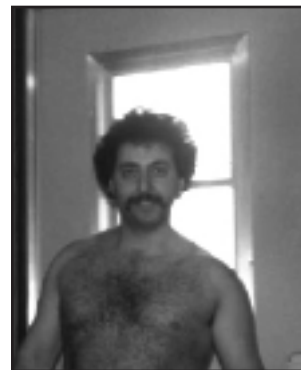
## GUESS WHO?? BORAT?? GUESS WHO?? LOCAL 47 MEMBER?? GUESS WHO??

In searching for old photos to create a visual history of UNITE HERE Local 47 and its members this photo was brought to the Unions attention.

If you know who this is or have a good guess as to who this is please send a short note to the Union Hall with the person's name, approximately when you think it was taken and your name and contact phone number.

The first person to identify this person will win a prize.

In an effort to create a photo archive of our Union and it's history if you have any photos that are of your Brothers and Sisters or any of the Camps where UNITE HERE Local 47 members work now or in the past we would appreciate getting copies. Alternatively you can send us the originals and we can scan them and return the originals to you. Please forward to the Union Hall attention Union Representative, Sister Moody.



Local 47 represents working people in Alberta's hospitality & culinary industries. Original charter granted November 28, 1944.

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UNITE HERE CANADA

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UNITE HERE is a member of the Alberta Building & Construction Trades Council. Local 47 is affiliated to the Alberta Federation of Labour, Canadian Labour Congress. Local 47's official member newsletter, Union News, is designed and created by union labour.

[www.local47.net](http://www.local47.net)

# LOCAL 47 UNION NEWS!

REPRESENTING  
**CAMP CULINARY**  
&  
**HOSPITALITY**  
WORKERS IN  
THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA,  
CANADA

**UNITE  
HERE!**  
LOCAL **47**  
ALBERTA  
CANADA

Vol. 1, Issue 6  
Spring, 2007

## TRUSTEE NICK WORHAUG REPORT

General President Raynor and President Wilhelm have the forethought to recognize the trends in Corporate North America. More and more companies are merging thus creating a few major corporations who have all the work.

Your Presidents have seen this trend coming from a long way off. That is what prompted the merger of UNITE and HERE, the need to deal with these corporations on the same level. Their commitment to ensuring workers rights are defended and workers can have jobs where they can make a decent salary to support their family. That is why fifty-three percent (53%) of the entire budget of UNITE HERE goes to organizing.

The International Union has now got 4 major divisions. Laundry and Food Services (LAFS), Hotel, Gaming and Retail.

LAFS and the Hotel division have been working hard across North America with an agenda of items has been positively effective. In the LAFS division, the major corporations are Sedkho, Aramark and Compass. Your presidents and the leaders of the LAFS Division have come up with new methods of dealing with these corporations. The Unionism of the past would not have survived against these growing corporations. UNITE HERE is working collectively on developing more power.

With the merger of UNITE and HERE our Union is now operating on The economy of scale. Administration is more effective, our Union owns our own bank in the US. We have seen many results from the comprehensive organizing campaign in both Canada and the US.

Our new direction will a be historical change. Your Union has identified a progressive and aggressive approach. We are changing to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

As we have moved further through the merger and continue to streamline the administration of our Union it has become necessary to increase the per capita amount each local pays to the International Union on behalf of each member. Every month each member pay dues to their local Union and each month your Local Union pays a per capita to the International Union in order to continue with the great work that has been started.

In addition, the former UNITE's dues were higher than the HERE dues and we must continue to make efforts to level the field so we can keep growing our Union.

At the merger convention where our two great Unions voted to join together they also voted on dues increases. UNITE HERE Local 47 and all other Locals across North America will have increases in their dues this fall as per the International Constitution.

I know Union Dues increases are sensitive issues for many people. There has not been a dues increase in Local 47 in many years. There will be more information regarding the amount of the increase in the next Newsletter. I can assure you that the way your Union is doing business today is leaps and bounds ahead of the way things have been done before.



## ALBERTA BUILDING TRADES INVOLVEMENT GROWS!



Northern Alberta Building Trades Leaders with  
(centre left) Jack Layton, NDP National Leader and  
(centre right) Provincial NDP Leader Brian Mason

The Alberta Building Trades Council (ABTC) and the Northern (NABTC) accepted an invitation to attend a social event with Jack Layton, NDP National Leader and Provincial NDP Leader Brian Mason.

Sister Joanne Moody attended the event and enjoyed spending time effectively discussing the topics of importance to our members with these political leaders. This event was the first of it's kind in Alberta and the consensus among

the Building Trades leadership was it was a great success. There was an impressive labour presence at the event and both Mr. Layton and Mr. Mason were supportive of our issues and look forward to working with us in the future on issues that are important to our members and all working families in Alberta.

## Ian A. Robb, Deputy Trustee Report



Ian A. Robb,  
Deputy Trustee

Well it is official – Spring is here! There is mud and mosquitoes in camp and pot holes in the cities.

It has been a very busy spring for the staff and members of our Union. We have seen CNRL expand so all three of it's camps are open and in fact are expanding even further. This means more work for our members. It is no secret, that many of our Brothers and Sisters were opposed to our Union taking the Contract with Compass at

the CNRL site. It is also no secret that that site has had MORE than it's share of growing pains since it opened. However, this job means that more than 300 of our members and new members have good paying sustainable jobs with which they can support their families. The Trustees said from the beginning, "We did not sign the original agreement for this site, but we think it is vital for this Union to increase our market share!" If our union hadn't signed this agreement we would be standing on the outside looking in – watching other unions or associations do our work for lower wages than our members earn. Our Union is growing, we are taking on many new qualified, dedicated people and we welcome them to our Union.

I am also very pleased to inform you that there will be a new pipeline job with PTI based first in Boyle and then moving on to Marianna Lakes. Again, more jobs for members and people who want to become members of our Union.

Also, we have signed a collective agreement with Compass for the Shell project – it will be a 2500 man camp. This too means more work for UNITE HERE Local 47. Our membership is increasing, our market share is increasing and our power as a Union is increasing. Congratulations to everyone who has helped to make that happen. We are heading into major collective bargaining at Syncrude and Suncor this summer. Our members have submitted their proposals for what they would like to see improved in their Collective Agreement. The bargaining committee will do our best to make sure we get the best deal possible to improve the working conditions and wages of our members on those two sites. But we can't do it alone, we will need those members to be strong, to keep open minds and to stay united when the time comes.

### IN MEMORIAM

#### Doug Thomlinson

Recently our Union lost an integral part of our history. Brother Doug Thomlinson has passed away. He is survived by his wife Evelyn and their children.

As many of you will remember from an earlier newsletter Brother Thomlinson came into the Union Hall to meet Trustee Nick Worhaug. Doug has received the first newsletter in the mail and he wanted to come and thank the people who made an effort to communicate with the membership. In Doug's words "I think this newspaper is Dandy!"

There is so much that Doug did both for his Union and for the community as a whole. Doug started working with our

Union in 1947 in Brooks Alberta. During his time with our Union he was involved in everything from organizing, working as a Camp Attendant and helped to bring the first women to work in the front of the house at the Montgomery Legion. Doug served our Local as a Business Agent, Organizer and President to name a few titles he held. Brother Thomlinson was a strong activist who participated in the Labour Council, the Alberta Federation of Labour, was a founder of the Union Centre Credit Union and he ran as an NDP federal candidate and for city council.

Brother Thomlinson often had his devoted wife and partner Evelyn involved in his efforts. Evelyn used to rent a room in a hotel the Union was trying to organize and would change her

Another great piece of news is that the Trustees of the Camp Culinary Industry Advancement Fund have decided to provide training for all Camp members of Local 47. The training will include WHMIS, CSTS and OSSA and will be happening for both the non-working and working members of our Union. We are the best culinary Union in Alberta and we are working hard to provide the most qualified people for the job. This will not be cheap to give all this training. Any member who registers for the training and does not attend will not be offered it again as we pay for the number of people who register. On the Shell site no one will be able to bid on jobs without this training – that is a requirement of the Client.

The Trustees of the Health Care Plan are working together in implementing a prescription card for our members on the plan. This would mean no more having to submit receipts for prescriptions - you would just have to bring your card and ARM would get billed directly if you are eligible. On the Pension Plan the Trustees have approved a 10% increase retroactive to January 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 for all members who are currently or will be drawing their pension. This will not apply to those who have cashed out their pension plans in a lump sum.

As many of our members know, this Union has had a tumultuous past. It has been in Trusteeship before. In order for the International Presidents to take Local 47 out of Trusteeship they need to see massive improvements. The staff of our Union have been working on improving the systems and functions of the office. And yet, there is still a lot of room for improvement. You the members must work together for the betterment of the whole membership. We must stop all the rumours and remember why we all joined a Union. We joined – to work with like minded people who want to do a great job and get good wages and benefits. We joined – to be part of a group of organized people who believe it is important to represent ALL their Brothers and Sisters and to defend their rights under their Collective Agreements. We have come a long way in a short period of time. We have a lot of new members. It is incumbent on the long time members to take an interest in making our new members feel welcome and valued. If you are working alongside a new Work Permit, or someone who has recently joined our Union take the time to say Hello and ask them how they are doing and if they have any questions. Remember – we are only as strong as our weakest member and each and every one of you are the U in Union.

appearance daily so she could talk to the room attendants without the Management suspecting anything.

This Union has a great history because of people like Doug and his wife Evelyn. We all need to take a moment and remember those who have come before us and work even harder together to follow in their footsteps and continue to build this Union for our children.



"Brother Thomlinson,  
you will be missed."

## Poplar Point and McKay River Lodge Sites –

### THANK YOU!



The Trustees and the staff of Local 47 want to express our deepest thanks to all our Brothers and Sister who work at the Poplar Point site for their compassion and dedication.

Recently 2 temporary foreign workers were killed and 2 more were injured on the job site. Many of us believe that temporary foreign workers is not the way to go. There are those that think it is the start of the slippery slope where the employers get more work for less money. Many of us are immigrants ourselves and believe the Government should open the doors to allow more immigration to our beautiful huge country.

**Did you know?** In applying to immigrate to Canada you get more points in your favour if you failed a Bachelor of Arts degree than you do if you are a certified tradesperson.

No matter what we think. The reality is that the people who are here working are just like you and I only they don't speak English. They are working to provide a good life for their families. They are working thousands of miles from their partners and children with one driving desire - to give their children what they did not have growing up.

While the issue surrounding foreign workers rages on our Brothers and Sisters at Poplar Point site quietly without being asked went above and beyond the call of duty. From the very beginning all our members went out of their way to try to make the workers from China feel comfortable. With the recent deaths they again outdid themselves in their efforts to make their guests at ease by supplying extra hot meals and lending a helping hand in whatever way they could.

We are also proud of all the members working on the CNRL site – the members in McKay raised **\$1,140** for the families of the deceased. And your Union is matching this effort for a total contribution of **\$2,280**. This too shows yet again that all our members believe that people are people, workers are workers no matter where they come from. When one of them is lost we all feel the loss, we set aside our differences and do what we can to try to ease the pain for those left behind.

## UNITE HERE Local 47

### Training and jobs for Camp Sector Members

Through the Camp Culinary Industry Advancement Fund that is jointly Truusted by the Union and our Contractors we are moving forward with an ambitions training program.

In order to keep our members in the position of being the best in the North UNITE HERE Local 47 together with our contractors will be providing the following training to all Camp Members: WHMIS, Food Safe, CSTS (Construction Safety Training Systems) and OSSA (Oil Sands Safety Association). Local 47 is committed to ensuring that our members are trained and ready for any job in the Oilsands of Fort McMurray.

The first round of training has been completed and work has been begun on preparing the training sessions for UNITE HERE Local 47 members who are currently working. There will also be future trainings with our unemployed members if they plan to bid on jobs and go out to work.

The Trustees of Local 47 recently signed a voluntary recognition with Dene West Catering (Compass Group Canada) to staff a brand new camp that will house 2500 workers. This means about 150 jobs for Local 47 members. Local 47 is proud to provide the skilled trades people with their home away from home.

Our future plans include offering the same training to people who are interested in joining our Union. They will pay to take the training in advance that will assist them in obtaining employment through our Work Permit process. Any one who takes this training and is successful and is invited to join Local 47 the CCIAF will refund them a healthy portion of the monies they paid to take the training.

## HOTELS

The Tourist season is in full swing! This is when local 47 Members shine! Visitors from many parts of the world come to our beautiful province. We are the face of the Hospitality industry in Alberta.

In Calgary, the members at the "Five Hotel" have been preparing for bargaining for some time. Now this process has begun. Ian Robb is our chief negotiator, Adora Webb and Tammy Johnson are on the bargaining committee. We have had two days of bargaining, May 7 and 8. Proposals have been exchanged several times with the company and progress has been made. Two more dates have been scheduled. Our Brothers and Sisters are staying united in their fight for a good contract.

When your collective agreement expires it will be your turn to bargain! We need to stay united and organized. Remember to work with your shop stewards and read your contract. Together we will be ready to meet all the future challenges.



**CONGATULATIONS** to UNITE HERE Local 47 members at the Ramada Hotel in Calgary who ratified a new Collective Agreement that included: improved language, stronger seniority and beneficial sick leave provisions and substantial wage increases over a three year term.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the negotiating committee member – *Karen Stensaker* – for all her hard work, dedication and commitment to all the members at the Ramada Hotel.

## BURIAL FUND – BENEFIT OR BURDEN?

As of the printing of this newsletter approximately 60% of the membership have paid the sixty dollars (\$60) that was due on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The burial fund is a long-standing practice this Union is very proud of that everyone has participated in for years and it has benefited many of the families of our members who have passed away. This new burial fund provides benefits that cover the member and their spouse and children.

Legally and under our International Constitution the Union is not able to loan money to anyone and the way the burial fund was operated in the past is exactly what the Local was doing. It would pay out \$7,000 to the beneficiary and then take months to collect that money. That practice was illegal. The staff of your Union did a lot of work to find a way to continue to provide this benefit and even expanded it to cover your family.

**Unfortunately, if all members do not make their payment by September 1, 2007 the Union will have no choice but to cancel this benefit....**

Unfortunately if all the members do not make their payment by September 1, 2007 the Union will have no choice but to cancel this benefit and return the monies that have been paid by those brothers and sisters who have expressed their desire to continue this life insurance plan.

When a member or their family passes away we all want to do what we can to help and the burial fund has been a great comfort to the families of our brothers and sisters who have passed away. Please make your contribution of sixty dollars (\$60) to this insurance plan – it is a small price to pay for the piece of mind of knowing you or your family will have this benefit at a very difficult time in their lives.



## CAMP SECTOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Congratulations to all the members at 41B Cafeteria and dashaways (Syncrude Cafeteria) who recently ratified a new Collective Agreement that includes:

- . Wage increases of 18% over 4 years
- . Improved and brought language up to date
- . Improved health care coverage - to include wage loss
- . Signing bonus of \$350 for each employee

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the negotiating committee members - Dave Andrews and June Darrah - for their hard work, dedication and commitment to all the members at Syncrude 41B cafeteria and dashaways.



Congratulations to members at Lakeside Lodge who ratified an early renegotiation of their Collective Agreement. This new agreement includes such highlights as:

- . Wage increase \$1.00 an hour across the board effective April 1, 2007.
- . Wage increase of \$.75 an hour across the board effective April 1, 2008.
- . \$200 signing bonus.
- . For duration of Collective Agreement recall rights for 90 days from lay-off.

We would like to express our thanks to bargaining committee member - Frankie DaCosta for his constant dedication to the UNITE HERE Local 47 members who work at Lakeside Lodge.

## WORTH THE STORM

Both the Ironworkers and our Union knew that being on the inside of the gate at CNRL would benefit our members and their families. In both Union's there were some who thought it was not a good idea. After more than two years of working on this site we have greatly increased the total number of Local 47 members working, welcomed new brothers and sisters from all over Canada and have improved our medical and pension funds. In short, we have increased our market share – the bigger the piece of the market we control the bigger the benefit to our membership and their families.

The following is an article taken from the Ironworkers Local 720 newsletter. It is a well written article that mirrors UNITE HERE Local 47's take on being part of the CNRL project.

Ian Robb,  
Deputy Trustee Local 47 &  
Darrell LaBoucan,  
Ironworkers International  
Representative and Former  
Local 720 Business Manager



### **Making the tough decisions in the best interests of all members**

The HCML Driver agreements have given union Ironworkers the security of hundreds of thousands of hours of work. Along the way, they have added yet more strength to our health and pension plans.

Very importantly, they have also increased and controlled Local 720's market share.

When the Local decided to go forward with the agreements, we knew they would be reviewed a year later. Now with the results coming in, it's clear that the positives far outweigh the negatives.

As a union, we need to support the right decisions, knowing that they will continue to pay off for our members and their families.

Opportunities often come disguised in many ways. Thank you for your patience in giving this opportunity a chance to strengthen our organization's future.

Darrell LaBoucan,  
Business Manager, Local 720

## UNITE HERE

### CANADIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

In November 2006 Deputy Trustee Ian Robb, Union Representative Joanne Moody, Brother Terry Charlton and Brother Sam Asfour attended the biannual Canadian Leadership Conference.

The following is a brief report written by Brother Charlton in order to share his experience with all members of UNITE HERE Local 47.

*I was privileged to attend the 2006 UNITE HERE Canadian Leadership Conference held in Victoria, BC.*

*The merger of the two unions UNITE and HERE proved to be a success. We now have a larger and extremely powerful union. This will prove most beneficial when dealing with the large conglomerates.*

*The depth at present of our Union consists of: Hotel Workers, Laundry Workers, Textile Workers, Service Workers Camp Workers and I am sure more will follow.*

*The motivation, organization, talent, and skills of our leaders in the Union are to be championed, without the above we would flounder.*

*Three topics at the Conference that I felt to be of great importance;*

*The logo – UNITE HERE and the Hotel Workers rising campaign. A distinctive logo will register in the minds of the general public just like the Golden Arches do. We definitely require a positive picture and presence not only in the public but also with the federal and provincial of governments.*

*Political lobbying and action in all areas where most required especially the public. IE the loss of the Canadian textile industry to China.*

*Foreign Workers. A labour shortage looms in Canada. NOW is the time to create and implement a strong organized labour movement campaign. For example; full media coverage, educate our governments, our members and John Q Public. We need to talk to whoever will listen. As a Union member it is your responsibility to do your share of educating.*

*It has been my privilege to be a proud and positive Union member for 35 years and at the same time a Union activist. At this time I hold the position of Chief Job Steward for the SUNCOR Camp in Fort McMurray, AB. We have approximately 300 members that service over 3500 construction workers. I am proud to be a member of UNITE HERE Local 47.*



Terry Charlton, I.U. President John Wilhelm, LAFS Coordinator Jim Dupont, Ian Robb, Joanne Moody and Sam Asfour

## UNITE HERE Local 47

### Leads the Way in SAFETY!

#### CONGRATULATIONS Local 47 members who work at Syncrude!

In March this year UNITE HERE Local 47 was presented with the Syncrude President's award for 8 continuous years without a Lost Time Injury.

UNITE HERE Local 47 was one of 3 Building Trades Unions to receive this prestigious award.

President Carter started this program to recognize excellence in the prevention of Lost Time Injuries. This will be the final year that President Carter will be presenting these awards. President Carter has recently retired. *The members of UNITE HERE Local 47 wish him all the best during his retirement.*



Syncrude President Carter and Deputy Trustee Ian Robb



#### CONGRATULATIONS to CNRL Poplar Point, Horizon Camp UNITE HERE Local 47 members!

Recently CNRL performed an inspection of the Poplar Point Camp.

Overall the camp received an impressive 93% and our own Ghazi Rawdah as the Health and Safety Officer received an overwhelming 100% rating!

The affable Brother Rawdah is always there to lend a hand and mentor new members. When approached Brother Rawdah was more than happy to write the following brief article to share with his Brothers and Sisters.

*I have been a member of UNITE HERE Local 47 since the summer of 1976. I started out as a dishwasher in Syncrude. I have held various positions in the kitchens and dining rooms of both large and medium camps throughout my career in Northern Alberta. I am presently the Head Waiter at the Poplar Point Horizon Camp and I also hold the position of relief Job Steward and Health and Safety Coordinator. Throughout the last two years, I have put my many years of experience to work in maintaining a well run and organized dining room. The duties of my multiple positions require me to oversee and train all present and new General Help and Dishwasher members who come on board at the Horizon Camp.*

*I take my responsibilities of tidiness, health and safety, and Union Representative seriously. I ensure that all staff have a working knowledge and understanding of all Health and Safety issues as well as familiarizing with the Collective Agreement. I take young new members under my wing and train them in all aspect of our business. I believe that it is passion like mine that ensures a future generation of high quality Brothers and Sisters for UNITE HERE Local 47.*

*I am whole-heartedly grateful for this opportunity to work this many years with so many Brothers and Sisters of this Union. In closing, I especially want to thank the Union Representatives and my fellow Brothers and Sisters at the Poplar Point Horizon Camp.*

Sincerely,

Ghazi Rawdah

**Editors note: We are very proud to have members like Ghazi and we strongly encourage other long term members to mentor the new people joining our great Union!**



# THANK YOU!

## Brothers and Sisters of UNITE HERE Local 47

Your Union received the following thank you letters and we are pleased to share them with you.

After the Christmas parties in Fort McMurray and Edmonton the staff of your Union took the unclaimed gifts and donated them to the WIN house here in Edmonton.

*On behalf of the women and children of WIN House, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of toys. It was very thoughtful of you and will make a big difference to us. Thank you.*

*Last year we served 358 women and 649 children. This donation is vital in helping us provide the necessities of life to the women and children who must use our services both in the shelter and in our Outreach Program.*

*Your thoughtfulness and interest in our agency is much appreciate.*

Sincerely,

Donna Pechanec  
Board President  
WIN House



# THE FACES OF EXCELLENT IN EDMONTON!

Recently Edmonton was home to the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual You're Welcome Edmonton Awards. Over the last 8 years several of our Brothers and Sisters have been nominated and many have won these prestigious awards.

This year we are very pleased to join the Edmonton Journal, TEAM, Edmonton Tourism, Mediaco in congratulating two of our Local 47 members who received awards in their respective category.

Brother Jason Spencer who is a server in LaRonde the revolving restaurant at the top of the Crowne Plaza Chateau Lacombe Hotel was awarded the Outstanding Fine Dining award.

Brother Jacob Golka who is a Guest Services Agent at the Crowne Plaza Chateau Lacombe Hotel was awarded the Outstanding Frontline Services Award.



Jason Spencer and Jacob Golka

## CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING THE BEST JASON AND JACOB!!



We would also like to recognize the outstanding contributions of the others nominated for these awards from the Crowne Plaza Chateau Lacombe:

Veronica Abbott  
Shazmin Jamal Dhanji  
Dean Takata  
Nan Sykes

Leo Brosboll  
Lisa Lau  
Daniel Mak  
Shirley Turvey

Christopher Horobec  
Colin Murph  
Marketa Malinowski

## UFCW Striking PALACE CASINO workers say THANK YOU! for support over the Christmas Period.

At Christmas time the workers at the Palace Casino had been on strike for several months. Our Union is proud to have sponsored four (4) families of striking workers to provide some Christmas cheer during this difficult strike. These workers were and still are fighting for fair treatment.

*The striking members of the Palace Casino, our Executive and Staff of UFCW Local 401 want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the many Locals, individual members, the Alberta Federation of Labour, among others that contributed to this fundraiser. It has been five months now and the Strike continues with no end in sight but our members continue to be strong thanks in part to your support.*

*In hindsight, it was a great success and we were able to raise over sixty thousand (\$60,000) dollars towards the Palace Casino Strike. The contributions from the Labour movement were exceptional. We had received contributions from within Alberta, BC, Eastern Canada personal ones from individuals, small bargaining units that took up collections and people in the Mall just handing over twenty (\$20) dollars or so to help with Christmas.*

*Last but not least were the expressions and appreciation from the picketers on what they received from their fundraiser. The gratitude that they showed to us because they were strong enough to tell their Employer that they wanted fair treatment is well worth the effort. They are to be commended for their stamina in what has been a very lengthy and tedious strike.*

*Once again, thank you to everyone that helped make this fundraiser a huge success and this is the true definition of solidarity.*

In Solidarity

Doug O'Halloran  
President  
UFCW Local 401



Rick and Matthew Nikolaychuk leafleting.

## BREAKING NEWS

### UNITE HERE LOCAL 47 TAKES ACTION

UNITE HERE Local 47 recently took action by participating in a UNITE HERE International campaign to defend workers right to organize.

Across Canada and the United States your Brothers and Sisters stood up and let American Eagle Outfitters know that unfair harassment and intimidation of worker will not be tolerated. The workers at the National Logistics Services warehouse in Mississauga that distributes merchandise have applied to join UNITE HERE. The workers wanted to join our union because they have not gotten a raise in over two years. The workers have been forced to endure an arbitrary increase of hours worked before overtime is paid. Overall this workplace lacked fair process, respect of workers and decent treatment by management. American Eagle Outfitters is NLS's largest client and recently owned that very distribution centre.

The same day the workers applied for union certification NLS Management hired an anti-union company from the United States and arranged a series of mandatory meetings with employees. The workers were subjected to two – four hour anti-union meetings daily. The company even mailed an anti-union DVD to their homes. There were huge "VOTE NO" posters in the work place. As a result of this intimidation and misinformation, workers lost the vote for a union despite strong support just one week before the vote.

Brother Rick and Matt Nikolaychuk joined Brother Donald Patanaude in handing out information bulletins to people in the malls in Edmonton. Together they talked to shoppers about the way the warehouse workers were being treated. At each of the three locations in Edmonton and the four locations in Calgary this leaflet was handed out to shoppers and was presented to the on shift manager of American Eagle Outfitters.

Join Rick, Matt, Donald and the rest of our Brothers and Sisters across North America in delivering a message. Pass the word, the more people talk about these types of anti-union actions the more strength the workers feel and the louder our voice.

**Recent Update: Together our Brothers and Sisters across North America leafleted more than 75 stores in 20 cities. American Eagle spokesperson told the Montreal Gazette on June 1, "...the Company's contractors must follow its code of conduct – which includes the freedom to unionize.... As a responsible business we are keeping a close eye on this."**

