



POWERWORKS

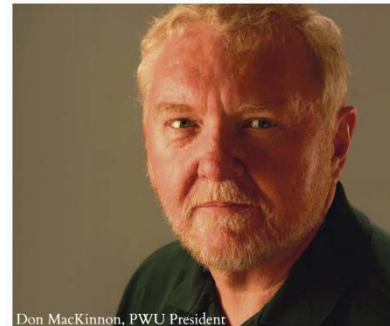
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December 2014 **POWER WORKERS' UNION NEWSLETTER**

Year-End Message from PWU President, Don MacKinnon

As the year draws to a close, we should pause and reflect on what has been a very eventful year. Very few of us would have predicted that a provincial election would be called or that the Liberals would regain a majority.

It is important to note that the Ontario government has reaffirmed its commitment to the refurbishment of ten reactors at OPG's Darlington Generating Station and Bruce



Power. While we would have liked the government to announce the building of new reactors, it is clear that nuclear power generation will be an important part of Ontario's electricity mix for decades to come. Last month, I reported on the agreement that the PWU and the Society of Energy Professionals achieved concerning the merger of the Independent Electricity System Operator and the Ontario Power Authority.

Sadly, in 2014, one of our members was killed in a work-related motor vehicle accident and two more were very seriously injured in high-voltage electrical contact accidents. Our thoughts go out to those members, their families and co-workers and we reconfirm our efforts to stamp out these needless and horrific events.

The New Year will bring increased scrutiny because of the Leech Report on electricity sector pensions and the recommendations of the Premier's Council on Government Assets to split the transmission and distribution businesses of Hydro One into separate companies and then to sell a majority share of the distribution business to the private sector. We have written letters and met repeatedly with government officials at the highest levels to identify the folly of these proposals. I assure you there will be much, much more to come on this front in the New Year. In January, we will begin bargaining with provincially-owned Ontario Power Generation and Hydro One, our two largest employers.

Despite these challenges, the PWU remains strong. We had a very successful year, concluding very good collective agreements on behalf of our members that include real improvements in wages, benefits and security. We have continued to exercise leadership on energy issues in the public arena and in many regulatory venues.

On behalf of all PWU members I thank the elected representatives and staff of the Union for their tireless efforts in support of the membership.

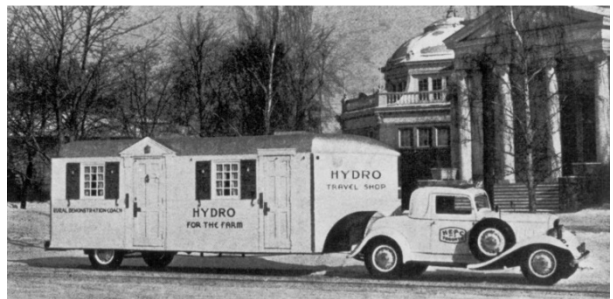
PWU members across the province should take great pride that you do your jobs well, in all types of circumstances, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days of the year to keep Ontario's lights on.

Merry Christmas and best wishes to all for the holiday season!

Don MacKinnon
President

New PWU Website Goes Live

In early December, the PWU launched its new website. The new site contains updated information on a variety of topics and incorporates content from *A Better Energy Plan* website that the Union has hosted for many years. You can visit the new site at www.pwu.ca. We are still working out some of the bugs, so if you spot any please contact our Communications Staff Officer, Donald Wallace at dwallace@pwu.ca.



Hydro One Awards Tender to Inergi

In early December, Hydro One announced that it had selected Inergi to carry out the work currently being done by both Inergi and Vertex. Inergi concluded a new five-year Master Services Agreement with Hydro One that applies essentially to its existing range of services. Inergi was also the successful bidder to provide Customer Service Operations (CSO) currently provided by Vertex. The CSO contract is for three years with the option for two one-year extensions.

When Hydro One first issued the Request for Proposals (RFP) for this work, it did not require the successful bidder to recognize the PWU as the bargaining agent. As a result, if Inergi and Vertex were not the successful bidders for the work, the employment of PWU members would be put at risk. The PWU grieved against Hydro One to protect the interests of members at both Inergi and Vertex. The grievance settlement reached before the Chief Arbitrator a year ago gave the PWU the means to protect the job security, wages and benefits of the affected members for the term of the contract resulting from this RFP.

This process has been long and stressful but the outcome is one of the very best possible for PWU members who will keep their current jobs, wage rates, pensions, and seniority and will remain at their current work locations.

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories Launched

On November 3, 2014, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) announced the creation of its wholly-owned subsidiary to be called Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL). The new company's corporate headquarters and core research and development operations will remain at Chalk River.

The new organization will focus on three key areas: managing the radioactive waste and decommissioning activities associated with more than 60 years of operation; providing nuclear science and technology capabilities in support of federal responsibilities; and providing nuclear science and technology facilities and expertise on a commercial basis to Canada's nuclear industry. When the new operators at CNL are selected, the Union will meet with them on a number of issues including pension arrangements for PWU-represented employees.

The formal establishment of CNL represents another stage in the federal government's restructuring of AECL under a Government-owned, Contractor-operated model. Although at least four consortiums of companies have already been qualified as bidders, the federal government has extended the deadline for the AECL Request for Response Evaluation several times. Qualified companies will be able to take the next step in the process, namely the submission of a bid under a Request for Proposals to operate the labs. The selection of a preferred bidder is not expected before late 2015. At that time, AECL will become a smaller Crown Corporation focusing on the management and oversight of the contract with the private-sector entity.

Canadian Labour Congress Airs New "Fairness Works" TV Ads

Beginning November 24, 2014 the most recent round of the Canadian Labour Congress's Fairness Works ads began to be aired in every region of the country. The campaign also includes advertising in four major urban centres and on the Internet. These new ads focus on issues that the labour movement works to advance for the benefit of all Canadians – good jobs, childcare, health care, retirement security and equality. The television ads will run on major networks until December 22, 2014.



You can also watch the new television ads on the CLC's YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rqswk71Pd_I

PWU Helps To Sponsor High School Robotics

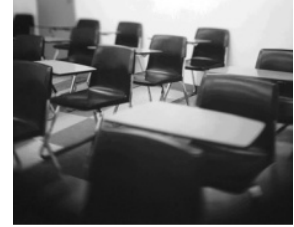
FIRST Robotics Canada was established in 2001 and offers a program that encourages high school students to become involved in science and technology. It provides opportunities for students, working in teams and assisted by expert adult mentors, to build high-tech robots and to take part in tournaments that put their creations and abilities to the test through on-field competitions, judged awards and other forms of recognition. In Canada alone, FIRST has 160 teams involving over 5,000 students, 1,000 mentors and 800 volunteers.



Beginning in 2004, two PWU members working at Bruce Power collaborated with two other Bruce Power employees to create a safety program for FIRST Robotics. That program has since been adopted by FIRST around the world and helps protect thousands of students. The PWU partners with Bruce Power to sponsor the program's safety component.

PWU Training Schedule, February to June 2015

To prepare for what lies ahead, the PWU offers comprehensive training programs for our members and representatives. These programs have been a great success for the PWU with positive feedback from participants. Here are the offerings for the first half of 2015:



Health and Safety Accreditation 1

February 4-6

Member Awareness Session

March 2-3

Stewards Level 1

March 25-27

Stewards Level 2

April 15-17

Member Awareness Session

April 27-28

Member Awareness Session

June 15-16

Health and Safety Accreditation 2

June 17-19