

## New PWU Leaders Take Oath of Office



*Don MacKinnon (left) congratulates Mel Hyatt on becoming the 15<sup>th</sup> PWU President at the 2017 PWU Election Convention.*

It is with great pleasure and pride, that the PWU announces Mel Hyatt as its 15th President following his acclamation to the President's Office at the 2017 PWU Election Convention held at the Markham Hilton Suites on June 20 and 21, 2017. Former PWU President Don MacKinnon had declared on March 29, that he would not be seeking re-election as President, and that after an inspiring 46 year career he planned on retiring.

For many years prior to becoming President, Mel Hyatt has been a leader in the organization. He has served as the PWU Vice President Sector 3

for 17 years. Mel worked as an electrical operator for Hydro One/Ontario Hydro and began his involvement with the PWU as a Steward in 1981. He was elected to the position of Chief Steward eight years later. He became a PWU Divisional Chairperson in 1991 and was elected as a Sector 3 Representative on the PWU Executive Board in 1999.

He has a tremendous amount of experience at the bargaining table, having been responsible for more than 30 Sector 3 PWU collective agreements and has represented the PWU on a multitude of committees over the years. **Continued on Page 2...**

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# New PWU Leaders Take Oath of Office Continued

Jeff Parnell was acclaimed as PWU Vice President Sector 2. The Chief Stewards first elected Jeff to the position in September of 2016 when the former Vice President Sector 2, Brad Carnduff, announced his retirement. Jeff Parnell is an electrician by trade and was a Chief Steward at Ontario Power Generation (OPG) in Unit 2-12 for seven years prior to becoming PWU Vice President Sector 2.

Long-serving Chief Steward for Unit 3-04 at Hydro One, and Sector 3 Representative on the PWU Executive Board, Tom Chessell was acclaimed as PWU Vice President Sector 3. Tom is a powerline technician by trade.

The position of PWU Vice President Sector 1 was contested at the Election Convention following an announcement from Bob Walker that he would not be seeking re-election. Andrew Clunis, Sector 1 Representative on the Executive Board and Chief Steward for Unit 1-22 at OPG and Jordan Rock, long-serving Chief Steward for Unit 1-09 at OPG and former Executive Board Representative Sector 1, accepted their nominations and stood as candidates for the position. Each outlined their detailed election platforms in their speeches to the election convention delegates.

The candidates also responded to all of the questions asked during the ensuing question period. In total, 90 delegates, representing the PWU Members from 26 Sector 1 Units, were in attendance to interact with the candidates, listen to the speeches, ask questions and cast their votes.

On the morning of June 21st, Andrew Clunis was elected to the Office of PWU Vice President Sector 1. Andrew previously served as an Emergency Response Maintainer at OPG's Darlington Station.



*Don MacKinnon administers the Oath of Office and congratulates the newly elected PWU Executive Officers on behalf of all PWU members.*



*Bob Walker (left), congratulates Andrew Clunis on his election to the Office of PWU Vice President Sector 1.*

# PWU Welcomes Alectra Employees into Membership



Wednesday, June 28, 2017 was a memorable day for both the Power Workers' Union (PWU) and the unionized workforce at Alectra Utilities. The month-long representation vote campaign at Alectra, Ontario's newest and largest municipally owned distribution company, concluded with a first ballot majority victory for the PWU. Alectra was formed from the former PowerStream, Horizon Utilities, Enersource and Hydro One Brampton.

Polling locations were set up by the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB) at nine of Alectra's work locations; Barrie, Brampton, St. Catharines, Hamilton (John Street), Hamilton (Nebo Road), Mississauga (Mavis Road), Mississauga (Derry Road), Vaughan and Markham. The OLRB officials and the designated Union scrutineers assembled at the Mississauga (Derry Road) work location at 6:00 pm to tally up the ballots. The final result was a clear 69.4% first ballot majority in favor of the PWU over the IBEW and Unifor.

PWU President Mel Hyatt, welcomed all of the newest PWU members into the Union, issuing a President's Bulletin just minutes after the representation vote results were made public.

*"The PWU is extremely pleased with the result and we will work hard to help Alectra employees share in the benefits that a merger of this size should bring and to provide the best possible representation to all members involved."*

*Mel Hyatt,  
President – Power Workers' Union*

On July 20, 2017 the OLRB issued an official notice of the board declaring the PWU as the exclusive bargaining agent for the employees in the Alectra bargaining unit. The PWU is now proceeding with preparations to begin contract negotiations for a new, single collective agreement for all Alectra employees this fall. On July 12, the PWU announced the beginning of the election process for the four PWU Chief Stewards that will represent well over 1,000 PWU members geographically. The PWU Chief Steward election process is scheduled to end on September 8, 2017. The member bargaining submission process will run in parallel with these Chief Steward elections.

There is much work to be done including establishing a solid representative structure, the formation of a Bargaining Committee, and negotiation of a new single collective agreement to replace the five current agreements.

Total number of eligible unionized employees	1024
Total number of ballots cast	852
<b>Total number of votes for the PWU</b>	<b>591</b>
Total number of votes for IBEW Local 636	167
Total number of votes for Unifor Local 1285	94
Spoiled ballots	1



# Release of Ontario's 2017 LTEP Expected Early This Fall

Ontario's long-awaited Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP) is expected to be released early this fall. The Power Workers' Union (PWU) engaged in the development process of this LTEP in a number of ways and is looking forward to seeing some key initiatives from its submissions formalised in the plan.

Crucial to any long-term energy plan is the requirement to moderate Ontario's residential, rural, industrial and commercial consumer's price for electricity. To this end, the government placed a great deal of focus on enacting Ontario's *Fair Hydro Act* before releasing the final LTEP. The *Fair Hydro Act* targets electricity rates for residential customers and according to the Ontario Energy Board is purported to:

- lower electricity bills by an average of 25% for all residential customers and for as many as half a million small businesses and farms;
- hold increases to the rate of inflation for four years;
- provide additional bill relief for residential customers in rural or remote areas of the province and for on-reserve First Nations residential customers; and
- remove the cost of certain electricity-related relief programs from electricity bills, and alternatively fund those programs through taxes.

Effective long-term energy planning must support the desired outcomes for both electricity rates and carbon emissions produced through the generation of electricity for the province.

The PWU commissioned expert research studies and produced a formal LTEP submission that provided long-term energy solutions based on factual price per kilowatt hour comparisons between all existing and proposed electrical energy developments. These expert analyses clearly identify nuclear energy as the optimum foundation of Ontario's electricity system. The analyses support staying the course with Ontario's homegrown nuclear advantage through refurbishment of six more generating units at Bruce Power and four more Darlington units. It supports the government's decision to extend the operation of Pickering to 2024 as well as exploring new build opportunities. The PWU

made its in-depth submissions in support of previously announced initiatives of the Ontario government and to date we have every indication that the government will stay the course.

Nuclear generation is essential to meeting the government's legislated decarbonisation targets. It can support the required further electrification of Ontario's economy and represents the earliest and most cost-effective path to significant reductions of the energy sectors' green-

house gas emissions. Nuclear generation should be a critical component to the province's LTEP for clean air and long-term, low-cost, low-carbon energy security.

Additionally, the PWU LTEP submission supported maximizing Ontario's hydroelectric development to the extent that it is commercially feasible, continuing to expand the use of biomass as an alternative low-carbon fuel in Ontario's thermal generating stations, and continuing on with the use of natural gas generation for peak supply needs.

We will report further when the LTEP is released.



# PWU Annual Charity Golf Tournament Raises \$50k for Charities



On the morning of Thursday, June 8 under a beautiful sunny sky, over four hundred golfers gathered at the Nottawasaga Inn, Alliston ON, to take part in the 21<sup>st</sup> PWU Annual Charity Golf Tournament. The tournament field, made up of PWU Members, industry partners, event sponsors and associates, raised \$50,000 towards the Ross Tilley Burn Unit at Sunnybrook Hospital, the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada and the Diabetes Hope Foundation.

The official results of the four-person scramble from each of the three golf courses were:

Ridge Course Winning Score: 58	Briar Course Winning Score: 56	Valley Course Winning Score: 58
Don Keating	Mark Smith	Jim Nesbitt
Travis Thaw	Jaratt MacIntosh	Darrin Gavey
Dean Girodat	Jimmy Hocroyd	Craig Jones
Russ O'Handley	Kyle Boulton	Warren Wheeler

The names of every golfer in each of the prize-winning four-somes will be engraved onto the PWU Annual Charity Golf Tournament Championship Trophy.

The prizes for women's longest drive were awarded to: Heather Haire (Ridge), Jessica Joseph (Briar), and Vicki Gallagher (Valley) while Matt Vienneau (Ridge), Nolan Prestley (Briar), and Derek Kurelo (Valley) had

the longest drive for the men. Each golfer received a trophy for their display of gravity defying athleticism. This year's longest drive contest was graciously sponsored by Toronto Hydro.

For the Closest to the Pin Contest, Dawn Cannon (Briar), and Biljana Egelja (Valley) were the winners on the women's side while Mel Hyatt (Ridge), Aaron Martyn (Briar), and Ken Catto (Valley) were the most accurate of the men. Each took home a trophy for their successful effort.

The PWU appreciates all of the sponsorship for this year's golf tournament and would like to recognize our Silver and Gold level Sponsors; Toronto Hydro, Union Marketing and Gluskin Sheff + Associates Inc., for their generosity.

Thank you to all PWU Members who travelled from all across Ontario to take part in making this year's event a tremendous success.

The PWU is looking forward to hosting this event again next summer.





# PWU Utility Council Continues to Grow

The Power Workers' Union Utility Council was formed in September of 1994. At that time, elected worker representatives from each of the three originally organized utilities; Bill Doerksen from Kenora Hydro, Guy Langlais from Dryden Hydro, and Al Cochrane from Whitby Hydro worked with then Vice President, Don MacKinnon, to formulate the structure, policies and procedures that would provide the Council's direction. It was established as a forum where elected PWU worker representatives from each utility could meet together regularly, share experiences and formulate effective strategies to resolve workplace issues.

The business environment in which Ontario's utilities operate is dynamic. Technological advancements, political ideology, and public perception can play major roles in influencing labour relations and future business operations.

The Council has proven to be very successful and has helped workers from each utility make improvements in their relationships with their employers, their workplace health and safety and their respective collective agreements.

Since its establishment, the PWU Utility Council has grown not only in numbers but also in its effectiveness. Within the past year alone, the Utility Council has grown by more than 1,600 members with employees from Toronto Hydro, Cogeco Peer 1, Collus PowerStream Corp., Quality Tree Services and Alectra Utilities having all joined the PWU.

We are looking forward to having the newest Chief and Principal Stewards at the next PWU Utility Council meeting scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of September.



**Front Row Left:** Steve Rattai (Sioux Lookout Hydro Inc.), John Camilleri (Toronto Hydro & Cogeco Peer 1), Paul Reece (PWU Chief of Staff), Mel Hyatt (PWU President), Tom Chessell (PWU Vice President Sector 3), Christa Heldson (PWU Senior Admin.), Jeff Priddle (Sault Ste. Marie PUC Services).

**Middle Row Left:** Reg Clarke (Whitby - Outside), Dave Brett (Orangeville Hydro Ltd.), Steve Allan (Sector 3 Executive Board Rep.), Fred VanBavel (Entegrus), Adam Charlebois (Milton Hydro), Brad Miller (SouthWestern Energy), Pam Rafeiro (London Hydro), Ann Paquette (Erie Thames Powerlines & ERT Holdings), Lineisha Bernard (Toronto Hydro - Inside), Julie Scriver (Whitby - Inside), Doug Jeffery (Algoma Power), Brian Hess (Newmarket Hydro), Steve Brennen (Kenora Hydro), Tony Mendicino (InnPower Corporation)

**Back Row Left:** Chris Haslam (Westario Power Inc.), Daljeet Matharu (Cogeco Peer 1), Jason Harrison (Kitchener Wilmot Hydro), James Middleton (Toronto Hydro-Outside), Andy Jefferies (Quality Tree Service), Phil Parkinson (Grimsby Power Inc.), Shane Middlekamp (Rogers Kincardine), Jason Graves (Halton Hills), Kevin Grant (Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie - Inside), Dave Deane (Energy + Inc.), Pat Halfpenny (Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie - Outside), Todd Dion (Alectra Utilities)

## A Wonderful Experience at Wonderland



*PWU members enjoying the Courtyard Area at Canada's Wonderland*

The first ever PWU Day at Canada's Wonderland took place on June 10, 2017 with over 4,500 PWU members and their families partaking in an incredible day amongst family and friends.

The gates officially opened at 9:00 am, and there were plenty of PWU members ready to jump in on the action. Two ride areas were set aside entirely for PWU members and their families to enjoy for an hour before the park opened to the general public. The catered lunch buffet was held in the parks' Courtyard Area. The large covered space provided some much needed shade from the hot mid-day sun and a chance to re-energize.

## RWC "Go Paperless" Draw Winners



A Retired Workers' Chapter (RWC) "Go Paperless" prize draw was held at the PWU Office on April 10, 2017. "Go Paperless" is a PWU initiative that rewards randomly selected RWC members who have chosen to receive their PWU communications electronically and have provided a personal email address. RWC members benefit because they get their Union communications delivered straight to their inbox and do not have to wait for their mail to be delivered. As the name suggests, there is also an environmental benefit to the initiative, by saving paper.

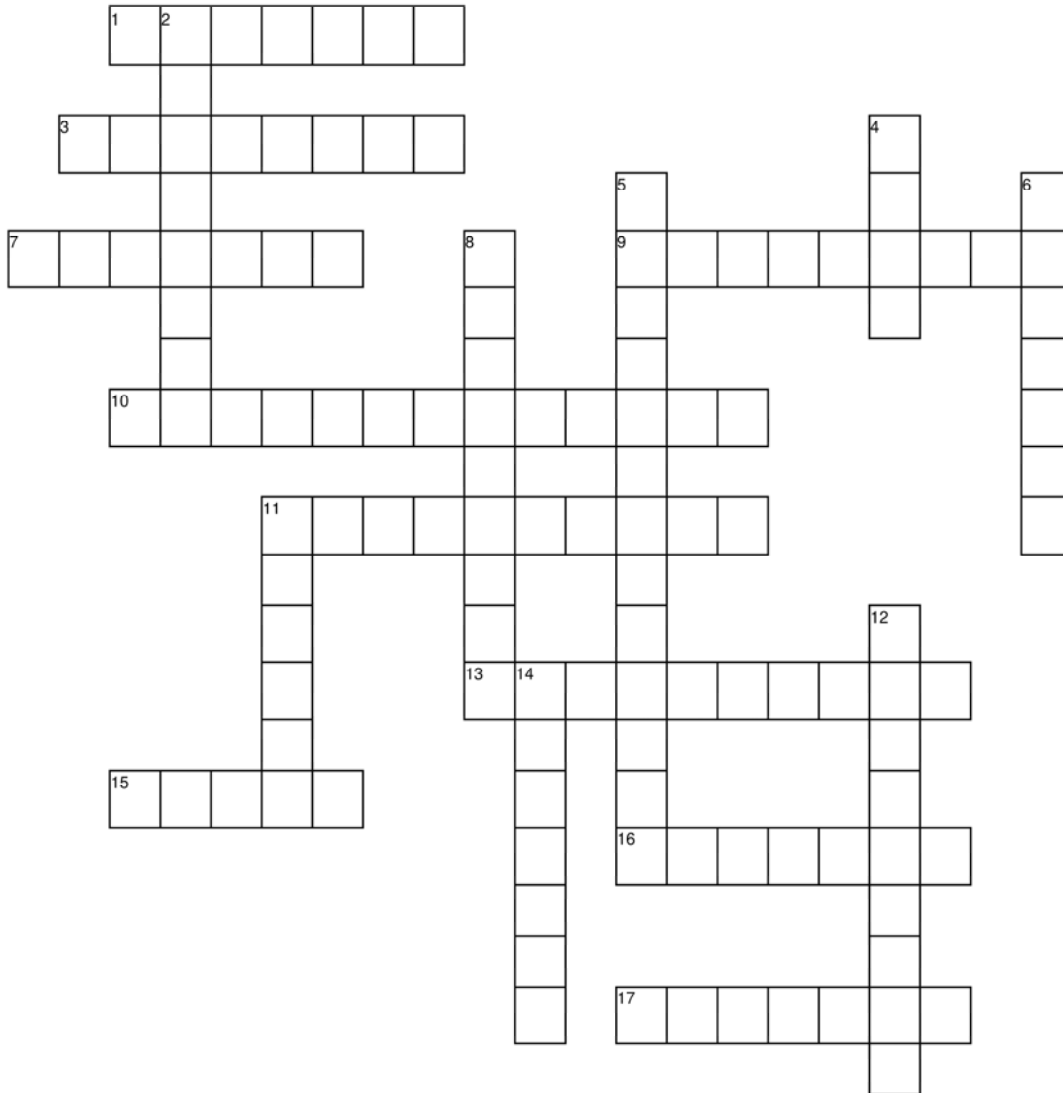
Congratulations to Bob Grills and Colleen Stevenson for having been selected as this draws' winners. Each of the lucky participants have received a PWU prize pack.

## Power Workers' Union Encourages Innovation at UOIT



The Power Workers' Union (PWU) is helping to drive innovation at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) by supporting students involved in smart grid and electric vehicle research.

*(Left) Andrew Clunis (PWU VP Sector 1), Mel Hyatt (PWU President), Bob Walker (Former PWU VP Sector 1) and Mohammed Yasin Ali (Master's Student at UOIT) stand in front of the new Power Workers' Union Smart Grid and Electric Vehicle Research Laboratory.*



**Across**

1. The PWU supports continuing to expand the use of \_\_\_\_\_ as an alternative low-carbon fuel.
3. Tom \_\_\_\_\_ is the new PWU Vice President Sector 3.
7. Research shows that \_\_\_\_\_ energy is the foundation of Ontario's electricity system.
9. The President and the three Vice Presidents are the Union's \_\_\_\_\_ officers.
10. PWU supported maximizing Ontario's \_\_\_\_\_ generation development.
11. The PWU is now the exclusive \_\_\_\_\_ agent for the employees at Alectra.
13. The PWU made a formal LTEP \_\_\_\_\_ to Ontario's Ministry of Energy.
15. Mel \_\_\_\_\_ is the PWU's 15th President.
16. The Longest Drive competition was sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_ Hydro at the PWU Annual Charity Golf Tournament.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ is Ontario's newest and largest municipally owned distribution company.

**Down**

2. Political \_\_\_\_\_ can influence labour relations and future business operations for Ontario's utilities.
4. New PWU leaders took the \_\_\_\_\_ of Office.
5. Ontario should reinvest in existing nuclear generating assets through \_\_\_\_\_ of existing nuclear reactors.
6. The winners of the "go paperless" draw were members of the PWU \_\_\_\_\_ Workers' Chapter.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ vote on behalf of the membership at the PWU Election Convention.
11. The Alectra Representation Vote resulted in a clear 69.4% first \_\_\_\_\_ majority in favour of the PWU.
12. Lunch was served in Wonderland's \_\_\_\_\_ area.
14. The PWU \_\_\_\_\_ Council has grown by over 1,600 members in the last year.

