



Highlights of PWU President Mel Hyatt's Report to the Council of Chief Stewards September 27, 2017



Mel Hyatt, President of the Power Workers' Union (PWU) addressed the Council of Chief Stewards on September 27, 2017. In his inaugural President's Report to Council, he articulated the tremendous honour he feels in representing the PWU as President. He then spoke to the Council about the PWU's past, present and future.

He began by thanking former President Don MacKinnon, former Sector 1 Vice President Bob Walker and former Sector 2 Vice President Brad Carnduff, for their service to the PWU and all they had accomplished for the Union throughout their careers. On behalf of all PWU members, he wished them all the very best in retirement.

Next, Mel Hyatt spoke about the present state of the PWU. He welcomed the three newest Chief Stewards representing PWU members from Alectra and acknowledged that there were 15 new Chief Stewards in attendance since last year's Council. He discussed the new PWU Executive Committee, which is now comprised of Andrew Clunis Vice President Sector 1, Jeff Parnell Vice President Sector 2, and Tom Chessell Vice President Sector 3. He expressed his confidence in the PWU Executive Committee's ability to use their experience as leaders and work together towards overcoming all challenges.

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Mel Hyatt then reported that the PWU has recently experienced some tremendous successes:

- Merging 900 members from CUPE Local One who voted 92% in favour of joining the PWU in October of last year.
- Acquiring more than 650 new members and retaining 340 more from the Alectra merger and subsequent representation vote where 69.4% of all voters provided the PWU a first ballot majority.
- Repatriating customer service employees full circle from Hydro One to Vertex to Inergi-CSO and now back to Hydro One.

He explained that the PWU Staff resources have grown in balance with the influx of new PWU members who now work in 60 separate bargaining units.

Mel Hyatt's report then shifted to the future. He described the work and resources that have gone into advising the current Ontario government on the best options for Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP) which is expected to be released any day now.

The PWU anticipates Ontario's LTEP will lean heavily on nuclear generation, committing to the complete refurbishment of the Bruce Power and OPG Darlington stations, as well as continued operations at OPG Pickering through to 2024. He also explained that more Local Distribution Company (LDC) mergers are on the horizon. A representation vote is scheduled on October 19, 2017 for Energy+, a merger of Brant County Power Inc., Cambridge and North Dumfries Hydro Inc. A similar situation exists in Durham region with Whitby Hydro Energy Corporation and Veridian Corporation having taken steps towards consolidating the two utilities.

PWU President Mel Hyatt then spoke of the bargaining that the PWU will be engaged in throughout the coming year. Ontario's five largest electricity sector bargaining units, Bruce Power, Hydro One, OPG, Alectra and Toronto Hydro are all scheduled to commence collective bargaining before the end of March 2018.

The President concluded his report with a sincere thank-you to all of the PWU's representatives for the meaningful work they do.

Ontario Energy Minister Glenn Thibeault at the 2017 Council of Chief Stewards

The Minister of Energy accepted an opportunity to speak at this year's Council of Chief Stewards. In his ten-minute speech to Council, Minister Thibeault praised PWU members from the nuclear sector for achieving national and international recognition in health and safety ratings. Thibeault also thanked PWU members from the utility sector for the work they performed, restoring power in the aftermath of hurricane Irma.

The Energy Minister also spoke about the significant health and environmental benefits that Ontario's nuclear advantage brings to the people of Ontario. He went on to explain that the province's forthcoming Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP) will re-commit to the full refurbishment of ten nuclear reactors at OPG Darlington and Bruce Power Stations and pursue continued operations at Pickering to 2024. He graciously took the time to answer questions and speak with PWU Chief Stewards after he concluded his speech.



Left: Mel Hyatt, President PWU, presents Glenn Thibeault, Ontario's Minister of Energy, with a token of appreciation for speaking at the 2017 PWU Council of Chief Stewards.

Changes Within the PWU President's Office

Power Workers' Union (PWU) President Mel Hyatt, recently announced two PWU Staff promotions to the Office of the President.

Paul Reece has been promoted to the Chief of Staff position. Paul has helped the Union achieve several successes and has played significant roles in the organization throughout his career. He brings skill, knowledge and experience to the Chief of Staff position.



As an employee of Ontario Hydro, Paul was a PWU Health and Safety Committee Member and was elected as Chief Steward for Division 1 Unit 7 in 1985. In 1989 he was elected as a Division 1 Representative on the PWU Executive Board. In 2002, he was hired to the position of PWU Health and Safety Staff Officer, a position that he held for seven years. In 2009, he became the Staff Officer for Sector 3. Paul is an accomplished negotiator and a skilled communicator who takes a consistent, confident, solution-based approach to resolving issues. His knowledge of the Union and the evolution of Ontario's electricity sector is profound. This combination of skill, knowledge and experience, will serve him well in his new role and will help the PWU take advantage of future opportunities.



Additionally, Mel Hyatt has promoted Susan Denomme from Senior Administrative Assistant in the PWU Training Department to the position of Executive Assistant to the President. This promotion speaks to Susan's successful career with the PWU which began when she was hired to the General Office in August of 1994. Eight years later, Susan moved to Sector 3 where she provided valuable administrative support during many rounds of collective bargaining. Susan is a tremendous addition to the President's Office.

These changes within the President's Office were made to ensure a smooth transition following retirement announcements by two PWU Staff members. The first from Cathy Hinton and the second, from John Sprackett. Cathy Hinton retired as the Executive Assistant to the President on the 28th of June, while John Sprackett continues to serve the Union in the Office of the President until his scheduled retirement at the end of 2017.

CNSC Releases Radiation Fact Sheet Based on a Century of Research

On July 14, 2017 the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) released an educational resource titled, [Understanding Radiation](#). The two-page fact sheet is based on scientific research that has taken place over the last 100 years in both controlled laboratory conditions and amongst real world populations. It provides clear definitions of often publicly misunderstood terms like ionizing radiation, non-ionizing radiation, dosages as well as high-frequency and low-frequency. The paper also explains that exposure to various levels of naturally occurring radiation is everywhere and has always been part of the human experience. Radioactive materials are present throughout the various elements of planet Earth's composition, and even in our own bodies.

The CNSC regulates the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect health, safety, security and the environment; to implement Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy; and to disseminate objective scientific, technical and regulatory information to the public. In order to keep nuclear's energy sector workers safe, the CNSC establishes short-term and long-term radiation dosage limits.

For more information about the role of the CNSC or to view some more of their public press releases, please visit the [Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission website](#).

PWU Hires New Staff

The Power Workers' Union has hired three new Staff Officers.



Steve Allan was hired as a Staff Officer in Sector 3. Steve has served the PWU as a Chief Steward for Unit 3-06 for ten years and has experience as a Health and Safety Committee Member. In September of 2014, he was elected to the PWU Executive Committee as a Sector 3 Representative. He has been a member of the PWU Grievance Review Board and the IOPA Steering Committee throughout his tenure as Sector Rep.



John Camilleri was hired as a Staff Officer in Sector 3. John's service as an elected union official dates back to 1996. He was the President of CUPE Local One for the last six years before the local's merger into the PWU last September. Since that time, John has been serving as the elected PWU Chief Steward Unit 3-36 and the Toronto Hydro Sector Representative on the PWU Executive Board. John's experience as a former union President is tremendous and will serve him well in his new position as a PWU Staff Officer.



Kim Doyle-Maloney has been hired as a Staff Officer for Sector 1. Prior to being elected as a PWU Chief Steward Unit 1-23 in January of 2013, she was the Unit Secretary for 16 years. In June of 2017, she was elected to the PWU Executive Board as a Sector 1 Representative. Kim has been the PWU Provincial Chair on the EFAP Committee, and a member of the PWU - OPG Sector 1 Total Health Advisory Team. Kim also serves as the Women in Nuclear, Durham Chapter Vice-Chair.

The PWU has also hired six new Administrative Assistants into the General Office.

Jordan Andrews has been training under Ridhi Kaur's guidance for her first assignment in the PWU Communications Department.



Elizabeth Barber has joined Kaitlyn Gillis and Sarah LaFave in the General Office Department.



Erin Farley's first assignment will be in the PWU Hiring Hall Department. Erin has been training under the guidance of Rachel McGrath.



Danielle Fournier will fill the vacancy in the PWU Training Department.





Kaitlyn Gillis' first assignment will be in the General Office Department.



Sarah LaFave's first assignment will be in the General Office Department.

The additional administrative support staff are required to keep up with the expanding PWU membership which has grown by nearly 2,000 members in the last year, and now includes employees from Collus PowerStream, the Town of Tillsonburg - Hydro Operations Department, Alectra Utilities, and Toronto Hydro.

The PWU Needs You to Show Your Support for More Than 7,500 PWU Members

You can help to achieve the goal of a strong nuclear presence in the newest Ontario Government Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP). The Power Workers' Union (PWU) has partnered with nuclear industry operating companies, nuclear supply chain companies and unions with similar interests to create Ontario's Nuclear Advantage website - hosted by the Canadian Nuclear Association.



We ask that all PWU members go to ONTARIONUCLEARADVANTAGE.COM.

This new website provides a [pre-written email](#) message and social media message that site visitors are encouraged to send to their local MPP to express their support for the refurbishments of Bruce Power and Ontario Power Generation's Darlington stations, as well as the extension of operations at Pickering to 2024. It also clearly provides all of the facts and figures you need to know in demonstrating the value that nuclear electricity adds to Ontario.

Support more than 7,500 PWU members who work in Ontario Nuclear Generating Stations by sending your message. Take two minutes of your time to show your elected government representative that you want low-cost electricity, value clean air and care about the economy.

Make your voice heard in this last push for Ontario's Nuclear Advantage as the government prepares to release the 2017 LTEP. Help to secure thousands of PWU members' job opportunities for decades to come.

The PWU is Now Communicating on Social Media Through PWUConnects

Have you been waiting to connect to your Union within your preferred social media platform? Well, you don't have to wait any longer. The Power Workers' Union (PWU) is now live on four of the world's most popular social media platforms, and we're looking to connect with you in a whole new way.

PWUConnects is about strengthening relationships between PWU members and broadening our communication network. It's a platform where we can all share the stories and life experiences that make us the great union we are. In the weeks and months to come, this network will prove to be a powerful resource.

How can you get involved?

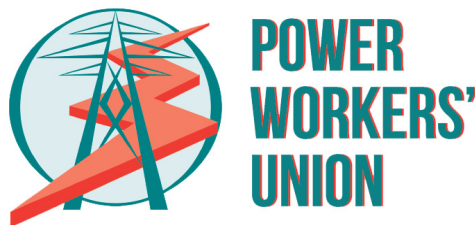
Connect on Facebook. Visit our new [PWU Connects Facebook](#) page to get your Union's latest developments delivered right to your Facebook feed. We're providing you with as much interaction as possible via the world's most popular social media platform. Over 25.86% of the world's population are now on Facebook; that's about 1.3 billion people! Share, Like, Review and Post your Comments on the PWUConnects Page.

Follow us on Twitter. Our Twitter handle is [@PWUConnects](#). Whether it's a PWU sponsored event, a noteworthy moment in time, or just a regular day, we will keep you connected, 140 characters at a time. Analyses shows that over 80% of users are getting their news through a Twitter feed and over 70% of them are doing so daily. Retweet, Share, Reply and Like. Want to get in touch with us @PWUConnects? Feel free to direct message (DM) us. #PWUConnects

Watch us on YouTube. If you've visited our [YouTube channel](#) lately, you'll notice that it has a whole new look. PWUConnects on YouTube is where you'll find all of the Union's latest videos. Research suggests that over half of the people polled, prefer online video platforms over live TV and over 3.25 billion hours of video are watched over YouTube each and every month. Click the "subscribe" button to ensure that you'll be notified when new content is available.

Instagram. Our [pwuconnects](#) "insta" account is up and running. Over 400 million people are actively using Instagram and more than 30 billion photos have already been shared.

So, there you have it. The social media stage is set and it's time to start connecting. If you don't have social media and would like to take part, there are plenty of online resources to help you get started. You can always email us at communications@pwu.ca, we value your feedback and suggestions.



PWU Launches New Communication Tools

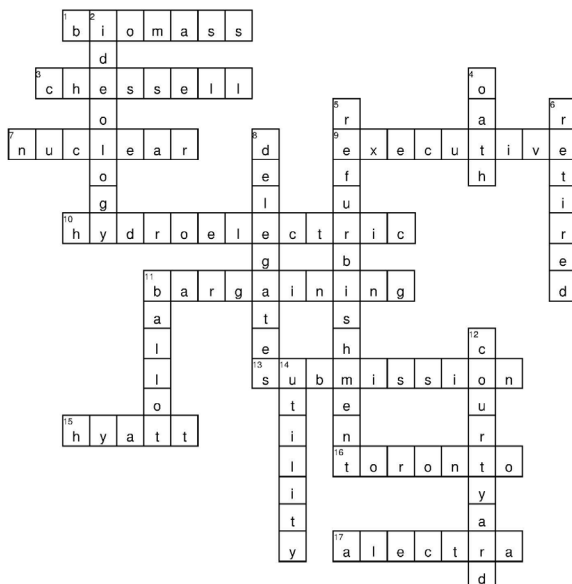
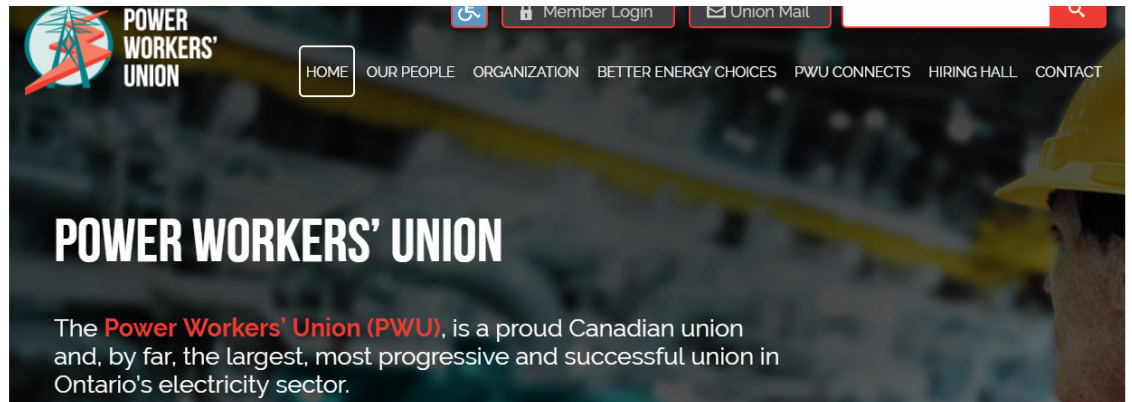
The Power Workers' Union (PWU) is pleased to announce the launch of three newly developed communication tools that will take union services to the next level.

At this year's Council, Chief Stewards were introduced to a brand new pwu.ca website. The new site professionally displays our organization and provides an enhanced visitor experience. Why not visit PWU.ca and see for yourself?

The PWU has also developed a mobile App. The App is exclusive to PWU members and members of the Retired Workers' Chapter (RWC). Unique individual credentials are required to download the PWU App for both Android and Apple personal devices. Members will soon be receiving their credentials through the mail. The new PWU App allows for instant access to PowerWorks; the PWU Newsletter, contact details for Executive Officers and Staff, updates and news from the PWU, review of timely social media updates and more! PWU Members can also access the member portal and locate contact details for Chief Stewards, view collective agreements and access PWU Information Bulletins.

Finally, PWU members and members of the RWC will now have their own @pwumember.ca email address. Members will no longer need to use employer-issued emails or supply the PWU with a personal email account to receive secure email messages from their union. Each PWU member and each member of the RWC will be assigned their new email account, easily accessible from the PWU App, or the pwu.ca website.

We're looking forward to this whole new level of membership engagement. Workplace PWU Union Information Bulletin Boards will still be kept up to date, but official PWU information will now be available directly through these new communication tools.



Answer Key to the Crossword Puzzle
Published in POWERWORKS
Newsletter, July Edition.

Let us know if you'd like to see another crossword puzzle!

Communications@pwu.ca or send us a message on Facebook.

PWU Welcomes New Members from Tillsonburg Hydro Inc.

The Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB) made a final decision on the Power Workers' Union (PWU) application for certification on August 25, 2017. The OLRB's decision followed the representation vote held on July 24, 2017, where the majority of ballots were cast in favour of the PWU.

Tillsonburg Hydro Inc. (THI), serves more than 6,500 customers and covers 22 square kilometres in the Town of Tillsonburg. THI is 100% owned by the Town of Tillsonburg.

PWU President Mel Hyatt welcomed the 11 new members from the Corporation of the Town of Tillsonburg (Hydro Operations Department) into the PWU family with a President's Bulletin on August 28, 2017.

The new PWU members from Tillsonburg have elected Kyle Jacob as their PWU Principal Steward, and bargaining towards a new collective agreement is set to commence later this year.

Collus PowerStream Workers Join the PWU

The Power Workers' Union (PWU) is pleased to welcome into its membership, all of the newest members from Collus PowerStream Corporation (Collus).

Collus is an embedded electricity distributor based in Collingwood, which provides electricity distribution services to approximately 16,500 customers in Collingwood, Stayner, Creemore and the Town of Blue Mountains. The utilities' ownership has evolved for over a century and is presently a public/private partnership between Collingwood Township and PowerStream Incorporated.

"This is a great opportunity for the workers at Collus PowerStream and the PWU," stated Mel Hyatt, President of the PWU. "Throughout this process, the employees at Collus have shown an unrelenting resolve to be represented by PWU, and we are happy for this opportunity to provide them with our union services."

Cindy Muller has been elected as the Principal Steward for the 11 unionized members at Collus. During a phone interview, Muller said, "I am happy that the certification process is over and excited to bargain our first collective agreement with Collus as members of the PWU."

Collective Bargaining between Collus and the PWU began on August 28, 2017.



A few of the new Members from Collus PowerStream pictured from Left: Cindy Muller, Principal Steward, Lisa, Stephanie, Shelley, Jason, Lydia, Chantele.

The PWU Welcomes New Members from Greenfield South

The Power Workers' Union welcomes 21 new members from Greenfield South Power Corporation (Greenfield South) into its membership.

The natural gas-fired combined cycle electricity generating facility with a capacity of approximately 300 MW is connected to the 230 kV circuit to feed generation into the Ontario electricity system.

The new PWU members from Greenfield South will be electing a Principal Steward, as well as a bargaining committee. Bargaining towards a new Collective Agreement will begin at the beginning of 2018.

Group Effort Helps PWU Member in Need



In February of this year, Brother Jerry Bendall suffered a stroke leaving him with a severe brain injury. He has been in recovery ever since and is working hard through his rigorous rehabilitation process. A wheelchair is temporarily required to assist with his mobility. With this in mind, his wife Pat reached out and asked if anyone knew of a contracting company that could build an access ramp to their home.

On September 23 and 24, members of the Power Workers' Union (PWU), The Society of Energy Professionals, OPG Management and Retirees came to Jerry and Pat's house. The group effort was organized by Don Smith (FSOS), and together the group built a ramp and front porch.

This story doesn't end there. Donations were sought to offset the cost of the ramp's building materials, and from the generosity of the PWU Chief Stewards from across all three Sectors, the PWU Executive and Employees of Darlington Nuclear, those costs have been covered, with money left over to help towards future needs that may arise.



Additionally, the installation of a flower garden - donated by a PWU Staff Officer who wishes to remain anonymous, has beautified the entire project.

Pat sends her gratitude to everyone that donated; be it monetary, time or effort. She also shared that Jerry has said that he just wants to be home with her.

*Photos and story provided by
Martin Wagget - Chief Steward Unit 1-18*



PWU Participates in Labour Day Parades



On September 4, 2017 members of the Power Workers' Union (PWU) and members of the PWU Retired Workers Chapter (RWC), along with their families, participated in Labour Day Parades across Ontario.

This year's PWU group of participants at the Toronto Labour Day Parade walked and danced their way along the parade route while accompanied by the Afropan steel pan band. The parade, which started at University Avenue and Queen Street, ended at the gates of the Canadian National Exhibition.



Gord Crombeen, Linda Crombeen, Sheldon Speedie and Marlene Speedie, participating in the Annual Port Elgin Labour Day Parade.



From left: Tom Chessell (PWU Vice President-Sector 3), Charles Fleury (CUPE National Secretary-Treasurer), Andrew Clunis (PWU Vice President-Sector 1), Paul Reece (PWU Chief of Staff)



Dave Trumble - VP of the Grey-Bruce Labour Council, participating in the Annual Port Elgin Labour Day Parade.

For more photos on this year's PWU participation in Labour Day Parades, please visit our [PWUConnects Facebook Page](#). The PWU looks forward to next year's Labour Day events and encourages all members to get involved and participate in Labour Day Parades held annually across the province.

PWU Health & Safety Activist Award Winners

The Health and Safety Activist Award recognizes members who continuously promote and advocate for health and safety in the workplace. This year's winners were Steve Fowler from Sector 3 and Hans Van Beek from Sector 1.



*Health & Safety Activist Award Winner
Hans Van Beek and his wife, Ann.*

PWU Community Volunteer Award Winners

At the 71st PWU Council of Chief Stewards, President Mel Hyatt presented the annual PWU community volunteer awards, one for a deserving member from each of the three sectors and one from the Retired Workers' Chapter. Although none of the recipients were seeking any recognition for their efforts they can be sure that PWU members are proud of them. Each one received a Canadian made PWU spring jacket, a certificate of recognition and a donation of \$1,000 in their name to a charitable organization of their choice.



*2017 Volunteer Award Winners, from Left: Heather Bouley, Denise McKay,
Reino Pitkanen and Brandon Riddiford.*

PWU – HUB Home Tips – Fall 2017

Fall is approaching and it's an important time to prepare your home to withstand winter weather and temperature conditions. Start your fall maintenance now while the weather is still warm.

- Have your heating system cleaned and inspected.
- Replace your furnace filter.
- Insulate water pipes in areas exposed to freezing temperatures.
- Gutters – clean check for damage, confirm they're securely attached to the house.
- Check and repair caulking around doors and windows that show signs of deterioration.
- Have your chimney cleaned by a professional.
- Clean the clothes dryer exhaust duct and space under and behind the dryer. Remove lint and dust that may have accumulated inside the dryer.
- Check electrical outlets for loose-fitting plugs or receptacles.
- Keep a multi-purpose fire extinguisher accessible. Confirm that it is fully charged and ready for operation. Don't forget to put one in your shed or garage as well.
- Inspect your smoke detectors. Make sure you have a smoke detector in each bedroom or sleeping area and also, a smoke detector in the hallway outside each sleeping area. You should also make sure you have at least one smoke detector on each floor of your home, including your basement. Test them monthly, and change the battery annually or as needed.

The steps you take now can help protect your home and property from more potentially expensive damage and emergency repairs in the colder months to come.

As a member of the PWU, you have access to preferred rates and discounts on your home and auto insurance. Call us today for a quote 877-909-3093 and a member of the HUB Team will be in contact with you.

