

President's Message



Mel Hyatt / President / Power Workers' Union

On April 28th Canadian flags will be lowered to half-mast, and millions of Canadians will gather together in workplaces and communities across the country to participate in Day of Mourning ceremonies. It is impossible for me to express the deep sadness and despair that rips through families, co-workers and

communities when workers involved in workplace accidents lose their lives or suffer life-altering critical injuries.

Health and safety culture has evolved through the years from an unquestionable truth, that workers are more than their employee numbers, they are women and men, mothers and daughters, fathers and sons who are both loved and irreplaceable. As we move forward we need to do more to protect our young members. We need to work harder to ensure they are safe in our workplaces.

Every owner, employer, manager, supervisor and worker, has a vital role to play in advocating and supporting safer workplaces. We all must work together and look out for one another. We know that workplace injuries and fatalities are preventable, and it is with this knowledge, that we set aside April 28, the National Day of Mourning, to make sure all those injuries and deaths are not forgotten.



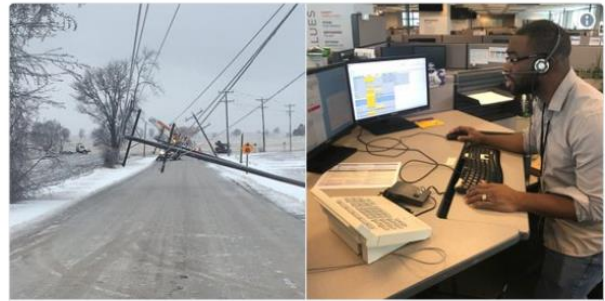
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The level of talent, work ethic and resolve to serve Ontario's electricity sector customers is what keeps our world-class membership ahead of the curve. It was all on display, once again, as Power Workers' Union (PWU) members worked in regions of Ontario that were affected by the latest Spring storm. Nearly 100,000 customers were reported to be without power when the storm hit on Saturday, April 14.



 **Hydro One**
@HydroOne

Crews face hazardous conditions and significant damage such as broken poles, downed lines & trees as they work to restore power to over 42,000 customers. Teams from our contact centre to lines, forestry and damage assessors are coming together to help with relief efforts [#ONstorm](#)

5:04 PM - Apr 15, 2018

❤ 65 💬 42 people are talking about this

A combination of heavy ice and extremely high winds caused trees to fall onto powerlines and hydro poles to break, leaving customers across Ontario, out of service. The active storm conditions made restoration efforts difficult, and 50,000 people remained in the dark on Monday, April 16.

I am very proud to represent you as President of our Union. When faced with adversity, PWU members always rise to the challenge, performing their work safely and efficiently, and restoring power to the provinces' homes and businesses. You and your supportive families are to be commended for your response to this most recent weather event.

I am pleased to announce that a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been reached between The Power Workers' Union and Hydro One on April 23, 2018. The Chief Stewards within Hydro One have voted unanimously to support the bargaining committee's endorsement, recommending the membership accept the MOA. I encourage members to attend the ratification meetings that will be occurring between April 30, and June 13, 2018. Contract referendum ballots will be counted at the union office on June 27, 2018. Your bargaining teams and support staff remain focused on resolving the other four collective agreement negotiations currently underway.



Members of the PWU and Hydro One bargaining committees have reached a Memorandum of Agreement. Member ratification meetings are scheduled between April 30 and June 13, 2018.

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In the run-up to the next Provincial election, the PWU has forwarded a series of questions to all the leaders of the major political parties. The questions ask the parties to outline their platform on some key workers' rights and energy policy issues. While the PWU does not support any particular party or politician, the Union does its best to inform and influence decision-makers with factual information. PWU members have indicated that they found the answers to these questions helpful in deciding their vote in previous elections. The answers will be made available to the membership before the scheduled election date of June 7.

The electrification of the transportation sector is a critical issue in future federal, provincial and municipal energy policy. The 2017 Annual Greenhouse Gas Progress Report from the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario announced, "transportation is Ontario's largest source of climate-changing GHG emissions". Canada's latest annual greenhouse gas report to the United Nations said that the energy and transportation sector in Canada accounts for eight of every ten tonnes of greenhouse gases produced in Canada. Ontario's electricity system leaves one of the world's smallest carbon footprints and is over 95% GHG emission free. Nuclear is Ontario's electricity workhorse providing the province with 60% of our virtually carbon-emission free electricity over the last five years. When coupled with existing hydroelectric generation, Ontario is well positioned to "power" the transition from combustion to electric in transportation. These energy advantages are well-suited to work in unison and charge car batteries during off-peak times or alternatively, cost-effectively produce hydrogen for fuel cell powered personal vehicles or public transit systems.

Health and safety, including the mental health and well-being of all members, is of primary importance to us all. In response to the growing need for access to medical professionals, the PWU is spearheading a Mental Health initiative that is intended to provide relief funding for members who are in distress and need immediate attention from a medical professional. We are also working with our employers across the province to help bring immediate relief to anyone who is in need.

We have now completed this winter's series of PWU member skating events. A total of three community-based skating events were held this season – one in Oshawa, Sudbury, and Thunder Bay. They were all very well attended and successful in providing an opportunity for members to connect with one another, their elected PWU representatives, and important PWU initiatives. The series will be back in full swing next fall. You can stay up to date on these and other PWU member events by checking the pwu.ca website or connecting with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) @pwuconnects.



Meet the Artist Behind April's PWU Calendar Artwork



The PWU is proud to publish and distribute our calendar each year. The PWU Calendar features art created by PWU members - and in some cases their children. The submitted pieces are viewed by a committee that selects the winning entries. Those selected pieces of art are then showcased in the PWU Calendar. We receive hundreds of inspiring works of art as entries and their quality is truly amazing. The 2019 calendar contest is now underway and submissions are due by May 25, 2018. Submit your entries by mail, along with a copy of the entry form to Jordan Andrews for a chance to have your work published in next year's PWU Calendar and win \$500!



Gordana Kozovska, painting in her art room.

Mail Submissions to:

Attn: Jordan Andrews
PWU Calendar Contest
244 Eglinton Avenue East
Toronto, ON
M4P 1K2

Gordana Kozovska, pictured here in her art room, has been a PWU member since 2004. She is a passionate artist and a member of the Lakeshore Village Artists Community. Her paintings have been part of several group exhibitions. She created "The Remembered" as a gesture towards showing that our deceased brothers are not forgotten and will always be remembered.

PWU Welcomes Employees from Compass Group Canada Into Membership



Brian Jackson, Unit Secretary 1-13, shakes hands with Afsana Moon Moon, the newly-elected Principal Steward for the PWU's newest members.

The Power Workers' Union (PWU) is pleased to welcome new members from Compass Group Canada Ltd. employed at 777 Brock Rd, 889 Brock Rd, and 675 Sandy Beach Rd, and the Pickering Learning Centre (PLC) in Pickering.

The Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB) made a final decision on the PWU's application for certification on February 26, 2018. The OLRB's decision came after a representation vote that took place on February 20, 2018. The result was unanimous. All ballots by voting members of the bargaining unit were cast in favour of the PWU.

Afsana Moon Moon has been elected as the group's Principal Steward. She is a member of the workforce at 777 Brock's cafeteria group. Afsana is very excited about joining the PWU and is looking forward to having a good experience. Bargaining towards a new collective agreement is set to begin in June 2018.

Upcoming PWU Member Events



PWU DAY AT CANADA'S WONDERLAND

It may not feel like spring or summer quite yet, but warmer weather is right around the corner, and the Power Workers' Union (PWU) is hosting two upcoming member events you won't want to miss.

The **PWU Day at Canada's Wonderland** is an event that attracts PWU members and their families from across the province. Tickets are now available for PWU members and members of the Retired Workers' Chapter. This will be our 2nd annual event, and it keeps getting bigger and better. This year members and their families can look forward to:

- Exclusive discounts on admission rates
- Access to all of Wonderland's rides between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. before the park opens to the public
- Complimentary all you-can-eat barbecue lunch for everyone in your party
- A free, specially-designed PWU event t-shirt

Tickets for this event are going fast. Call the Wonderland Ticket Hotline (905)-832-7400 to obtain your unique "gift code" and get your tickets!

PWU ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 2018 PWU Annual Charity Golf Tournament is taking place on **June 7 at the Nottawasaga Inn Resort in Alliston**. This event has sold out for the past several years. In order to accommodate more golfers, and to raise more money for [Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada](#), [The Ross Tilley Burn Unit at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre](#), and [Diabetes Canada](#),

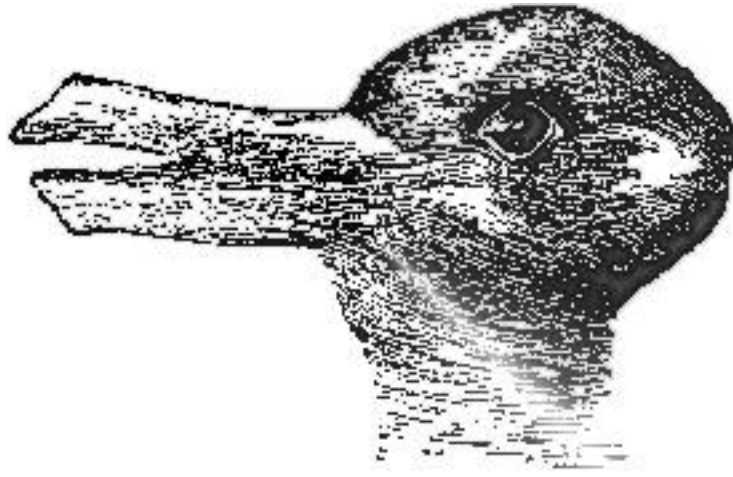
This year, golfers will also get to play at Woodington Lake Golf Club in Tottenham. Golfers will shuttle from Nottawasaga in time for the shotgun start at noon and back for the dinner, prizes and raffle draws.

If you would like to join a team, enter a foursome, sponsor the event, donate to the prize table or simply come share in the dinner, email jandrews@pwu.ca for a registration form.

What better way to celebrate the summer than with your fellow PWU members in a fun-filled environment. These and other Special PWU Member Events helps bring us together and strengthen our Union!



The PWU Executive Prioritizes Mental Health Training for Elected Representatives



What do you see when you look at the picture above? Do you see a rabbit or a duck? If you are familiar with this type of optical illusion, then you already know there are multiple ways to look at the same thing. In fact, all you have to do to see something completely different is to change the way you look at it.

The way we look at Mental Health, in our workplaces, homes, and society at large is changing. The perception that mental health issues only happen to a very small group of people has profoundly changed. Today we know that mental health affects us all.

According to the [Canadian Mental Health Association](#):

- *Each year, 1 in 5 people in Canada will personally experience a mental health problem or illness.*
- *Mental illness affects people of all ages, education, income levels, and cultures.*
- *Approximately 8% of adults will experience major depression at some time in their lives.*
- *Mental illnesses can be treated effectively.*

In the past, coming forward with a mental health issue was frightening. How would family, friends, workplace members, and the community react? Mental Health campaigns such as, [Bell Let's Talk](#) have helped to open the conversation and reduce the stigma, making it easier for more and more people to come forward for help.

Within the last month, the NBA's Kevin Love of the Cleveland Cavaliers and DeMar DeRozan of the Toronto Raptors, have both come out publicly regarding their own struggles with mental health issues. The sports community has embraced the courage of these elite athletes in an ultra-competitive sports business for speaking openly about their struggles.

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Your Power Workers' Union (PWU) Executive has prioritized training for elected representatives regarding mental health awareness and soon, an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) / Mental Health Advocate will be joining your Unit Advisory Committee (UAC). These individuals are not there to diagnose and treat mental health, they are there to point our PWU brothers and sisters in the right direction to get the help they need. Many of our employers have Employee Family Assistance Plans (EFAP) that offer a great first step.

It's important that as a group, we continue to have the conversations that break down barriers, all while helping to clarify the notion that everything is not always as it seems at first glance.

So, whether you see a rabbit or a duck, we hope that you can see the positive changes the PWU is making to address mental health.

Upgrade to Your PWU Union Mail Email Account

The Power Workers' Union (PWU) has created a secure means of electronic communication for every active member of the PWU and the Retired Workers' Chapter (RWC). The Union Mail email service is now active and the PWU has begun to communicate with members through our new channel.

By now, members of the PWU and the RWC should have received their complete information package in the mail. Your personalized information package contains the unique login credentials and the step by step instructions you need to activate your secure Union Mail email account.

Members who have recently moved and haven't updated their mailing address may not have received their information package. Please email support@pwumember.ca if you have not yet received the initial PWU information package and our support team

will provide you with your account credentials.

Beginning on **JUNE 29, 2018**, the new PWU Union Mail email service will become the Union's primary means of electronic communication. Until then, the PWU will continue providing electronic communication to members via the email address that is on file, however, after **JUNE 29, 2018**, all official PWU electronic communications will **only be sent** through the PWU Union Mail email service.

We encourage all members of the PWU and the RWC to activate their free PWU Union Mail email accounts to receive the official PWU communications and stay up to date with important PWU events.

Within the next few weeks you will also be receiving, via hard mail, a reminder to activate your PWU Union Mail if you have not done so already.

Rick Johnson, PWU Chief Steward ESA Retires

"You do it for the people you represent, not for yourself." This was the answer that recently retired Chief Steward, and Sector 3 Executive Board Representative Rick Johnson gave when asked what advice he would give to someone who is looking to get involved in a Union position.



Rick Johnson, at home in New Liskeard, Ontario.

Rick Johnson was a licensed electrician with ten years of experience when he began his career with Ontario Hydro & the Power Workers' Union (PWU) in 1990. His first assigned location was Kitchener. Soon afterwards, the company began to surplus employees, and Rick decided to take a position in New Liskeard. He moved his young family north, purchased property and built a beautiful home about a kilometre and a half out of town along the shores of Lake Temiskaming.

When the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) was formed in 1999, Rick was asked by his peers to take on the role of interim Chief Steward for the newly created Unit 3 -28 (ESA North) position until an election could be held later that same year. Rick accepted and won the subsequent election for the large geographic unit.

Throughout his subsequent 18-year tenure as Chief Steward, Rick often worked alongside fellow Chief Steward from ESA South, Bryan Stratychuk. Together, they worked to achieve several victories that benefitted the PWU membership at ESA.

Since retiring, Rick has become a member of the Retired Workers' Chapter and has been completing tasks from a long list of projects. He misses the comradery and the daily interactions with PWU members but is enjoying the time he now gets to spend with his wife Rita, and his children Christopher and Meagan.



From all of us at the PWU and from the many members who have benefited from your hard work and dedication as a Chief Steward & Sector 3 Representative, have a healthy and happy retirement Rick!

PWU Member Preparing to Compete in the 2018 World Ball Hockey Championships



PWU Member, Brittney Sero is excited about her upcoming opportunity to represent Canada and compete for gold.

The talent level of our PWU Members is remarkable and never ceases to amaze. Brittney Sero is a PWU Member from Sector 1 Unit 14 and works as a Control Room Clerk in Control Room A at Pickering Nuclear Generating Station. It's a position she's had since November 2017, and she really enjoys it. Brittney is also very passionate about the sport of hockey.

Her love of the game began early in life when Brittney was encouraged by her parents to join ice hockey when she was seven years old. She played throughout elementary school and in high school. When she was 23 years old, Brittney was introduced to competitive ball hockey. She plays center forward position with a flare for developing scoring plays and her unselfish playmaking style has payed off. She was recently selected to the Women's Team Canada Ball Hockey Club and will be competing in Moscow, Russia at the 2018 World Ball Hockey Federation Championships from June 8th to 18th.

We're proud to have Brittney on our PWU team, and wish her luck in this summer's Championships in Russia. She has started her own [gofundme](#) page for anyone who would like to donate and help offset the costs associated with the tournament.

PWU April Word Search

WORD LIST:

BARGAINING
CHARITY
ELECTRIFICATION
EMAIL
GOLF
MOURNING
REMEMBER
RETIREMENT
UPGRADE
WONDERLAND

B F R R T C G X X Q W E G M Y
 V C L R H Q H D J B Q J H H X
 S A K R F O K N U K L Y K F
 H W Z P U H P Q Y V W P I
 M R F Y R V K Y D W K N L
 V L E A E Y I X A Y A S
 T O C L P T Y W C Z V V O
 G B O E E I F G C O U W
 F P M C R R C C N I I
 U B A F T I E T H E A
 L I T C R D M P A I V
 C L I E K I M E U R T
 C F O N P I B O T O L
 I R I U T G T C T S P
 B A C R Y R Y O Q H
 Q A M A N D A U E P
 P R S T I G D R H
 T K G A I N A E M
 J Y A B O G F Q
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