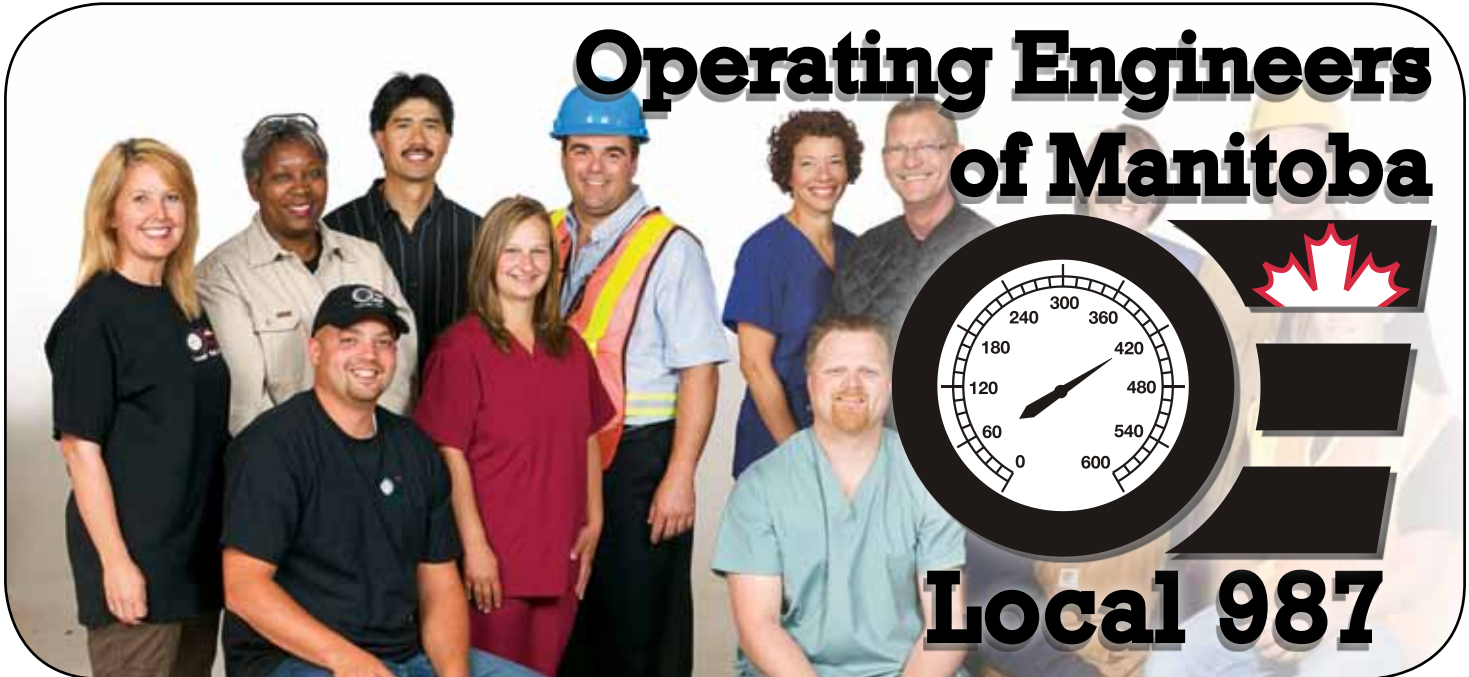


Summer 2010

Operating Engineers of Manitoba



A message from Business Manager

Jim Murphy

Dear Members,

As many of you may have heard, Local 987 is moving in mid August to larger facilities. We are planning an open house for our members after the general membership meeting on September 19, 2010. We've all had a chance to check out the new building and we think you'll be impressed.

The Local has come a long way since our humble beginnings in the 1960s, when we had less than 100 members. Local 901's first office was a second floor unit that took up about 400 square feet. With an ever-growing membership, it moved first to a 1000 sq. ft. space at 998 Sargent Avenue, and then to our current location at 1008 Wall Street in 1973.

Local 827, which started out with around 60 members, has a similar history. First maintaining a small office downtown then, with increasing membership, they moved into the Sargent Avenue office that Local 901 had vacated. They remained there until 1999, when locals 901 and 827 were amalgamated.



The 4800 square feet Local 987 currently occupies has been re-configured numerous times to accommodate the expansion of our staff. Following the 901/827 merger in 1999, we built an addition that increased the total square footage of 1008 Wall Street to approximately 6000 square feet.

With membership numbers still rising, and with the enhanced reputation of OETIM Inc. as one of, if not the best, provider of heavy equipment training in Manitoba, we again needed more space. This led to the conversion of our boardroom into two offices, followed by the classroom being converted into two more offices.

Today with in excess of 2100 workers we are, to put it mildly, bursting at the seams. So when an opportunity arose for us to move into a larger building that did not need major renovations, the Local's executive board approved the purchase.

Mark your calendars and you will receive a colorful invitation with pictures and a profile of our new building. Stay safe and enjoy your summer!

In Solidarity,

Jim Murphy, Business Manager





The Right Direction

Marc Lafond is standing on a 20,000 square-foot slab of concrete at Red River College's Stevenson Airfield campus. The site is normally used for aerospace engineering courses, but for the past six weeks, OETIM Inc. has been using the site to conduct crane training. A few hundred feet away, five different types of cranes are practicing various lifts.

There are more students in this crane class than in any crane training course in the history of OETIM. With 16 and 18 apprentices respectively, these are the largest level 1 and 2 crane training courses ever run in the province.

To mark the occasion, Lafond, Director of Training for OETIM, invited Premier Greg Selinger to tour the training site and meet the students. The fact Selinger took him up on the offer is not surprising, considering the program itself is bolstered by provincial funding.

"This gives the Premier the opportunity to show his support for Manitoba's apprenticeship programs," says Lafond. "What better way to do that than being around big machines? It's visually appealing, and it really demonstrates the benefits of the program," says Lafond as he looks at the time.

A green SUV enters the parking lot, and Premier Selinger gets out as the students shut down the machines.

After exchanging niceties, everyone moves to the staging area where Lafond delivers a brief address. He thanks the Premier for coming, and introduces a smiling Greg Selinger, who speaks enthusiastically about Manitoba's economy and how the large class sizes are a sign of bigger things on the horizon.

"I am proud today to congratulate Manitoba's largest graduating class of crane apprentices," says Selinger. "Growing apprenticeship training is



a part of the foundation of this government's plan to build Manitoba's economy."

Following the speeches, the Premier climbs into a 50-ton crane and OETIM Instructor Eric Cox gives him a quick rundown of the controls. The students look on, and appear glad the formal portion of the morning is over.

The apprentices hail from all corners of the province, and pay just a few hundred dollars a year for the training thanks to Apprenticeship Manitoba. Speaking with Lafond before the press conference, he laid out why he thinks this is the largest crane class OETIM has ever had.

"We train to meet demand and, in terms of construction, this province is booming. The Manitoba government's commitment to apprenticeship has made a big difference. The training has really improved since crane operation



became a compulsory trade. Safety has been enhanced for all workers. Great care is taken to regulate who becomes an apprentice," says Lafond, who understands the demands of the crane industry from an operator's perspective, having "pulled levers" for over 10 years.

After the Premier has a chance to try his hand at crane operating and pose for a few pictures, he shakes some hands and gets back into his green SUV. Lafond, who planned today's event with help from OETIM staff, expresses his satisfaction that the day went well. "I'm extremely pleased with how everything turned out."



May 21, 2010: Premier Selinger toured the OETIM Inc. crane training site accompanied by Director of Training Marc Lafond, and Local 987 business manager Jim Murphy.



**Local 987 signs up for
Life with Canadian Blood Services**



**To everyone who has
Thank you!**





Up as Partner For an Blood Services



who donated: Thank You!



Message From Business Representative Patrick Campbell



Much Needed Physical Plant Completed at Brandon University

Local 987 members employed at Brandon University finally have a physical plant befitting the essential services that they deliver to Brandon University staff and students.

Since 1974 the Operating Engineers of Manitoba have represented the maintenance and trades people employed at Brandon University. This Local 987 (A) unit of 12 OE members is composed of carpenters, electricians, painters, plumbers and power engineers. They are responsible for the building and system maintenance for the Brandon University Campus.

Since 1988 the Operating Engineers of Manitoba have represented the cleaners/caretakers, building service workers, and grounds keepers at Brandon University. This Local 987 (D) group, made up of 22 OE members, is responsible for keeping all the buildings and grounds of the Brandon University campus clean.

The physical plant is a critical component that makes institutions like Brandon University run properly. The plant acts as the main hub for Local 987 (A) and (D) members as they perform their important job functions on campus. The new plant also houses other campus operations and services including security, deliveries, and project management.

The new \$3.9 million dollar physical plant boasts an impressive 13,600 square feet and will consolidate all the components that go into operating and maintaining Brandon University buildings and grounds. Located adjacent to the steam plant on campus, the state of the art plant allows for more efficient use of space, equipment and tools while being much more energy efficient and environmentally friendly.

The old physical plant located on campus is scheduled for demolition. The space will be provided to the Brandon University Students Union who will undertake a student led project being funded through the student union and by commercial tenants to be located in the newly expanded and renovated Knowles Douglas Commission building.

The grand opening of the new physical plant took place on April 7, 2010. Local 987 would like to thank Brandon University for including Local 987 (A) and (D) members in the April 7, 2010 ribbon cutting ceremony along with Dr. Deborah Poff, President and Vice-Chancellor of Brandon University and Mr. Drew Caldwell, MLA for Brandon East.

Patrick Campbell
Business Representative

Union Operator Top of the Class

Local 987 is proud to announce that Brother Jordan James was awarded Apprenticeship Manitoba's 2010 highest achievement award in the trade of Crane and Hoisting Equipment Operator.

The 2010 Highest Achievement Awards Ceremony took place on April 23, 2010 at the Winnipeg convention center. Honorable Minister of Entrepreneurship, Training and Trade Mr. Peter Bjornson, Mr. Leonard Harapiak (Chair of the Apprenticeship and Certification Board) and Mr. Bob Knight (Senior Executive Director of Labour Market Skills Division) presented Jordan with his award. As part of the award Jordan was presented with a handcrafted sculpture by Kramer Sculptures that symbolizes the journeyman watching over the apprentice.

Local 987 took this opportunity to publicly present Jordan with a Special Recognition Award for his commitment to excellence during his apprenticeship and his bright future as a Union Journeyman Crane Operator. Business Representative Patrick Campbell presented Jordan with a bursary and a 1:50 scale die-cast model of a Link-Belt ATC 3200 on behalf of Local 987 and O.E.T.I.M.

Jordan participated in the Operating Engineers pooled apprenticeship program. Under the pooled apprenticeship program the Union acts as the apprentice's employer for the purposes of reporting hours and communicating with apprenticeship. This adds a level of portability to the apprenticeship for the member. During his apprenticeship Jordan accumulated his workplace hours with signatory contractors Calado Construction Limited and R.Litz & Sons.

Apprenticeship Manitoba presented Local 987 with a certificate of recognition for the Union's role of employer during Jordan's apprenticeship.



Left to Right: Leonard Harapiak, Bob Knight, Jordan James, Peter Bjornson. Not pictured: Partick Campbell.

Message From Belinda Blanchard

Area Coordinator Local 987 C & D

I hope everyone is enjoying the nice weather that has finally decided to show up.

The following units are currently in negotiations or going into negotiations this fall:

Rural Municipality of St. Clements – currently in conciliation

Manitoba Housing – currently in active negotiations

Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation – coming up in the fall 2010

Shelter Canadian Properties – coming up in the fall 2010.

The local's unit of the City of Steinbach is settling into their new collective agreement. Again welcome to IUOE Local 987.

Some reminders:

- The Local offers a number of bursaries to dependents of members in good standing. To enquire regarding these Bursaries please call the office to obtain further information. The application deadline for the local bursaries is Oct 1, 2010 at 5 p.m.
- If one of our members is hospitalized, please contact the office and advise, so we can send flowers or a fruit basket on behalf of the local.
- If you are having problems with Employment Insurance, you can contact Community Unemployed Help Centre for free confidential services.

Our mission statement: We are committed to provide progressive leadership for our members, our industry, and to be an asset to our community.

I would also like to thank all of our staff and union members that donated blood during the Partner for Life campaign we did with Canadian Blood Services last month. It really meant a lot.

Have a great summer. Keep safe & enjoy.



Message From Business Representative Janice Chase

Overall, spring has been pretty steady, with negotiations being concluded for the RMs of Alexander, Argyle, Minto, Roland, Woodlands, and the Towns of Pine Falls – Powerview and Winnipeg Beach.

On average, the above seven groups received a 7.8% increase in base wages, a 20% increase to boots and/or clothing allowances, and increases to their sick and/or bereavement leaves over the life of their Collective Agreements.

The Membership employed at the RM of Gilbert Plains unanimously rejected the employer's offer in late January, so we continue still with our negotiations. There is no doubt in my mind that with the membership solidarity that this group has shown we will be successful in our negotiations.

Proposals meetings will be held in late June or early September for the RMs of Birtle, St. Laurent, Thompson, and Ochre River with notice to commence negotiations being sent to the employers shortly thereafter. Proposal meetings have been held for the Strathclair Co-operative and Red River Place Personal Care Home and negotiations are scheduled to begin in late June and early September.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Enbridge Pipeline Seeking Pre-Employment Drug Testing on Alberta Clipper Clean-Up

Banister Pipelines has recently advised Local 987 that ENBRIDGE, owner of the Alberta Clipper Pipeline, intends to implement pre-employment drug testing on the remaining clean up in Manitoba. Local 987 will review the ENBRIDGE drug testing policy to ensure it meets with Canadian standards that have been established in the labour relations community around this issue.

With over 78% of the landowners having signed off, the clean up scheduled for late summer or early fall of 2010 will be significantly short on man power requirements when compared to the construction phase of the Alberta Clipper Project. At peak production over 350 Operating Engineers were employed between the two spreads. Early indication is that Banister Pipelines may only use one small crew to perform the clean up between Gretna and Kromer, Manitoba.



ATTENTION MEMBERS!

Please Note: anyone interested in taking a Shop Steward course, please contact the Union to have your name put on a list for the next one day course which will likely be held in the fall.

Important Information for Insured Members Regarding Beneficiaries

With regard to both the Health and Welfare Plan and the Pension Plan, any change of beneficiary info must be provided both to the Union and Coughlin, Administrator of the Plans.

Change of beneficiary forms required by Coughlin can be obtained by calling the Union office at **786-8658** or Coughlin at **942-4438**.



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or visit us online at

OETIM.COM



Member's Corner



Meeting Schedule

Winnipeg District Meeting: Thursday, September 2nd at 244 Cree Crescent, Murray Industrial Park, Winnipeg

Brandon District Meeting: Thursday, September 9th at Lakeview Inn & Suites, 1880 – 18th Street North, Brandon

Winnipeg General Membership Meeting: Sunday, September 19th at 244 Crescent Crescent, Winnipeg

IT'S A BOY!

Chad Lozinski and Nadine Cornellier are proud to announce the birth of their son Thomas William Lozinski. Thomas was born April 24, 2010 at 7pm weighing in at 7lbs. 7 oz.



Reminder: out-of-work dues are **\$23.00 a month**

Please remember to phone us when you are laid off
Thank you

OE Jacket Orders

If you would like a Local 987 jacket, please call **(204) 786-8658** to place your order.
(minimum order 12 jackets)

DID YOU REMEMBER / KNOW?

To inform us of your new address and phone number? It is important to keep us informed so that you can continue to receive the newsletters, meeting notices, tax receipts (if applicable), as well as to be reached for employment possibilities.

~The following is only applicable to members of Locals 987, 987 B, 987 C~

To do your monthly check-in? Check-ins can be done by phone, mail, in person, and also by email (local987@oe987.mb.ca). After 60 days your name is deleted from the out-of-work list(s). For the members that are collecting employment insurance, Human Resource Development has been checking on members to see if they have been calling in as per the Employment Insurance Registration guidelines.

To pay your out-of-work dues so that you do not become suspended or filed inactive? When you are suspended or filed inactive, your benefits with Coughlin & Associates are also suspended. In order for you to be eligible for benefits, you must be a member in good standing (paid for the current month or three months in advance)

Advise us that you have been recalled by your employer? There have been times that employers have missed your name from the monthly working dues remittance. If you have not advised your Union office that you have been recalled, we are not able to check with your employer for your dues.

Advise us, even if you have been name hired, that you are working out of province for another Operating Engineers Union? Penalties are as per the Dispatch Rules. If you are unclear about the Dispatch Rules or require a copy, please call the office at (204) 786-8658.

You are not required to speak to your Business Representative Daria, Cheryl, or Pat can help you with any of the above.

PM# 40042037

Return Undeliverable Addresses To:

OPERATING ENGINEERS OF MB
1008 WALL STREET
WINNIPEG MB R3G 2V3

