Dear members,

For the past 15 years I have served proudly in the role of Business Manager and, as some of you may already be aware, my career with the union is taking me in a new direction. Effective August 8, 2011, I have been appointed IUOE Canadian Regional Director and will be spending a substantial portion of my time in Ottawa.

I could never have imagined when I first signed up as a crane apprentice in the mid-60s what the next 40-plus years would bring. I’ve been involved with the union in some way for most of my life. Whether I was helping develop our Training Trust Fund, or negotiating collective agreements as a Business Rep, I always did so with the belief that the members are what make this union strong.

Some of the defining moments in my career were the merger between Local 827 and Local 901 in 1999, and negotiating a collective agreement that increased crane operators wage rates in line with other mechanical trades. I have also been very encouraged to witness the growth of OETIM Inc. into the premier training provider in the province. One of the proudest moments in my career came in 2000, when the compulsory certification of crane operators became a reality in Manitoba.

In my place, current OETIM Director of Training Marc Lafond will become the next Business Manager of the local. Marc has run the training institute for 6 years, has been involved in the executive board, and I have full faith and confidence that he will continue to do the organization proud.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize my predecessors, Mike Kuzminski and James Hopkie. Mr. Kuzminski was the first person to hire me on with the union as an organizer in the 1970s, and was Business Manager when I first joined. Without them, I might not be where I am today.

When I was originally hired by Jim Hopkie in the mid-80s, his words of advice were ‘leave the local in better shape than you found it.’ I hope I’ve accomplished that, and I offer the same advice to Mr. Lafond.

I would like to close by thanking all the executive board members and all the membership for your support over the years since I’ve been manager, and I hope you extend the same support to Marc.

Leaving behind the position of Business Manager of Local 987 is bittersweet. This local and its members have been a big part of my life for a decade and a half, but I see the role of Canadian Regional director as a challenge and a way to serve all members in Canada.

In Solidarity,
Jim Murphy
A Look Back
Photographs tell the story of Jim Murphy’s career as Business Manager
Photographs tell the story of Jim Murphy's career as Business Manager.
Member’s Corner

Meeting Schedule

Winnipeg District Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 1, 2011 at 244 Cree Crescent, Murray Industrial Park, Winnipeg at 7pm

Brandon District Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 8th, 2011 at Lakeview Inn & Suites 1880 18th St, N, Brandon MB starting at 7pm

Winnipeg General Membership Meeting: Sunday September 18th, at 1:00pm, 244 Cree Crescent

Please be advised

The Keeyask Hydro Dam Project is now accepting Pre-Registration at www.gov.mb.ca/jrs

Birth Announcement!

OETIM Inc. Instructor Eric Cox and his wife Julie are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter Emily Lauren. She was born Aug. 4, 2011 weighing 7lbs, 5 oz.

Congratulations from all of us at Local 987!

OE Jacket Orders

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

Call Us Toll-Free 1-800-292-9940

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.

Return Undeliverable Addresses To:

OPERATING ENGINEERS OF MANITOBA LOCAL 987
244 CREE CRESCENT
WINNIPEG MB R3J 3W1

PM# 40042037