

LiUNA!

Feel the Power

LETTERS FROM VICE PRESIDENT & REGIONAL MANAGER, ASSISTANT REGIONAL MANAGER & WESTERN CANADA SUB-REGIONAL MANAGER
PROGRAM UPDATES

AROUND THE REGION:
PORTLAND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES & MEMBERSHIP MOBILIZATION

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WESTERN CANADA

ENERGY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



BY WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS.



A message from the Northwest Region's Vice President & Regional Manager Robert Abbott:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we head into the busy season, it is important to recognize the work of the hard-working men and women who encompass LIUNA and the progress we have made. In order to ensure this continuous growth, we must remain vigilant in protecting our jurisdiction. The potential that we have seen in the growing energy sector has put regional projects on the map. LIUNA will continue to pursue more work for members on these energy projects .

We have seen non-union companies showing up in Oregon, Washington, Colorado and Wyoming to secure work in the expanding renewable energy sector. These proj-

ects are being built with tax incentives from these states, with no benefit to the residents for work opportunities. These non-union companies have brought in out-of-state workers, paying well below area standards, with no health and welfare, pension or training requirements. We as a Region are standing with our Local Unions and District Councils to provide them with all the resources they need to fight against these efforts.

The LIUNA Health & Safety Fund, Laborers'- Employers Cooperation & Education Team, Corporate Affairs and Northwest Regional Organizing Coalition are engaged with the Local Unions, District Councils and Signatory Contractors to create work opportunities for our members in the renewable energy sector.

This years Northwest Regional Conference will focus on legislative attacks by other crafts, protecting our jurisdiction, organizing, duty of fair representation, branding and marketing tools, health and safety, public employee sector updates, indigenous and tribal relations, corporate strategies for the energy sector and team building. This conference will allow Delegates to develop strategies and provide the resources needed to bring back to respective jurisdictions.

This conference also serves as a fundraiser for two organizations that directly benefit our membership, the W. Vernie Reed Scholarship Fund and the Laborers' Charitable Fund. The W. Vernie Reed Scholarship Fund, established in memory of former General Secretary-Treasurer and Local 252 brother, that awards scholarships to members, their dependents and grandchildren throughout the Northwest Region. This year, the committee has awarded 18- \$2,500 Local Union scholarships, nine \$2,500 At-Large Scholarships and one \$5,000 scholarship to the top applicant. The Laborers' Charitable Fund raises money to fund research into the diseases that are the major causes of illness and death among Laborers and their families.

We also use this letter to recognize and congratulate International Representative Rob Trenkle, CSWU Local 1611 Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Manuel Alvernaz, Local 71 Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Dennis Moen, Local 872 Field Agent and Sergeant at Arms Joe Delucia, NROC Market Representatives Grover Johnson, Sherry Barry and Rick Evans on their well deserved retirement. It is because of individuals like these that have fought for our members right to earn better wages, benefits and working conditions that has made LIUNA stronger then it was when they started.

I would also like to congratulate CSWU Local 1611 Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Nav Malhotra on his appointment to lead the proud working men and women of 1611. I know Brother Malhotra will build a stronger presence across British Columbia.

The next newsletter will provide photos of the W.Vernie Reed, Local Union and District Council Scholarship recipients from around the Northwest Region. Please take the time to share this newsletter with your membership and celebrate your hard work.

In solidarity,

Robert Abbott

A message from the Northwest Region's Assistant Regional Manager **Rey Espinoza**:

Renewable energy is not new to our region. LIUNA members have been building renewable energy projects for a number of years now. The increase in the number of wind and solar projects have been beneficial to our area as well as providing jobs for our members. Governors across the Northwest Region are currently passing legislation that will allow our area to become more energy independent in the near future which would create great work opportunities in the region for our signatory contractors and members.

Through this new trend and coordinating LIUNA's efforts in this push for renewable energy, it has given us a seat at the table and a voice. Using our this voice is just one of the tools that allows us to be involved. Your state Utility Trades Commission (UTC) plays a key role in moving these projects forward as well. In order to build relationships with the UTC Commissioners, we need your assistance by letting your Governors know that we are in need of labor-friendly UTC commissioners.

We have had success with getting out and letting our voice be heard with job actions, meetings with owners and developers as well as meeting with political leaders. LIUNA is being heard loud and clear! If we stay proactive with our approach to the renewable energy revolution and work together as a team, we will accomplish great things!

A message from Western Canada Sub-Regional Manager **Mark Olsen**:

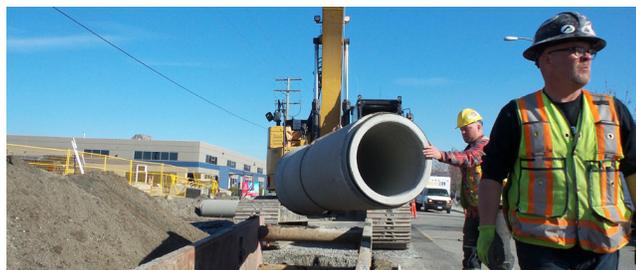
CAVU ACROSS WESTERN CANADA

When George H.W. Bush was a fighter pilot in the U.S.A.F., he always hoped to hear over the crackling radio, "CAVU," before he took off. CAVU stood for "Ceiling and Visibility Unlimited," meaning the best flying conditions for the pilots and their mission. We are just starting a period of CAVU in Western Canada, which should last close to a decade. It is a boom beyond anything we have ever seen before.

Approved projects, all anchored by Project Labour Agreements (PLAs) exist on approximately \$100 billion worth of power, pipeline and infrastructure projects. They include two LNG Plants and related pipelines, a new hydrodam, new tunnels, widened roads and a new bridge as well as pipeline replacements and multiple transit projects.

We expect to need thousands of new members, including Indigenous workers and women. Most of these projects will include camp accommodations so existing members and new members from across Canada will be sourced.

Finally, the Western Canada Training Plans will be going full tilt to train apprentices and certify journeypersons. CAVU presents a unique set of challenges, but the Western Canada Local Unions are up for the task.



(Top left, clockwise)

Local 292 members receiving swag on-the-job.

Local 252 held a signing day for students who will be joining a trade apprenticeship program after graduation.

Local 1611 members working in Richmond, BC.

Local 1611's Day of Mourning ceremony honouring Local members who have been lost to workplace fatalities.

(Photos courtesy of Local Unions.)

A message from International Representative **Chad Fenison**:

Following the retirement of LIUNA International Representative, Rob Trenkle, I am now the new LIUNA International Representative for the Northwest Region. I have had many valuable experiences as a Laborer in the field including serving as a pipeliner, pipeline steward and organizer, to name a few. Working alongside my brothers and sisters, I am proud to be counted among the ranks of the strong women and men of the Laborers' International Union of North America.

In all my experiences, the common thread is strong members demanding family wage jobs and benefits. One of my duties as an International Representative is to facilitate all of the national pre-job agreements for the Northwest Region's lower US States. The Local Union and pipeline stewards along with these pre-job agreements are essential to ensure Laborers' wages, benefits and working conditions are upheld on the job. Right now, strong union contractors are kicking off projects across the region putting Laborers to work. Green energy projects are scheduled to begin all around the Northwest in the next two years and we are all working hard to ensure that green jobs are family wage jobs. I am looking forward to serving the Northwest Region in my new position.

PROGRAM UPDATES



With the busy construction season quickly approaching, NROC has been focusing on training and resources needed for strategic campaigns throughout the region. Last month, we had six Market Representatives attend the 10-day training

in Phoenix, AZ. They gained confidence and knowledge in all aspects of organizing and implemented their new skills during a hands-on campaign. They did an exceptional job of representing the Northwest Region. Thank you to our members, affiliates and leadership for providing this great opportunity.

The organizing team has continued to grow over the last several months. We have also added several new Market Representatives in Nevada, Oregon and Washington bringing our total to 31. We also welcomed a new Executive Assistant for NROC, new Washington Field Director and a new Lead Market Rep in Colorado. We will also be adding a Strategic Researcher in the coming months to round out our organizing team. NROC will continue to support the District Councils and Local Unions with their organizing goals.

"Individual commitment to a group effort, that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." --Vince Lombardi

-Tonya Ohumukini, Regional Director, NROC



LABORERS'
HEALTH & SAFETY FUND
OF NORTH AMERICA

Here are some tips from the 2019 LIUNA Health & Safety Magazine "Lifelines" on preventing and dealing with cement burns. Many Laborers work with portland cement by pouring it into forms, applying it through the process of shotcrete, screeding and finishing it.

Follow these tips to prevent exposure to portland cement and its harmful health effects:

- Always wash your hands with clean water before work, during breaks and at the end of your shift.
- Your employer should make sure there is plenty of clean water available.
- Remove watches or rings before work, as they can trap cement.
- Keep the inside of gloves clean and dry.
- Use waterproof knee pads or dry kneeboards if you have to kneel in cement.
- Don't use abrasive cleansers or waterless cleaners.
- Avoid skin-softening products like lanolin or petroleum jelly to treat cement burns.
- Don't clean with abrasive, solvent-containing products.

-Doug Buman, Market Rep, LHSFNA

PROGRAM UPDATES



Since the last newsletter, Northwest LECET has continued to grow its presence in-house as well as to the public. In order to create work opportunities for the members and signatory contractors in the Northwest Region, Northwest LECET has developed various campaigns and projects dealing with worker recruitment, branding and public relations.

The LIUNA Cares campaign began in October of 2018 and featured members throughout the region. LIUNACares.com was introduced at the same time showing the full stories of each participant. We used outlets such as, Lamar Billboards, Root Sports NW, Univision and social media. Overall, LIUNA Cares has opened up relationships and brought new ideas to the table in terms of creativity, branding and reaching our members and the public in a positive way. We are grateful for those who participated in this campaign and we look forward to furthering our reach in the off season months.

Northwest LECET has constantly been developing into the most ambitious compliance arm amongst the building trades in the Northwest Region. As we move forward and strengthen our investigative processes and research capabilities, our presence within the region's construction industry continues to gain traction from contractors, awarding agencies and other trade unions.

With an emphasis on being a focused compliance arm, we have already accomplished gaining strong relationships with statewide compliance agencies. In Montana, because of our relationship with the Montana Department of Labor & Industries, we have increased our prevailing wage rates in multiple districts by exposing illegitimate data in their survey process. In Washington, we have filed numerous safety complaints that have resulted in a positive relationship with the supervisor of construction compliance at the Department of Labor & Industries. In keeping with investigative integrity, we are also generating a full report on the difference between non-union and union apprenticeship programs. The compliance arm of Northwest LECET is becoming a vital tool to increase accountability and compliance throughout the construction industry.

- Aubrey Abbott, Director, Northwest LECET



National LECET has been on the road visiting with tribes throughout the Northwest Region. National LECET, Northwest Laborers Training and Local 295 were invited to take part in a two-day career event with the Navajo Nation and Junior Achievement Academy to introduce Navajo youth to apprenticeship opportunities with LIUNA. In the two days we were able to talk with over 700 students and teachers. There were also visits with the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and the Nez Perce TERO.

National LECET continues to assist in apprenticeship education by coordinating career days with the Quinault and Puyallup Indian Nations, as well as Southwest Washington. The WSATC-Tribal Sub Committee held its quarterly meeting at Laborers' Local 242, where Christina Riley was elected as Committee Co-Chair. The Laborers had a strong presence at the Pacific Northwest Region TERO Conference and look forward to the National TERO Conference this summer. National LECET continues to work on building diversity with the Apprenticeship Programs through partnerships and events, as well as working with the Washington State Department of Corrections to continue opportunities with re-entry for adult facilities. other trade unions.

-Christina Riley, Marketing Rep, National LECET

HAVE PHOTOS OR STORIES YOU WANT TO SHARE?

Please send these over to info@nwlecet.org to be featured in the next newsletter!



PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FIGHT PORTLAND PARKS & REC BUDGET CUTS

Laborers' Local 483, representing public employees in Portland, Ore., have been passionately fighting against the Mayor's proposed budget. The budget cuts would lead to approximately 70 positions eliminated across Parks and Recreation.

For recreation employees who have worked years, even decades, at poverty wages to attain full-time living wage jobs, the Mayor's Proposed Budget is huge a step backwards. For workers this is a double loss—the loss of a living wage job and the loss of being able to serve the kids, parents, teens, elders and community members they care about.

Local 483 has been documenting its members and their stories -- showing how cutting these jobs is cutting away at the Portland community. See their stories below:



“The staffing at Community Centers is already slim—some instructors teach 16 classes a week. Full classes. When recreation positions are cut these classes end. Cutting just one instructor position can impact over 200 kids and adults.”

- Leina'ala Slaughter, Portland Parks & Recreation Employee

“When asked what her greatest fear is about the proposed cuts, Jessica replied ‘I am worried about losing my connection with the Spanish speaking community. Who will fill my shoes and be someone they can relate to?’

She also worries about scholarship applications for low-income Portlanders who can't afford to pay full price for a camp registration. “I am able to quickly turn around scholarship applications, so kids can go to summer camp and parents have their childcare needs met. If my position is cut, I am concerned about families getting fast scholarship approvals.”

- Jessica Ramirez, Southwest Community Center Recreation Leader



“On a personal level, my work with Parks has been incredibly rewarding. I've been able to watch children grow up and help them on their developmental journey. I know that the services Parks and Recreation provide are vital to working families, that in a City growing more and more expensive our programs are a pillar folks can depend on.

I hope that leaders of our City reconsider their choice to make these deep cuts to Parks. I know we can do better. For decades recreation workers have sacrificed to provide Portlanders with exceptional programs. I ask that our leaders do the same and go the extra mile to find a way to fund Parks.”

- Troy Broat, Recreation Leader (Instructor)



“Now 13 years later, as a full-time, benefited employee at the Southwest Community Center, I run the rental department with a team full of supportive, well-adjusted coworkers. Today I face losing the jobs that shaped me into who I am today.

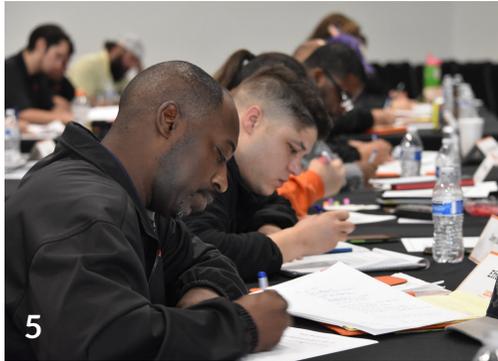
The skills and services I have provided have literally saved lives of Portland residents. I have run into families of children I taught to swim, and had them thank me for the skills their child remembered in dangerous open water. I've had residents cry tears of joy because of the support I've given their family as a Parks employee when they needed it most. I've even witnessed some of my past students grow up to be employees themselves. I'm not the only worker facing these cuts who has brought these kinds of supports to Portlanders.

Throughout the 28 years of my life, I have fractured 82 bones, and had 30 operations because of osteogenesis imperfecta. I always found myself lucky to be as optimistic as I am, and also to have a job that would take care of me if I ever broke again. The thought of losing those benefits and support overwhelms me with fear, and disappointment. Please reconsider your cuts to Parks and Rec. Losing the services we provide would be infinitely greater than any amount of money you could imagine.”

- Will Zeigler, Recreation Leader



MEMBERSHIP MOBILIZATION

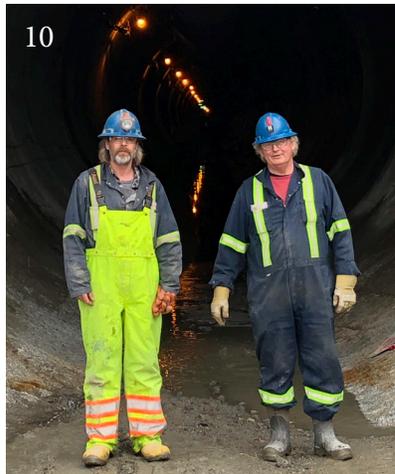


1. Amber McGinnis and Local 252 President Troy Andrews work on rebuilding neighbors in need in Spanaway.
2. Senator Maria Cantwell with NWLETT Apprentices at the NWLETT Training School building dedication at Laborers' Local 242.
3. A member of Local 1686 in Montana.
4. Organizer Darrell Stubblefield at a school career fair promoting the Laborers' Apprenticeship Program.
5. Organizers taking part in a five-day training at Local 242.
6. Organizers taking part in the 10-day training in Phoenix, AZ.
7. Students try out VR haedsets at the Laborers' career fair booth in Utah with Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Diane Lewis.
8. LIUNA ladies at a career day hosted at the Kingston training school.
9. Local 720 celebrate a victory as "Right-to-Work" legislation was shut down in Colorado.
10. Local 252 Assistant Business Manager Izzy Murrietta work on a deck for neighbors in Spanaway, Wash.
11. Local 238 Business Agent Lance Ragan on the grill.
12. Local 238 at the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

(Photos courtesy of respective Local Unions)

Send us your photos at info@nwlecet.org to be featured in "Members in Action"

WESTERN CANADA



1 & 12. Survey Level 1 Course.

2. Performance Contracting pipelaying work in Richmond, British Columbia.

3. Local 180 Line 3 replacement.

4. Pictured left to right: Local 1611 Business Manager - Nav Malhotra, Retiree Club President - Bruce Ferguson and (far right) Local 1611 President and Western Canada Sub-Regional Manager - Mark Olsen pictured with Local 1611 Dispatcher Donna Mansel on her last day. Donna has retired after working for Local 1611 for over 40 years. She is widely respected by Local 1611 members around the Province and will be greatly missed.

5. Local 1611's Day of Mourning Ceremony honouring Local 1611 members who have been lost to workplace fatalities.

6. Survey Level I Course at Local 1611 training.

7. Members Tyler MacLennan & Mike Thibodeau working for Jacobs Industrial Services at Suncor.

8. (pictured left to right) Local 1611 Business Manager - Nav Malhotra, previous Retiree-Club President - R.L. McDonald, current Retiree Club President - Bruce Ferguson and ex-Business Manager of Local 1611- Manuel Alvernaz.

9. Pacific Blasting Local 1611 members working in the Lower Mainland.

10. Local 1611: Job Stewards (left to right) Glenn Kidner and Keith Halvorsen at 2600 Audit Kemano. Downstream underground rehab work in progress.

11. Local 92: LRT Tunnel phase project in Edmonton, AB. (Photos courtesy of Western Canada Sub-Regional Office)



Northwest LECET Productions:

Northwest LECET is proud to debut a state-of-the-art media room (pictured above) in order to produce in-house content that will be used for marketing and branding purposes. Northwest LECET will help produce content like member testimonies, podcasts and branding and recruitment videos on behalf of affiliates and Signatory Contractors.

The first major event will be a webinar focusing on Mental Health Awareness in early July 2019.

Take a look at some of the ads that have run throughout the Northwest Region via Northwest LECET. We have had branding and worker recruitment materials on Root Sports, Univision and billboards in Washington, Montana, Oregon and transit ads in Utah.



Contact Us

We are looking forward to sharing photos of the winners of the W. Vernie Reed Scholarships in the next newsletter. Please send photos of those awarded at your union meetings to:

Aubrey Abbott, NW LECET
Director
aubrey@nwlecet.org

Hallie Fuchs, NW LECET
Public Relations Specialist
hallie@nwlecet.org

Contact Northwest LECET for more information www.nwlecet.org



REGIONAL EVENTS

W. Vernie Reed Golf Tournament - July 28, 2019
Lake Tahoe, NV

Northwest Regional Conference - July 29-31, 2019
Lake Tahoe, NV

Regional Resources

- [Northwest LiUNA!](#) @LIUNANWRegion @LIUNA_NWRegion
- [Northwest LECET](#) @NWLECET @NWLECET @NWLECET
- [Northwest Regional Organizing Coalition](#) @NWLECET
- [Washington LECET](#) @liunanroc @liuna_nroc @nroclaborers
- [Southern Nevada LECET](#)

ENERGY PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The NW Region, like the rest of the country, is facing a changing energy industry. Our region is seeing an uptick in renewable energy projects, the retirement of coal-fired facilities and natural gas generation being used as a bridge fuel. The change in energy generation, coupled with the efforts by utilities to maintain and upgrade their distribution systems, has resulted in billions of dollars of construction spending. The NW Region is undertaking a series of strategic efforts to target the regulatory bodies that approve and site energy projects. Some of these projects are highlighted below:

WASHINGTON -- The proposed Lund Hill Solar Farm project will be the largest solar farm in Washington State. This project will be union built with LIUNA members. Vice President and Regional Manager Bob Abbott has been instrumental in negotiations with Avangrid in order to ensure this project and future projects are union made.

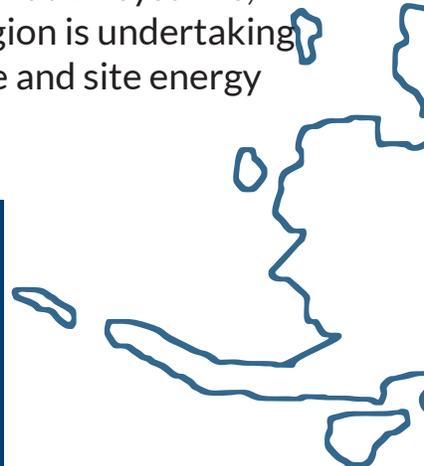
OREGON -- There are eight wind and solar energy projects under the review of the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Board. LIUNA is fighting to show elected officials that current projects like the Montague Wind Energy project fail to create local jobs for LIUNA members and new siting standards are needed.

LIUNA has been a leading advocate for the Jordan Cove LNG export facility. On March 29th FERC issued a draft environmental impact statement for this \$10 Billion project--LIUNA will continue to submit comments and support this much needed project during the upcoming comment period.

COLORADO -- XCEL Energy in Colorado has announced it is taking over the Cheyenne Wind project from Tradewind Energy, a \$743 million, 500MW wind project. It was announced that the Public Utilities Commission has approved the takeover for XCEL Energy.

NEVADA -- NV Energy, Nevada's largest electric utility has announced it is closing the Valmy coal fired power plant and MDU Resources has announced the retirement of the Lewis & Clark coal plant in Sidney, MT. Colstrip in Montana will also be closed. Across the United States LIUNA members have performed record hours abating and then deconstructing coal fired facilities.

MANITOBA -- Pictured right, the Keyask Dam superstructure and the squirrel casing for one of the turbines at the Dam.



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LiUNA!

Feel the Power

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