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

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This newsletter is dedicated to recognizing the work of our membership and political programs.

Heading into the 2018 midterm elections every Local Union and District Council was building on the success of their political programs from the 2016 presidential election. Thanks to everyone’s collective effort, LIUNA had the strongest political presence of all organized labor across the Northwest Region.

Members volunteered every weekend proudly wearing their LIUNA shirts, jackets and hats. Politicians, other unions and their communities saw the power of LIUNA and could feel the power!

These accomplishments could not have happened without the support and activism of our membership and the leadership of the Local Unions, District Councils and LIUNA programs, it was a team effort.

It is now up to all of us to continue the relationships we have built with politicians in this region and hold them accountable for their votes on the issues that affect our members, their jobs and benefits, working conditions and the creation of more work opportunities.

Please take the time to share this newsletter with your membership and celebrate your hard work.

You are the reason every politician could see the power, they could feel the power and now it is time to use the power. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

In solidarity,

Robert Abbott

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

CBA NOW THE NEW PLA

Following the lead of the Building Trades in the USA, the Trades in Western Canada have been promoting Community Benefit Agreements (CBA) rather than traditional Project Labour Agreements (PLA), for public and private funded large scale projects.

CBAs assist both the government and owner, seeking social license, for projects in Western Canada. CBAs allow all companies to bid regardless of Union status, they just follow the CBA including priority hire for indigenous people, local workers, women and other underrepresented groups in construction. It also creates enforceable apprenticeship ratios and significant training opportunities.

In British Columbia, the provincial government just signed a significant CBA, covering a major bridge and highway expansion, amounting to billions of dollars of work. We are anticipating additional projects under the CBA including schools and hospitals.

In Alberta, the provincial government has announced that they are very interested in the CBA concept and we expect one soon.

However, in the province of Manitoba, the government is moving away from a long history of government PLAs. The introduction of Bill 4 would ban these types of Agreements. LIUNA has joined the other trades in opposition to this bill.

LIUNA leadership remains strong in 2018 meetings with the Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau, the Premier of Alberta Rachel Notley and the Premier of BC John Horgan, pushing CBAs among other issues.

LIUNA Locals have had success establishing CBAs and will continue to support governments who embrace this great idea.

We wish all LIUNA members a very happy and healthy holiday season.
WHO WE ARE

PROGRAM UPDATES

**Laborers Receive Washington State Governor’s Lifesaving Award**

The Washington State Governor’s Lifesaving Award is presented to employees who are covered by industrial insurance and performed a lifesaving action while on duty. The Lifesaving Award highlights what ordinary people, who are placed in an extraordinary situation, do to assist others in the times of need. Because of their efforts, Aaron Tomaras, James Townsend of Local 242 and Kimo Myton of Local 252 were recipients.

Tomaras, Townsend and Myton were working for PCI/Democon when an operator became trapped by the excavator he was operating. The three had to act quickly and sprung into action. They pushed the excavator back using a skid steer loader and prevented further injury. The operator was later transported to the hospital where he recovered fully.

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**Doug Buman, Market Rep, LHSFNA**

As the NROC team continues to grow, we stress the importance of training and teamwork. LIUNA is planning several training opportunities in the coming months that will focus on research, public speaking, strategic planning amongst other vital skills. NROC will continue to support the District Councils and Local Unions throughout the region by incorporating these skills and expanding on previous knowledge.

- Tonya Ohumukini, Regional Director, NROC
This election had the highest voter turnout for a midterm since 1914, making it a crucial year for LIUNA and our endorsed candidates. In order to sustain and protect LIUNA values, the Northwest Region had hundreds of volunteers use their free time to promote candidates.

There were several members also running for office: Skip Daly, Diane Lewis and Becky Riedl.

(The below political information reflects the political reports we received upon time of publication.)

**Political Report:**

With the thousands of doors knocked and hundreds of volunteer shifts covered by our members and staff, we were able to make a difference in the Northwest Region.

LIUNA was able to enact change on a local, state and federal races. We continued to uphold the LIUNA values of justice, honor and strength by fighting for good jobs, safety at the workplace and the ability to support our families.

In Nevada, we supported Steve Sisolak for Governor along with Kate Marshall (Lietuenant Governor) and Aaron Ford (Attorney General) who were all victorious in their respective races.

In Washington, we were able to see the Washington State Legislature, both House and Senate, have healthy Democratic majorities, which means well for our 2019 legislative agenda.

In Alaska, we maintained the U.S. House seat with Don Young and therefore control of the House of Representatives.

In Oregon, there was a Democratic majority starting with Governor Kate Brown, who has been an ally of the Laborers. This followed with a majority in the House and Senate. Additionally, though it was a primary race decided in May, the Labor Commissioner seat is now held by Val Hoyle.

In Idaho, the make up of the State Legislature is Republican. Idaho’s Governor is Representative Brad Little, who was previously the Lieutenant Governor.

**Membership Mobilization** (photos right):

1. Local 238 members at a mobilization event at the hall.
2. Local 242 members getting ready for a membership mobilization event at their Local Hall.
3. Local 252 shows their support for teachers at an event.
4. A LIUNA member and her son at a rally.
5. Local 242’s Bill Meek and a little Laborer at a rally.
6. Local 737 members with Governor Kate Brown at a membership event.
7. Local 238 members and organizers at an event in Spokane for politicians supporting organized labor.
8. Local 1686 members in Montana for Jon Tester who was successful in his campaign for Governor.
9. Local 872 members with Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak who was successful in his campaign.
10. Alaska Governor Bill Walker and Alaska Commissioner of Labor Heidi Drygas addressed the Local 942 Pipeline Training Class of 2018 at the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center.
11. Volunteers from Local 295 and throughout the region ready to door knock on behalf of our Sister and Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer of Local 295 in Utah, Diane Lewis.
12. Local 292 members and canine companions out for Maralyn Chase.  (Photos courtesy of their respective Locals)
Send us your photos at info@nwlecet.org to be featured in “Members in Action”
Bryan Glenn Imus was working as a Steward when he was approached to come work at Local 942 as a Field Organizer. Bryan jumped at the opportunity to get some real work done for the Union movement. He worked tirelessly, not only for the union but for the community as a whole. Bryan would progress rapidly through the ranks to President and Business Agent. He was a father of two young boys and very involved in their lives. He was a devoted husband who always went out of his way to make sure his wife, Jennifer, had what she needed. Bryan was an outdoor nut! If it wasn’t moose hunting season, to him, it was almost moose hunting season. He lived and ultimately died doing what he loved. If he wasn’t in the woods hunting, you would find Bryan at the ice rink with his boys.

Bryan’s dedication to labor was crystal clear. It is hard pressing to find another man so dedicated to the labor movement. He truly believed in progressing labor’s agenda and working ‘til the sun set every day doing his part for that advancement. Bryan was my right hand and I admired his drive, he energized the whole team, no matter which team he was a part of. He was honest to a fault and loyal to Local 942 and LiUNA. He wore the brand on his sleeve shamelessly and set an example for us all to follow for years to come, even in his absence. Our hearts ache daily knowing his time fell far too short. We try to honor Bryan by following his example, enthusiasm and drive.

Recently, LiUNA Local 737 lost a friend and brother, while in service to our membership as a Business Representative of the Local. Brother Kyle Estes passed away on September 11th, 2018 due to injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. Kyle worked as a member and employee of the City of Ashland Public Works Water Department for 23 years; many of those as a shop steward, before taking on a position as a Business Representative in 2017.

Kyle cared very deeply for his community and the welfare and education of the youth within it. He volunteered for many organizations; including Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and 4-H where he mentored children and young adults to learn self-reliance and to believe they could accomplish anything.

Kyle is survived by his wife of 28 years, Jill, his son Ray, sister Valerie Henry and his father Jim Estes. He was preceded by his mother, Shirley Estes. Kyle’s influence and infectious smile will be missed by all those whose lives he touched; in his family, in service to his community, and in service to his Union brothers and sisters.
For the first time, the Women Build Nations Conference was organized in the Northwest Region. In September, over 2,000 women from all trades descended to Seattle to celebrate women in construction and promoting solidarity, sisterhood and unity.

The LIUNA Northwest Region had the honor of hosting several hundred LIUNA sisters, the highest number ever, from throughout the International. All LIUNA participants went back to their respective Locals, District Councils and Regions with a new sense of what it takes to be a Laborer. They Feel the Power and the Northwest Region is excited to see what the future holds.

For more photos check out the LIUNA Northwest Region’s Facebook!

WESTERN CANADA

1. Local 1611 Business Manager Manuel Alvernaz with British Columbia Premier John Horgan in Victoria, B.C. John Horgan announced the implementation of the Community Benefit Agreement on July 16, 2018.

2. Local 92 Business Manager John Desrosiers with Alberta Premier Rachel Notley at the Alberta Building Trades Conference on September 20, where Notley announced that Alberta would begin to apply the Community Benefits Agreement to public projects.

3. Local 1258 as an affiliate of the Manitoba Building Trades has been actively campaigning against Brian Pallister’s proposed Bill 4, which would see the end of PLA’s in Manitoba.

4. Local 1611 President Nav Malhotra had the privilege of presenting Strawberry Hill Elementary School with a large book donation on behalf of LIUNA Local 1611. This donation is part of a Local 1611’s campaign to ensure that all children have an equal opportunity to thrive.

(Photos courtesy of Western Canada Sub-Regional Office)