



IBEW

LOCAL 1555

September 2022

Next Union Meeting:

**Wednesday
October 5, 2022**

**96 Norwood Ave.
(In the basement)**

6:30 PM

Chase the Ace Draw:

\$510

Remaining Cards:

35

If you have any suggestions or any other announcement you would like to see in the next newsletter please email:

jason@ibew1555.ca

From the Business Manager

We had an eventful August 2022!!

The contract negotiations broke down (as we suspected it would) and the members voted for strike action. Not only that, we followed through! This is exactly what being unified stands for.

If you want to change a common practice that seems impossible to change; stand strong and together we can make it possible.

As a proud member of Local 1555 for the past 16 years, I have NEVER seen the solidarity that our brothers and sisters have shown in the last few months.

This will only be the first of many more battles to come so let's stay driving forward and be proud of the role we all play.

In solidarity,

Jeff Morash

BM/FS

For those savvy with social media a new Facebook Group has been created for Local 1555. To join please click on the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/241285856606179/?ref=bookmarks>

Union Administration: Office Hours

UNION OFFICE HOURS.
 8:30-4:30 pm (Mon-Thurs.)
 8:30-3:00 pm (Friday)

506-857-3228 or 506-872-1009

****Important Note – Beneficiaries****

Please take the time to review your insurance documents, etc. so that the person named as your benefactor is who you want it to be.

Membership Development

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those members and soon to be members for participating in 'New Member Orientation' sessions on July 21 and September 1, 2022.

For those unable to attend, please remember to check your email for future sessions.

75th Anniversary: S.W.A.G Update

Challenge Coins* have arrived!

They're real and they're spectacular.



*see end of newsletter for history and rules.

Each member is entitled to one free coin. Any additional coins may be purchased for \$10.

They're now available at the office.

Work Report

Current Employment

LOCAL	J/W	Apprentice
Ainsworth	12	6
Al's Electric	12	1
Black & McDonald	14	4
GJ Cahill	1	1
Craig Smith Elec.	1	1
Controls & Equip.	6	3
East Current	9	4
Gardner	2	
Gil-Son		
Memco	4	1
TJ Electric	1	1
Total Electrical		
Zell Electric		
Trade School		
TRAVEL	J/W	Apprentice
Saint John	2	
Sarnia	4	

LOOKING FOR WORK

J/W	Apprentice
8	2

Local 1555 Structure:

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Jeff Morash

President: Jeff Phillips

Vice-President: Mike Read

Treasurer: Andy Welling

Recording Secretary: Donnie Anderson

E-Board: Darren Cormier, Jason Hamilton, Billy Read

Apprentice Rep: Willame Field

Project Updates:

Awarded

Public Address System Upgrade – Forest Glen School: Ainsworth

Maintenance Building Fit-Up – Parlee Beach Provincial Park: Camille Leger

New Salt Shed (500t) – Salisbury: Quantum Construction

Closing

RFP – Supply and Install 1 EV Charging Station – Berry Mills: September 16

Harper Hall Renovation – Sackville: September 22

Angio BiPlane Fit Up – Moncton Hospital: September 15

VUBIZ Training

Your local has prepaid for courses covering subjects from WHMIS 2015 for Workers, to Back Safety to Basic Finance to VuKidz courses and more. Several of them are authored in French.

[IBEW Union Savings \(vubizlearning.com\)](http://vubizlearning.com)

The courses will be available to you and your friends and families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until April 30, 2025. You can take and retake them as often as you want.

SEPTEMBER 2022 IMPORTANT DATES:

5 LABOUR DAY
7 REGULAR MEETING
21 E-BOARD MEETING
27 NEW BRUNSWICK BUILDING
TRADES UNIONS (NBBTU) MEETING
30 TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION DAY
(NOT A RECOGNIZED PROVINCIAL
HOLIDAY)

Apprentice Resources:

- [Apprenticeship Incentive & Tuition Rebate Program](#)
- [Canada Apprentice Loan Program](#)
- [Apprenticeship Grants](#)
- [Building Trades Bursary](#)

We are pleased to be able to offer tutoring to our members for Block Release training and IP (Interprovincial Licence) refresher preparation. Any questions ask Jason: 506-874-5548

75th anniversary in 2022!!

The following is a list of Licensed Electrical Contractors that are signatory to IBEW Local 1555. They hire IBEW 1555 Journeymen and Apprentices and pay Union Wages and Benefits. These Union contractors do residential, commercial, institutional, industrial, maintenance, communications and service work. If you know someone who needs an Electrical Contractor please direct them to one of these Union Contractors!

Ainsworth: <https://www.ainsworth.com/>

Al's Electric: 506-387-4018 <https://www.alselectric.ca/p1.htm>

Black & McDonald: 506-858-5688 <https://www.blackandmcdonald.com/>

(GJ) Cahill: 506-693-1921 <https://www.cahill.ca/>

Controls and Equipment: 506-857-8836 <http://controlequipment.com/>

Craig Smith Electric: 506-878-7126
<https://www.facebook.com/CraigSmithElectric/>

East Current Electric:

Donovan Associates: 506-696-8356 <https://donovanassociates.ca/>

Gardner Electric: 506-830-8500 <http://www.gardnerelectric.ca/>

Gil-Son Construction: 1-855-450-5254 <https://www.gilsonconstruction.com/>

Memco Controls: 506-854-2496 <http://www.memcocontrols.com/index.php/en/>

Pivot Systems: 506-466-5127 <http://pivotsystems.ca/>

TJ Electric: 902-835-4840 <https://www.tjelectric.ca/>

Total Electrical Solutions: 506-849-2280 <http://totalelectsolutions.com/>

Zell Electric and Renovations: 506-869-1521 [Zell Electric and Renovations | Facebook](#)

Mineral Insulated Cable Course

August 11, 2022 13 members attended the course for Mineral Insulated Cable Termination. It is the first of what will be a regular offering of skills upgrading to continue to offer our membership so we can provide the best-trained workers to our signatory contractors.





Then of course we had this little thing going on....

At the AI's Electric Office....



The Jaguar Dealership...



And the Black & McDonald Office.



It's not often that contract negotiations have to go to these lengths to reach a resolution. It would not have been possible without the strength and resolve of our membership. Thanks to everyone for doing their part so we could finally reach an agreement and get back to work!

History of the Challenge Coin*

During World War I, American volunteers from all parts of the country filled the newly formed flying squadrons. Some were wealthy young men who left colleges such as Yale and Harvard in order to enlist in the military. In one squadron, a wealthy lieutenant ordered solid bronze medallions embossed with the squadron emblem for every Member of his squadron. He carried his medallion in a small leather sack about his neck. Shortly after acquiring the medallions, the lieutenant's aircraft was severely damaged by ground fire during a mission.

He was forced to land behind enemy lines, where he was captured by a German patrol. In order to discourage his escape, the Germans took all of his personal identification except for the small leather pouch around his neck.

He was eventually taken to a small French town near the front lines where he managed to escape during a night bombardment. During the attack, he donned civilian clothes and fled without personal identification. After escaping, the brave pilot succeeded in avoiding German patrols until he reached the front lines.

With great difficulty, he crossed no-man's land and stumbled into a French outpost. Unfortunately, the French in this sector had been plagued by German saboteurs, who sometimes masqueraded as civilians and wore civilian clothes. Not recognizing the young pilot's American accent, the French thought him to be a saboteur and made ready to execute him.

Just in time, the American remembered his leather pouch containing the bronze medallion. He showed the medallion to his wouldbe executioners. When the French captors recognized the squadron insignia on the medallion, they gave the pilot enough time to confirm his identity. Instead of shooting him, they gave him a bottle of wine.

Eventually the pilot made it back to his squadron, where it became a tradition to ensure all Members carried their medallion or coin at all times.

This was accomplished through a challenge.

A service Member would ask to see the coin. If the challenger could not produce his coin, he was required to purchase a drink of choice for the Member who had challenged him.

If the challenged Member produced his coin, then the challenging Member was required to pay for the drink.

The tradition continued that way for many years while surviving Members of the squadron were still alive. In some cases, a coin can be earned meritoriously for a job well done. Regardless of how they are acquired, the history of the challenge coin remains a part of military tradition, and servicemen/servicewomen will continue to display them proudly for years to come.

Unions around the world have recently embraced the concept and found the coins to be an excellent means of team building and creating a sense of brotherhood and belonging.

IBEW Local 1007, out of Edmonton, Alberta had the first coin of its kind in Canada.

Challenge Coin Rules

1. Rules of the coin game must be given or explained to all new coin holders.
2. The coin **MUST** be carried at all times. You can be challenged for it anywhere, any time. You must produce the coin without taking more than one step or an arm's length to produce it.
3. When challenging, the challenger must state whether it is for a single drink or a round of drinks.
4. Failure to produce a coin, for whatever reason, results in a bought round or single drink (whatever the challenger stated). This type of transaction could be expensive, so hold onto your coin. Once the offender (coinless challenger) has bought the drink or round, they can't be challenged again.
5. If all the challenged produce their coins, the challenger loses and must buy drinks for all respondents. This too can be expensive, so challenge wisely.
6. Under no circumstances can a coin be handed to another in response to a challenge. If a person gives their coin to another, that person can keep the coin – it's theirs! However, if a person places the coin down and another person picks it up to examine it that is not considered giving, and the examiner is honour-bound to place the coin back. The examiner can't challenge while they hold another Member's coin. After negotiating a "reasonable ransom", the examiner must return the Member's coin.
7. If a coin is lost, replacement is up to the individual. A new coin should be acquired at the earliest opportunity – losing a coin and not replacing it doesn't relieve a Member of his/her responsibilities. This is especially true if your fellow Member's know that you traditionally carry a coin.
8. The coin should be controlled at all times. Giving a coin to just anyone is like opening a fraternity to just anyone. It is an honour to be given a coin, let's keep it that way. A given or awarded coin is of more personal value than a purchased coin.
9. No holes may be drilled in a coin.
10. The above rules apply to anyone who is worthy to be given/awarded a coin, has a purchased coin or who is a known coin holder.

EXCEPTIONS: There are no exceptions to the rules. They apply to those clothed or unclothed. At the time of the challenge you are permitted one step or an arm's reach to locate your coin. If you still cannot reach it – SORRY ABOUT THAT!