



## LOCAL 8 NEWSLETTER

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### *Message from the Business Manager*

For starters I hope all of the Members and their families have remained healthy and safe and are doing their best to enjoy the summer.

As everyone is aware things were slow coming into 2020 and then COVID-19 hit. Essentially shutting down most of the world and causing oil to hit an all-time low. This created some challenges around the entire globe but luckily for most of the trades people in Alberta they were able to keep working.

### *Union Meetings*

We will be resuming Union Membership meetings in September. Due to social distancing and the limited space at both the Edmonton and Calgary halls, we will be holding the meeting at a different location. This will ensure that there will be enough room, and that nobody gets turned away. These locations will be posted on our webpage once we have them secured. After the long break in meetings, I am sure everyone has a lot of questions. We hope to see a high attendance at the meeting from the Members.

#### SEPTEMBER

Ft. McMurray	Sept 08
Edmonton	Sept 22
Calgary	Sept 24

### *Negotiation Update*

We have had a few negotiation meetings in June and July and have made a bit of progress and are hoping to have special called meeting in September to go over the proposal.

The slowdown in work is the focus and being used against us. They are claiming that the wage package must be reduced due to the limited amount of work and that their bids must be more competitive. The slow down can't be denied, but the cost of living hasn't gone down, and we have only received one small raise in the last 4 years.

We are hoping to have something to put out for ratification in the next couple of months so please watch for an information package which will have.

We will try and make the meeting accessible to as many Members as possible and there will be a lot of information to cover, so please do your best to attend.

Please do not believe the rumors this will be going out to the Members to vote on. The vote will be conducted by mail in ballot so everyone will get a chance to vote.

### *Nominations for Health and Welfare and Pension*

We will be having nominations at the September meetings for Trustees of the Health and Welfare Plan and the Pension Plan.

### *Long-term Service Awards*

Unfortunately, we will have to postpone the awards this year due to COVID. We currently cannot order the awards from the International and social distancing we be a concern for the dinners. We are hoping to hold the Awards early next year. Please watch the mail and website for more information.

We will also be trying something different with the awards. Each milestone will have a few selections instead of a set item. The Members who qualify will receive a letter informing them of their award and a list of items they can choose from.

### *Christmas Party*

Please watch the web site for information on the Christmas party. We will do our best to still have the Party, but Due to social distancing and possible restrictions on gathering it will be very important that you register well ahead of time to ensure the venue has the capacity for everyone.



## *South Work Picture*

Calgary has been steady too busy since the start of the year with Modern Niagara leading the way. With a lot of work at the Cross-Cancer Center that is employing well over 100 of our members. They have several other jobs keeping them busy including South Center Mall, the BMO center, and a new bus barns in Banff along with many other smaller projects.

With the Telus Sky project almost complete Crosstown has managed to stay steady picking up multiple projects around the city including 9th avenue Parkade and the 2nd phase of West Village Tower.

Our production shops are also doing well and are optimistic about the coming months.

Our lone cladding company has opted to use the enabling clause in our agreement and roll all their upcoming projects back 10%. We will wait to see how this will work out with securement of more work.

In March Reggin Industries had to make the tough decision of reducing hours or lay off employees. After a vote, the members decided to reduce hours to keep everyone in their shop employed. However, after a couple of months they are now back up to full time hours.

Calgary has many other sizable projects closing in the next few weeks and we are hopeful that many of our signatory contractors will secure much of that work.

The new Calgary flames arena was awarded to Cana with 4 contractors as the front runners bidding on it, 2 of those contractors are signatory with local 8.

It looks like school will be re-opening in September and we are looking at how we can help support SAIT and our Members with getting back to business quickly and safely.

Our in-house training center was put on hold during this Covid-19 process; however we have been moving forward as of late and hope to have it operational early in the new school year.

**Chris Taylor**  
**Southern Business Rep/ Vice President**

## *North Work Picture*

Commercial/Institutional HVAC work in the Edmonton area has remained steady through these past few months even with all the uncertainty. Most of our HVAC companies with jobs underway in the commercial market were able to keep the majority of their workers employed through the initial COVID lockdown. Although hours worked were reduced and hiring was essentially frozen they did manage to keep our members already on board employed for the most part.

Now as we move forward re opening the economy we are starting to see jobs being bid again with kick offs set to be in the very near future Industrial HVAC work north of Edmonton in the Wood Buffalo Region like almost all other trades was brought to a grinding halt in the area with issues such as social distancing on planes, busses and in camps. Most plants went almost overnight to Essential staff only and Shutdown/turnarounds were cancelled or postponed. Since the midway point of June, we have started to see that postponed work fire back up at Syncrude and Suncor, It appears that this trend will continue throughout the summer months and into the fall.

Cladding in the Edmonton area has struggled lately with most of the commercial cladding unfortunately landing with our competition. We do have cladding companies on site outside of the city center on local Industrial jobsites and in the Wood Buffalo region. It appears they may be getting busier in the future as things continue to pick up but for now things remain cautiously creeping forward.

**Shaun Koropchuk**  
**Northern Business Rep**

# SHOP



# TALK

Joint Training Trust Fund



## COURSES OFFERED THROUGH Local 8

Better Supervision - current  
Blueprint Reading - **TBA**  
Blueprint for Sheeter/Decker/Cladder - **TBA**  
BTATS Confined Space Entry/Monitor – current  
BTATS Elevated Work Platform – current  
BTATS Fall Protection - current  
BTATS Fire Watch - current  
COMET - **TBA**  
Common Safety Orientation (CSO) - current  
Construction Safety Training System (CSTS)  
Standard First Aid Level C (2days) - current  
Forklift - current  
H2S Alive - current  
Introduction to Welding - **TBA**  
Math Refresher Course - **TBA**  
Math and Field Measurement - **TBA**  
Rigging - current  
Overhead Crane - **TBA**  
WHMIS 2015/GHS - current  
Zoom Boom/Telehandler - current

### Offered Through the ACSA (Reimbursable)

Alberta Legislation Awareness  
Alcohol, Drugs & Safety  
Auditor Training  
Basic Instructional Techniques  
Communication and Ethics for the Safety Leader  
Construction Safety Administration  
Defensive Driving  
Horizontal Lifeline Installation  
Industrial Construction Crew Supervisor (ICCS)  
Leadership for Safety Excellence (LSE)  
Principles of Health and Safety Management  
Prime Contractor  
First Level Supervisor Training  
WHMIS Train the Trainer  
Worksite Investigation Basics



REMEMBER to double check your safety certifications annually to make sure they are current.

When waiting for your booking notifications, make sure to double check your junk folder.

Please contact the Local 8 Training to book all safety courses. We will be glad to assist in any way we can.

Contact Adrienne to find out how to book CSTS 2020. It is still being offered free until the end of 2020.

**Note: The Local 8 training facilities are currently closed until phase 3 or until the Gov. of Alberta gives further direction. Please check the website for updates as to when we will be reopening the shops, computer lab, and classrooms.**

We are actively working on providing courses online and sourcing new ways of delivering education through online platforms. Stay tuned....

## AIT Update:

### EXAMS

Work to reintroduce exams at AIT offices is currently underway [while adhering to public safety protocols](#). If you had an exam scheduled that was cancelled due to COVID-19, you will be contacted by AIT to reschedule.

### UPLOAD YOUR DOCUMENTS

Although front counter service has resumed for most AIT Offices, clients are encouraged to upload or take a picture of any paper documents and submit them through their MyTradesecrets account by clicking the **Upload** button on the **Documents** tab. Documents you can upload include:

- Record book
- employer letters
- Acceptance or release cards
- Transcripts
- Any other document you need to send to an AIT office

For more information, go to [Tradesecrets.alberta.ca/upload](https://tradesecrets.alberta.ca/upload). If you need to visit an AIT Office in person, you are encouraged to bring and wear your own mask.

**FRONT COUNTER SERVICES ARE OPEN at most AIT Office locations except for Grande Prairie.**

CONTACT THE AIT INFORMATION LINE AT 1-800-248-4823 IF YOU NEED INFORMATION OR WISH TO DISCUSS YOUR APPRENTICESHIP.

**Local 8 strongly suggests waiting until 2021 to book apprentice training.**



# SHOP



# TALK

Joint Training Trust Fund



## Covid-19 Update

*2020 is the year of Covid 19 and with the pandemic come lots of changes to how we live and work. We have compiled a lot of information on how to stay safe in the field as well as what this will mean for apprenticeship and training. Please take note of all the articles and stay safe.*

The following information was taken from [www.canada.ca](http://www.canada.ca)

"As provinces and territories lift or adjust public health measures, we must think about the risks associated with different settings and activities.

Minimize your risk by **avoiding the 3 Cs**:

**closed spaces** with poor ventilation

**crowded places** with many people nearby

**close faces**, such as close-range conversations

Before going out, consider the risks and make informed choices to keep yourself, your family and your communities safe. If a planned activity puts you at higher risk of getting COVID-19, consider avoiding it.

### Going to work

In addition to [personal practices for all public spaces](#), take **additional** measures when going to work.

Notify your employer if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been confirmed to have it.

Bring your lunch, coffee and snacks from home.

Avoid gathering in groups in breakrooms and common areas.

Avoid visiting public spaces between your home and workplace.

### Personal practices for all public spaces

Follow public health measures and reduce your risks when participating in personal and social activities by following the personal practices below.

Stay home if you feel sick or have any [symptoms](#), even if mild.

Avoid physical contact with others.

Wear a non-medical mask or face covering when:

indoors in public spaces

indoors or outdoors in **closed spaces, crowded places** and **close contact** situations where you can't keep 2 metres away from others

required by the business or local public health authority

In the rush to return 'back to normal', use this time to consider which parts of normal are worth rushing back to.

Cough and sneeze into a tissue or the bend of your arm.

Minimize handling cash by using cashless transactions, or cleaning your hands if you do use cash.

Keep 2 metres away from anyone who doesn't live with you or isn't in your small and consistent social circle.

Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or carry [hand sanitizer](#) containing at least 60% alcohol.

Wash or sanitize your hands often, especially:

before eating or drinking

when you enter and exit a building

after you touch common and frequently touched surfaces or objects

Read signs posted at entrances before entering the building and follow the public health measures in place.

Check the shop or business website or call ahead to see what COVID-19 specific practices and policies are in place. You may need to wear a non-medical mask or face covering to enter.

You may also want to know [how the business will protect your health](#), such as:

- staff wearing non-medical masks or face coverings
- screening staff and clients for COVID-19 symptoms or exposure to COVID-19
- keeping staff and patrons home if they have COVID-19 or related symptoms, or have been in contact with someone who's



**Be sure to visit [local8.ca](http://local8.ca) – training – to check for updates to training and apprenticeship. We will be posting updates regarding school intakes, book credits, continuing education and how covid 19 protocols will be affecting them.**