

# ICEBREAKER

Winter 2009/10



Richard Seder

## A time of transition and challenges

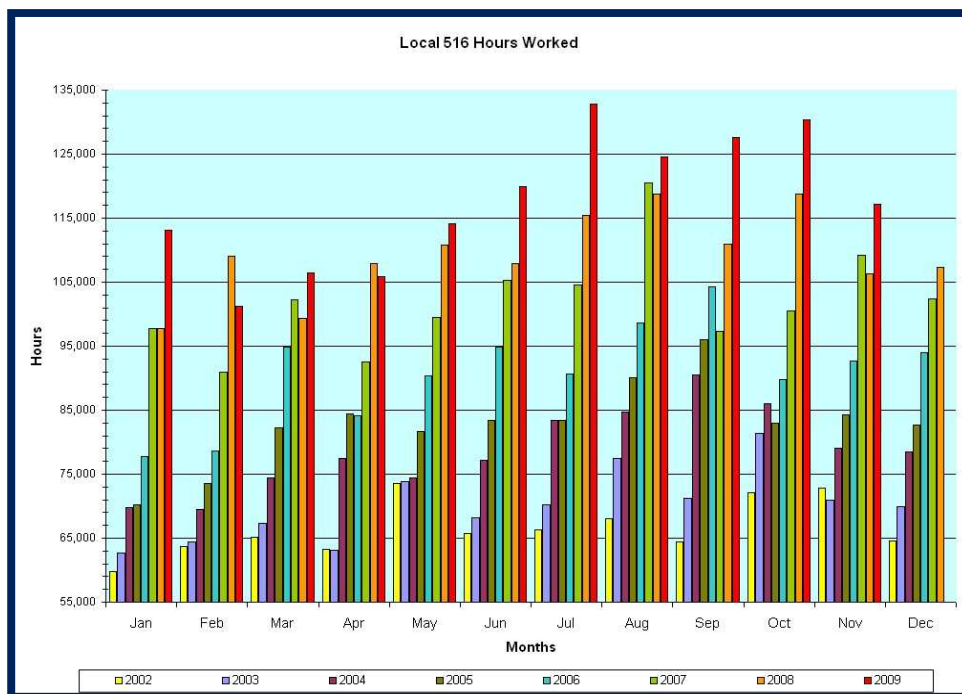
The election is over and hopefully the politics can die down for a few years and we can do the work of the Local Union. I would like to thank all of our members who supported me and my slate of officers. It means so much to me to win with such a large mandate in what will be my final election. I believe that the membership has spoken loudly and clearly that the direction chosen by me and my slate of officers is the direction they desire. Even with such a huge margin of victory, brothers McKnight and Chapman chose to protest the election. Brother Rob Kinsey, International Representative, was assigned to investigate. It was his determination that the protest did not merit a change in the election results. This did not satisfy the objectors who then appealed the decision to General President Bill Hite. Brother Hite stated by letter that the appeal provided no basis for reversing the decision of Brother Kinsey. There is no further right of appeal under the UA Constitution. Now with a unified group of officers and executive board we will strive to make this industry grow and prosper even more and we believe the membership will benefit

because of the track record of hard work already completed and that which is yet to be done. The membership of Local 516 has grown tremendously and is at the point where help is needed. It is necessary to hire an individual to assist me in the capacity of Business Agent/Organizer. Anyone interested should submit their resume to the Union Office before the end of January 2010. These resumes will be reviewed by the newly elected Executive Board and President who will also conduct interviews with the candidates. I will become involved at the end of the process and will train the individual selected. A member assuming the role of Business Manager coming off the tools with no training would struggle tremendously. A program of training for the new Agent/Organizer will allow for continuity and provide Local 516 with a qualified person in the office should anything happen to me. Looking further ahead, it would be advantageous to hire another individual next year strictly as an Organizer. A new Business Agent and a new Organizer could be the future of our Local. I cannot empha-

size enough the need to have someone versed in the economics and legalities of our Plans and Collective Agreements rather than someone with no experience and training. It is my hope that when I retire the Local will be turned over to skilled hands and minds who will further us down the path we have started on. This will ensure greater rewards for the membership and for future generations. I would like to thank our older generations for all that they have contributed over the years. It is time for our younger members to stand up and be counted. The future of this Local Union depends upon you. Come to the union meetings (the second Thursday of each month September to May) and show an interest in the different boards, committees and Plans. Make it your Union too.

## 2009 Election Results

President:	Bryan Harris	211
	Bob Brooks	103
Vice President:	Curt MacDonald	211
	Dale Chapman	105
Business Mgr:	Richard Seder	237
	Michael McKnight	82
Finance Comm:	Jim Montgomery	265
	Jason Amesbury	235
	Jeff Ward	212
	Ralf Suessenbach	140
Executive Board:	Matt Buss	245
	Gord Fyffe	191
	Dennis Crocker	182
	Dave Schroeder	181
	Lee Cleaveley	109
	Kevin Whitham	91
	Joe Bereskin	89
	Ed Wiczorek	64
	Brian Whitehead	53
	Neil Martin	27



**58" TV Prize Draw Winner:**  
John Munts, Vernon

# Local 516 is seeking applications for the position of **Business Agent / Organizer**

Candidates must be Journeyman Members  
of Local 516 in good standing  
Please submit resumes to the Union Office  
by February 15, 2010

(resumes received after the date specified will not be considered)

All applications will be reviewed by our elected Executive Board and President to complete a short list of candidates

The final decision will be by mutual agreement of the Business Manager, the Executive Board and the President

## Rule changes affecting your individual RRSP

In 2004 the Trustees of the Savings Plan varied the Plan to allow withdrawals to a maximum of \$25,000 every five years. The intent of the change was to allow members to utilize the federal First Time Home Buyers Plan for purchasing a home, or in the event of a personal emergency, access to monies. In some cases the withdrawal process has been abused to the point

where members have little to no money in their plans and are using their retirement savings to go on vacation or buy a vehicle. *The purpose of the plan is to provide for retirement.* Therefore, the Trustees have been forced to make the following changes:

Effective March 1, 2010 the criteria for withdrawal from your RRSP account will

change. A minimum balance of \$100,000 is required unless the withdrawal is for the Home Buyers Plan. Withdrawals will be limited to one time only/lifetime.

## RRSP Tax Receipts

Receipts for your January to October RRSP contributions will be mailed to you from London Life February 10, 2010; the receipt will be dated March 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.

Receipts for your November to December RRSP contributions will be mailed to you from London Life March 15, 2010; the receipt will be dated January 1, 2010 to March 1, 2010.

The receipt issued March 15, 2010 can be used to defer 2009 income taxes or the year in which it is issued.

## T4A Receipts

T4A receipts are issued from the Health and Welfare Plan by February 28, 2010 and are calculated on your MSP and life insurance premiums paid on your behalf.

## Moving?

If you have moved or are planning a move please update your mailing address with our office as all tax receipts will be mailed to the last address we have on file for you.

## Dues Receipts

Dues receipts are issued by Local 516 for dues payments received in the office for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2009. Initiation payments are not tax deductible.

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