



## Building a stronger future for our district, together

On March 1, it was an immense honour to be sworn in as Director for District 3 with the USW International Executive Board in Pittsburgh.

We have a lot to do over the coming months and I am excited about the future. It's time to look forward, embrace new and fresh perspectives and bring our district together. I welcome the challenge and I'm excited to work with all local unions to deliver results for members.

Our union has always come together to fight for better – and we will keep doing that.

For the last 25 years, I have proudly worked with our union as the Assistant to the Director and staff of our union to get things done. I have seen and heard from many activists and local union leaders during that time. We need your activism and ideas now to move our district forward.

In the weeks ahead, I will meet with district staff and local union leaders to set targets for activities focused on what local unions need to help them better educate, service, bargain, communicate and build a stronger future for our members.

I will be working with our staff and

Education Coordinator, Dayna Sykes, to plan for our annual summer school, complete training for local union officers, and provide more training opportunities for our members. Moving forward, it will be easier for local unions to request and book member education specific to their needs in a timely way.

Right away, there is the International Mining Conference and a Basic Steel Conference coming up in April. It is important that our district is well represented at these events, as well as at the upcoming USW International Constitutional Convention in Las Vegas, the National Gathering of Indigenous Steelworkers in Sault Ste. Marie and the National Women's Conference in Quebec City. I look forward to setting dates for the next District 3 Conference and the District 3 Health, Safety and Environment Conference and getting out to meet with locals and members all across Western Canada.

Existing programs such as Women of Steel, NextGen, Veterans of Steel, Steel Pride, the Aboriginal Working Group and other initiatives have taken a path to make our union more inclusive and diverse. I look forward to expanding and adding programs, in District 3, to better understand, advocate and be more responsive to the diverse needs across

our district. This includes building on the anti-racism working group our Canadian National Office started and creating space for differently-abled members.

I have heard from many young workers with new and innovative ideas to modernize our district and ensure it stays relevant to working people, now and in the future. I look forward to keeping NextGen members engaged by providing more space, resources and opportunities while taking better advantage of our successful Leadership Development Scholarship (LDS) program to support young leaders in Western Canada and the north.

We have a lot of work to do, and we must find common ground and build our collective strength together as we move forward.

Your input is important and I want to hear what is working and where we have room for improvement. Please reach out with your ideas or concerns whenever you need.

We all believe in our union and Steelworkers know that we are stronger when we work together.

Working together, we will have more chances of success. We are stronger together as woodworkers and steelworkers, miners and healthcare workers, screeners and telecom workers.

I'm excited about the future of our union. I look forward to working with all of you.

In solidarity,

Scott Lunny  
District 3 Director

# Mark Your Calendar

- Apr. 3 Ramadan begins
- Apr. 14 Vaisakhi
- Apr. 15 Good Friday
- Apr. 16 Passover
- Apr. 17 Easter Sunday
- Apr. 22 Earth Day
- Apr. 23 10th Anniversary of Lakeland Mill explosion
- Apr. 28 Day of Mourning

Dates coming soon for the **Building Inclusive Locals: disability rights** virtual event in April.

## USW supports measures aimed to help Ukraine

The USW condemns the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine and supports measures from the Canadian government to help Ukrainians.

"The USW stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and strongly condemns Putin's unjustified invasion of the country," said Marty Warren, USW National Director for Canada.

Although the Canadian government has not ruled out economic sanctions against Russian companies such as EVRAZ plc, EVRAZ North America operates independently in Regina and Calgary in all areas, including procurement of raw materials, operating production facilities and corporate financing. EVRAZ employs over 1,000 members in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

"Hundreds of Steelworkers are employed by EVRAZ and the Canadian

government must consider the impacts on these workers," said Mike Day, USW Local 5890 President. "Our members come to work to produce high-quality Canadian steel used in critical infrastructure projects across the country. Their livelihoods shouldn't be imperilled because of the actions of a foreign billionaire."

"We recognize the importance of this issue to our members and for the government to take strong action against Putin's reprehensible acts. But, let me be clear, our members also expect our government to stand up for their families, their jobs and community," said Scott Lunny, USW District Director for Western Canada. "Our union calls on Minister Chrystia Freeland to do all in her power to minimize the impact of any sanctions on EVRAZ workers."

Read full release at [usw.to/42c](https://usw.to/42c).



## Getting to know Director Scott Lunny

After earning a degree in industrial relations from the University of British Columbia, Scott Lunny began a career as a labour, social justice and political activist in 1994. He worked for a decade for the Industrial, Wood and Allied Workers of Canada (IWA) as a national staff representative, researcher

and communications officer. He served as a senior staff and policy advisor to the president and executive officers and developed, implemented and oversaw a major organizing recruitment program, including budget and supervision of campaigns and staff.

Lunny became a proud Steelworker in 2004 when the IWA merged with the USW. He was actively involved in the planning and implementation of the historic merger. He went on to work as a USW staff representative and key staff for several years, working with the USW Wood Council on forest policy issues and coordinating numerous legislative and political campaigns.

In 2008, Lunny attended the Harvard University Trade Union Program and was appointed Assistant to the District 3 Director. For over a decade, Lunny oversaw many activities and key files on behalf of the 50,000 members in

the district. He actively worked with staff and local unions on bargaining, organizing, training, political action and other member services.

Lunny was a key coordinator and was involved in negotiating the merger of the Telecommunications Workers Union (TWU) to welcome over 12,000 members to the USW. Since 2020, he has worked closely with the national local to support staff, provide mentorship and build a stronger future for the members within the United Steelworkers union.

In November 2021, Lunny was elected as District 3 Director during the USW International Executive Board election. He now serves as part of the union's 26-member International Executive Board led by Thomas M. Conway.

As a long-time political activist and social democrat, Lunny served five years as Vice-President of the British Columbia New Democratic Party (BC NDP) and has been active with Steelworkers Vote and lobbying campaigns for the district.

He is actively involved in his community, serving as President of the Union Protein Project, a non-profit initiative created by unions and the United Way to support food banks and advocate for food security. He is also a nationally certified youth baseball coach and a long-time volunteer in local minor baseball programs.

Lunny lives in Richmond, B.C., with his spouse, Nina, and three sons, Aidan, Gavin and Owen.

## Standing in solidarity with BCGEU members

Members from USW Local 1-1937 visited a BCGEU picket line to stand in solidarity with Vancouver Island Regional Librarians. These BCGEU members have been without a contract since 2020.



## Local 1-207 supports High Level food bank

Dave Baraniuk, President of USW Local 1-207 joins members from Tolko in High Level, Alta., to drop off a \$1,000 donation to the High Level Food Bank.



## Women of Steel "Give Hope" campaign 2022

USW Local 7619 Women of Steel held a successful "Give Hope" campaign for 2022. They made 66 Blessing Bags this year and donated food to the Logan Lake Food Bank. Along with the raffle and generous donations, they raised nearly \$2,300 for the Skuppah Relief Centre in Lytton, B.C.

## USW members celebrate International Women's Day

USW Local 1-405 members working at LP Golden dressed in purple on March 8 in support of International Women's Day.

"On International Women's Day, we celebrate the achievements of women globally, take time to reflect on where we need to make improvements and raise awareness against bias. As Steelworkers, we are privileged and proud to follow the lead of many incredible Women of Steel as we advocate for women's equality in our union, workplaces and communities.

I want to particularly acknowledge all of the Women of Steel who work in health care and the challenges you face. You have kept our economy moving by taking care of the most vulnerable in our country. You have consistently been undervalued and I want to thank you for all you do on behalf of all Steelworkers in the district."

Read Scott Lunny's full IWD statement at [usw.to/41s](http://usw.to/41s).



## Steelworker becomes Saskatchewan NDP labour critic

Congratulations to MLA Jennifer Bowes from USW Local 5917 who was appointed the labour critic portfolio with the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party caucus.

As a proud Steelworker, Jennifer spent time on the frontlines of the labour movement fighting for workers.



## Milestone reached for Arlene Hubelit

Local 8914-03 unit chair Arlene Hubelit at Athabasca Catering Limited Partnership at Cigar Lake, Sask. recently hit a 10-year milestone. Congratulations on your service award. Arlene proudly serves on the bargaining committee for the unit.



## Alberta remembers 4,003 COVID-19 deaths

March 19 marked the second anniversary of the first death in Alberta from COVID-19. Since that day, over 4,000 people have passed from the virus. A memorial was held at the Alberta Legislature.

Hand-made flowers were laid across the edge of the Legislature fountain, with each flower representing a death. The Alford family made the flowers over the last two years. Initially, the project started as part of the 1-year memorial and has since expanded with the increase in deaths, using various colours to represent the different age groups.

Speakers at the memorial included Gil McGowan (President of the Alberta Federation of Labour), Heather Smith (President of the United Nurses of Alberta) and representatives from retiree associations and education groups. Alberta NDP MLAs Janice Irwin and

Christina Gray attended; however, no other government officials were present. Many of these deaths could have been prevented had the province not lifted restrictions multiple times over the past two years. On July 1, 2021, Premier Jason Kenney declared, "Alberta isn't just open for summer, but I believe we will be open for good", and cases spiked shortly after.

During the event, one of the youngest speakers reminded attendees how much had been given up by frontline workers like nurses, doctors, teachers, and support staff and how they continue to put the lives of others ahead of their own.

We all must remember those who passed from the virus and not forget those who have given so much during these challenging times.

*Submitted: Ron Palmer, USW Local 1944*

## Chinook Centre Starbucks workers deserve better



On March 16, courageous Starbucks workers from the Chinook Centre food court location in Calgary learned

they were unsuccessful in their bid for union representation.

"This was quite a lengthy process for these workers as they faced multiple delays with the Alberta Labour Relations Board and union-busting tactics from their employer. The actions from

Starbucks shows why these workers need a union now more than ever. We will continue fighting for Starbucks workers across Canada as every worker deserves better," said Pablo Guerra, USW organizer for District 3.

The ability of workers to collectively organize is a fundamental right. It's time for the UCP government to restore fairness and balance to allow workers to be free from employer intimidation. They can do that by reinstating card-check and eliminating a vote if the majority of workers sign union cards.

**Do you have news to share from your local union?**

Send in news, events, bargaining updates and photos to [bbarden@usw.ca](mailto:bbarden@usw.ca)

## Bargaining updates

### Doepker Industries

Local 5917-27 members at Doepker Industries in Moose Jaw, Annaheim and Saskatoon, Sask. ratified a 3-year agreement.

Highlights:

- Increases to OT breaks, meal allowance, welding & yard clothing allowances, prescription safety glasses
- Addition of years to experience premiums
- \$1,000 signing bonus
- Wage increases of \$2 + 2%, 2.5%

### Red Mountain Resorts

Local 9705 members ratified a 4-year agreement with the Red Mountain Resort ski hill in Rossland, B.C.

Highlights:

- 16% wage increase over the term of the agreement
- 30-minute paid union orientation
- Increases in the premiums and ski allowances

### Texada Quarry Limited

Local 816 members at Texada Quarry Limited on Texada Island in B.C. ratified a 5-year agreement.

Highlights:

- 14% wage increase over the term of the agreement
- Increase on weekly indemnity
- Statutory holiday for the National Day of Truth & Reconciliation

### Plasti-Fab

Local 2009 members at Plasti-Fab in Delta, B.C. ratified a 3-year agreement.

Highlights:

- Average 3% wage increase
- Significant premium increases
- New language on job postings, re-classifications, seniority, health & safety, grievance procedure and return to work