

# NEWS@6

SPRING 2018

## Marty's Message

### *From Bargaining to Politics,*

## MEMBERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

### Comrades!

**THERE IS SO MUCH** going on across USW District 6!

First off, you'll see that we are encouraging Ontario members to get involved in a provincial election. Ontario election day is Thursday, June 7 – mark your calendars! This election is our best chance ever to elect an NDP government that is on the side of workers. Together, we can bring change for the better across Ontario.

***Our union, the United Steelworkers, is a strong international union, proud to represent working people in Canada and the United States.***

This fall, from Sept. 4-8, we have our District 6 Conference in Blue Mountain near Collingwood. Get ready to Power Up! We will be organizing a day of community work as part of the conference, but you have to be there to take part in the fun of giving back.

Also this fall, we are rounding up a menu of courses for our District 6 fall school, Nov. 4-9 in Orillia.

Please spread the word and get USW members to sign up for these important opportunities to engage in our union.

These activities are how we build our solidarity. And solidarity is how we bargain solid collective

agreements. Check out the article inside on our recent bargaining successes across the district.

Meanwhile, as many of you will be aware, we are dealing with divisions within our Canadian labour movement, due to Unifor's raiding of members of the ATU and UNITE HERE Local 75, hotel workers.

USW has stood up against these attacks. Our union, the United Steelworkers, is a strong international union, proud to represent working people in Canada and the United States.

I was proud to help represent our international solidarity at a massive Unity Rally in support of UNITE HERE Local 75 members at the Fairmont Royal York hotel in Toronto, where the union is in bargaining for a fair contract.

True solidarity means standing with workers and the labour movement to organize the unorganized and negotiate better contracts.

As District 6 Director, I join with our Canadian leadership in our pledge to do everything in our power to build our movement and restore its unity and purpose.

In solidarity,



**Marty Warren**  
USW District 6 Director

# In It To *Win It*

Make no mistake, Andrea Horwath and the NDP are in it to win it! The June 7 election is our best chance ever to elect an NDP government in Ontario and bring change for the better across our province.

This is not a pie-in-the-sky dream.

Think about it. People are tired of endless scandals with Kathleen Wynne's Liberals. The Liberals have been trailing with record-low polling numbers.

The PCs are the party of cuts and chaos. They now have a divisive figure as their leader – former Toronto City Councillor Doug Ford. Polls show the PCs are ahead. But the polls also show that voters are looking for a change more like what New Democrats believe in.

Andrea Horwath's personal approval ratings have consistently put her ahead

of any of the other provincial leaders.

As leader of the Ontario NDP since 2009, Andrea Horwath is an experienced campaigner. She's also the only party leader from outside Toronto. She has working-class roots as the daughter of a union member. From Hamilton, she is affectionately known as the "Steeltown Scrapper." Steelworkers can relate to Andrea.

The NDP released some priority policy planks that show they are the only party on our side:

- Only the NDP will bring in universal pharmacare – and dental care – for everyone, not just for some
- Only the NDP will stop the Hydro sell-off and lower rates
- Only the NDP will prioritize good jobs

For union members looking to grow our movement and offer more workers the benefits and security of union membership, the NDP is the only party that will bring in card-check certification and first-contract arbitration.

Andrea Horwath and the NDP will be a government on the side of working people.

Why do so many people fall into an either-or choice between the Liberals and the PCs? Let's show them there is another – a better – choice. Let's talk to our friends and neighbours about change for the better. Let's help the NDP form government in Ontario, and as Andrea says, "get good things done."

Find out more at [www.ontariondp.ca](http://www.ontariondp.ca) or [www.usw.ca/ontario2018](http://www.usw.ca/ontario2018). ■



District 6 is turning up the volume on political action across Ontario, both during elections and between them. Our immediate focus is the Ontario election on June 7 where we are encouraging Steelworkers to get involved at their workplaces and as volunteers with local NDP campaigns.

## Political Action Committee

We have a new Political Action Committee (PAC) coordinated by Briana Broderick (Local 2010) and Chad Machum (Local 2020). The committee is eager to get members involved in politics and issues that matter to our members, like pension protection, anti-scab legislation and electing pro-labour politicians.

## Steelworkers Vote Schools

District 6 is thrilled to be hosting four Steelworkers Vote schools during the Ontario election. This is your chance to learn skills and make

a difference. Please apply! Help spread the word! These schools are coming up soon, so don't delay.

Each school is an intensive week-long school (Wednesday to Tuesday, weekend inclusive). It's an energetic experience with training each day and volunteer activities each evening and over the weekend.

### Sudbury

May 9-15 (inclusive)

### Hamilton

May 23-29 (inclusive)

### London

May 23-29 (inclusive)

### Toronto

May 30-June 5 (inclusive)

These election schools are for Steelworkers with or without campaign experience who want to learn more and get involved as volunteers in the NDP election effort. Please be sure to reach out to Women of Steel members to apply. Applications are available at [www.usw.ca/ontario2018](http://www.usw.ca/ontario2018).

## Election Materials Available

You can order our USW election leaflets, buttons and stickers to hand out to Steelworkers at USW meetings or at USW workplaces.

## What You Can Do

- Get a copy of our Steelworkers Vote presentation on why we're involved in politics and present it at a USW meeting or workplace.
- Order USW election leaflets, buttons and stickers and distribute them to Steelworkers.
- Invite your local NDP candidate to your local or area council meeting.
- Find out who your local NDP candidate is at [www.ontariondp.ca/candidates](http://www.ontariondp.ca/candidates).

For more information, contact: Briana at [briana.broderick@usw2010.ca](mailto:briana.broderick@usw2010.ca) or Chad at [cmachum@uswsudbury.ca](mailto:cmachum@uswsudbury.ca). To order materials, email [vote@usw.ca](mailto:vote@usw.ca). ■

# Steelworkers Run as Candidates – 6 from 6

We are so proud and excited to have **6 Steelworkers from District 6** running as NDP candidates in the Ontario election. Learn more about them and be sure to support their campaigns – your volunteer time, donations and messages of support are appreciated.



## Michael Mantha

NDP Candidate for re-election in Algoma–Manitoulin

**Why he's in politics:** After layoff as a forestry worker, Mantha got a job helping forestry workers retrain and move into other jobs. He discovered it was hard to reach politicians, and decided to run to improve things.

- MPP since 2011
- Former President of Algoma Manitoulin and District Labour Council
- Was a member of USW 1-2693 that is now USW 1-2010
- Former coordinator at Dubreuilville Action Centre (MTCU) assisting displaced workers in the North

"All those tools I use to deal with legislation, to tackle government bureaucracy, to speak with cabinet ministers – I learned through my years in the labour movement."

Donate, volunteer or send a message of support:

- 🌐 [michaelmantha.ontariondp.ca](http://michaelmantha.ontariondp.ca)
- 📘 [MichaelMantha](#)
- 🐦 [@M\\_Mantha](#)



## Guy Bourgouin

NDP Candidate in Mushkegowuk–James Bay

**Why he's running:** "Only the NDP has a plan that offers hope to northern Ontario families that their hydro bills will finally come down and they will finally get access to health care, pharmacare and dental care they need."

- USW Local 1-2010 President, representing workers in forestry/lumber, health and social services, retail and gaming
- Priorities as MPP will include legislation to protect workers' pensions and benefits, ban replacement workers and allow card-check union certification
- Guy and wife Manon Gagné live in Kapuskasing and have two children

"In the 1990s the NDP government helped save our mill in Kapuskasing; they saved this region. In the last 15 years, too many mills in the North have closed and the Liberals did nothing to save any of them."

Donate, volunteer or send a message of support:

- 🌐 [guybourgouin.ontariondp.ca](http://guybourgouin.ontariondp.ca)
- 📘 [GuyBourgouinONDP](#)



## Gilles Bisson

NDP Candidate in Timmins

**A champion for the North:** One of Ontario's most-popular MPPs for seven terms over nearly three decades, Gilles is running for an eighth term in the newly named Timmins riding.

- Former USW Local 4440 activist at Pamour mine in Timmins. Member of the USW team on the Gold Miners' Project in the 1980s that won compensation benefits for lung cancer survivors and widows
- Helped expose the water crisis in First Nations communities. Tireless fighter for northern mining and forestry jobs
- Gilles and wife Murielle live in Timmins and have two daughters and four grandchildren

"I'm a worker representing the interests of working people. Ontario needs more of that, and that's what the NDP offers – workers representing workers."

Donate, volunteer or send a message of support:

- 🌐 [gillesbisson.ontariondp.ca](http://gillesbisson.ontariondp.ca)
- 📘 [GillesBissonONDP](#)



## Paul Miller

NDP Candidate for re-election in Hamilton East–Stoney Creek

**Issues he'll focus on in the election:** pension security, poverty reduction, jobs and affordable housing.

- Steelworker from Local 1005 (Assistant Chief Steward and served on safety and health and contracting out committees)
- Long-time community leader and labour rights advocate
- Served two terms as City Councillor for Stoney Creek; elected provincially since 2007
- Fighter for worker pensions and fair working conditions

"We are constantly fighting Bay Street. We need someone standing up for workers. It's difficult for politicians without a working class background to relate to labour issues. Elected Steelworkers become that voice. It's needed."

Donate, volunteer or send a message of support:

- 🌐 [paulmiller.ontariondp.ca](http://paulmiller.ontariondp.ca)
- 📘 [PaulMillerHamilton](#)
- 🐦 [@PaulMillerMPP](#)



## Jamie West

NDP Candidate in Sudbury

**Standing Up for Sudbury:** "While our opponents focus on cuts and privatization, people in Sudbury need and deserve better. We have a better plan that puts working people first, on health care, hydro, drug coverage, dental care and good jobs."

- Certified Worker Safety Representative with USW Local 6500, flash furnace operator at Vale
- Sudbury and District Labour Council President, Sudbury/Nipissing United Way board member, teacher in the Laurentian University Labour Studies Program
- A lifelong Sudburian, Jamie and his wife Pam have three children

"Working people in Sudbury can't afford more government scandals, mismanagement and cuts to the programs and services that our families need. It's time to elect working people to represent working people."

Donate, volunteer or send a message of support:

- 🌐 [jamiewest.ontariondp.ca](http://jamiewest.ontariondp.ca)
- 📘 [JamieWestNDP](#)



## Jana Papuckoski

NDP Candidate in Northumberland–Peterborough South

**Why she's in politics:** Jana's experiences in the Steelworkers Leadership Development program led her to consider running for the provincial NDP nomination in her local riding. She has been a longtime workers' rights activist who lobbied fiercely during the recent labour law review process.

- Recording Secretary for USW Local 5296, representing 5,500 security guards
- Member-at-large, Northumberland–Peterborough South Provincial NDP; Treasurer, Ontario NDP Women's Committee
- Lives in Port Hope with her husband and two daughters

"We need to grow the grassroots and elect people who will get the job done. It's the working people who know what people in Ontario need. I want to be a part of that."

Donate, volunteer or send a message of support:

- 🌐 [janapapuckoski.ontariondp.ca](http://janapapuckoski.ontariondp.ca)
- 📘 [NPSNDP](#)
- 🐦 [@JanaPapuckoski](#)

# BARGAINING SUCCESSES

USW solidarity and activism continue to achieve bargaining successes, in locals big and small, across District 6. Congratulations to our members and hard-working staff on these recent collective agreements.



## Arbitrated settlement for long-term-care workers

Local 343-14 members at the Carveth Care Centre in Gananoque, Ont., achieved wage, pension and other improvements in a three-year deal settled under the Hospital Labour Disputes Arbitration Act. In addition to across-the-board wage hikes of 4.2%, there are additional increases for the RPN and residential aide classifications, higher weekend premiums and adoption of the Steelworker Trusteed Pension Plan.



## DV and mental health language at Grand and Toy

Local 8327 members at the Grand and Toy distribution centre in Ottawa negotiated a 32-month collective agreement with progressive language on workplace mental health issues and a domestic violence policy, total wage increases of \$1.67 an hour and improvements to paramedical and vision care benefits.



## Solid first contract for window manufacturers

New Steelworkers at Quest Windows Systems in Mississauga, Ont., ratified a first contract providing total wage hikes of \$1.80 an hour – a 10.7% increase to the average wage over the agreement's four-year term. The 140 members of Local 7536-17 also receive better benefit coverage through the Steelworkers Benefit Plan, with annual increases in employer contributions. The bargaining unit includes 70 former temporary agency employees who are now USW members.



## Numerous improvements at historic aerospace plant

Local 4820 members at Magellan Aerospace in Haley, Ont. – the plant that supplied the Avro Arrow project back in the 1950s – ratified a three-year agreement in March. The 380 workers achieved wage increases averaging 5.5%, domestic violence and mental health language, improvements in pensions, seniority, health and safety and scheduling, as well as a profit-sharing plan that could add 1% to annual salaries.



## Retirement residence workers reject concessions

Local 9211-19 members at Revera's Heritage Lodge residence in Vankleek Hill, Ont., resisted the employer's demands for concessions and achieved a two-year agreement with a 2% annual wage increase, adjustments for several classifications and 2% increases in lieu of benefits for part-time employees, improved benefits, a new weekend premium and language improvements.



## OCT employees improve contracting-out protections

Office, clerical and technical employees at the Ivaco Rolling Mills steel plant in L'Orignal, Ont., improved contracting-out language and enhanced severance pay provisions in a new three-year agreement. The contract provides 2% annual wage increases and improvements to benefits and language, including new mental health and domestic violence provisions.



## Long-term-care workers strengthen contract

Local 9211-00 members at the Chartwell Champlain long-term-care residence in L'Orignal, Ont., strengthened their contract with a three-year agreement providing 1.4% annual wage increases, wage adjustments for cooks and RPNs, improved benefits, mental health and domestic violence language, increased shift premiums and a seventh week of vacation after 28 years of service.



## Tape makers seal the deal

More than 130 members of Local 6946 at the Scapa Tapes North America manufacturing plant in Renfrew, Ont., ratified a three-year contract with total wage hikes of 6%, a 15-cent shift premium hike, benefit improvements including major restorative dental, vision care and life insurance, introduction of the Steelworkers Lifeline employee assistance program and USW anti-harassment training, as well as new mental health and domestic violence language.



## Woodworkers address pressing issues

Local 2278 members at Alexandria Moulding in Alexandria, Ont., improved contract language to address pressing issues including overtime distribution, bumping and vacation selection by seniority. The three-year agreement includes 1.5% annual wage increases, wage adjustments for a particular classification and enhanced retirement packages.



## Treatment centre employees make big pay gains

Local 9350 members, employed at a treatment centre for substance abuse and concurrent disorders, negotiated a five-year agreement addressing chronic pay discrepancies. Employees of the Jubilee Centre in Timmins, Ont., will receive annual wage hikes of 3% over the final four years of the contract, with further adjustments for various classifications ranging from 15% to 22%. The contract includes a \$400 signing bonus per member and language improvements.



## Aluminum casting workers mould fair deal

Wage increases ranging from 9% to 12% are among gains in a four-year contract achieved by Local 4885 members at Kaiser Aluminum Canada in London. The production and maintenance workers at the aluminum cast house and extrusion plant also improved pensions and benefits including dental care, vision care, and extended health and life insurance.



## Grainhandlers improve contract, dispose of concessions

The 225 members of Local 1976, Lodge 650, working for multiple grain terminals in Thunder Bay, improved their contract and fought off a dozen demands for concessions on pensions, benefits and other terms and conditions. The three-year deal includes 2% annual wage hikes, an additional 1% for tradespeople in year three, and double-time pay with a three-hour guarantee for work after midnight.



## Mechanics keep buses running

The workers who keep Sault Ste. Marie city buses running smoothly recently ratified a one-year agreement with gains including a 1.75% wage increase. The members of Local 2251-4, who maintain and repair the city's transit fleet, also secured improvements in their vision care plan, tool allowance, work boot allowance and statutory holiday provisions.



## Security workers win first contract

Local 9597 members at ASAP Secured Inc. in Goderich, Ont., achieved their first collective agreement after overcoming significant challenges that included a Christmas lockout by their employer. The two-year contract includes wage increases, entrenches seniority rights and bereavement leave, and provides a \$250 annual boot allowance and reimbursement for the costs of security licences and regular CPR and first-aid training.



### Benefit, wage improvements drive car dealership agreement

Members of Local 2020-31, employed at Doyle Dodge Chrysler, ratified a three-year agreement at the Sudbury car dealership. Members, who work in sales and maintenance positions, achieved benefit improvements and wage increases in each year of the agreement.



### Women of Steel win strike

After a 10-week strike, the all-women staff at the Sudbury Counselling Centre went back to work with their heads held high, beating back management's concession demands and achieving real contract improvements. The members of Local 2020 negotiated a three-year deal with gains including 2% annual wage increases.



### Concrete workers cement better language

Extensive improvements to contract language were among key gains for 60 members of Local 2020-20, employed at cement-maker Fisher Wavy in Sudbury. The three-year deal includes benefit improvements and wage increases in each year of the agreement.



### Metal workers improve wages, drug coverage

Local 14097-12 members in Chatham, Ont., ratified a three-year agreement with their employer, A&A Metal Cleaning and Stripping. The contract provides annual wage increases of 25 cents per hour and improved benefits including a \$1,000 increase in the annual drug cap.



### Gold miners extract big gains

Local 7580 members at Goldcorp in Timmins, Ont., negotiated a three-year agreement with total wage increases of 6%, a \$500 signing bonus, improvements in pensions, benefits, cost-of-living allowances, seniority rights, training and new provisions to support employees affected by domestic violence. The parental leave top-up was boosted to \$225 per week and the qualifying age for a full pension was reduced to 62. ■

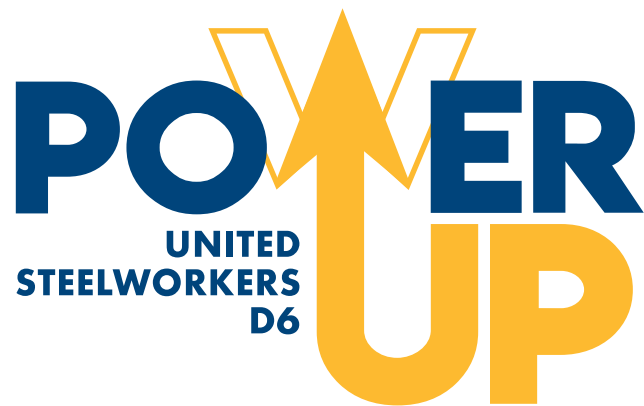
## Coming Soon! District 6 Conference

**THE 2018 USW DISTRICT 6 CONFERENCE** will be an invaluable experience for Steelworkers from Ontario and Atlantic Canada to learn, have fun and strengthen our union.

This year's conference, under the theme Power Up, will be held Sept. 4-8 at Blue Mountain, Ont. It is a must-attend event for Steelworkers eager to expand their knowledge, develop practical skills and build USW solidarity.

"This will be a time for members to come together, reconnect and build on the great activism and sense of community that we started at our last conference in Sault Ste. Marie in 2015," says District 6 Director Marty Warren.

Register today! Early-bird discounts are offered until June 30. For details, visit [www.usw.ca/d6conf2018](http://www.usw.ca/d6conf2018). ■



**DON'T STOP, UNTIL YOU'VE CHANGED THE WORLD!**



## REFORM CANADA'S BANKRUPTCY LAWS

Everybody, even the federal government, talks about retirement security. But NDP MP Scott Duvall is doing something about it.

The former Steelworker, who represents Hamilton Mountain, introduced a Private Member's Bill last fall that would amend two laws, the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) and the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (BIA), to protect retirees' pensions and health and welfare benefits.

Too often, retirees take the financial hit when companies enter bankruptcy protection or full-blown bankruptcy, while CEOs, banks and insurance companies take the money.

"It's corporate theft," Duvall has told town hall meetings across Canada. "When Sears Canada

filed for bankruptcy in 2017, not only did the company terminate 3,000 employees, they cancelled payments intended for workers' pensions and benefits, while giving Sears executives \$9.2-million in bonuses."

Duvall's bill, C-384, would require companies to bring any pension plan fund to 100%, and pay termination or severance owing before paying any secured creditors. The amendments would prevent a company from stopping the payment of any retirement benefits during any proceedings under the BIA or CCAA.

"Scott is committed to fighting for workers and retirees," says District 6 Director Marty Warren. "He knows the pain of what people in Hamilton have felt during the restructuring

of Stelco/U.S. Steel. These changes must be made."

A group of 26 USW members have been in Ottawa this spring to ask politicians of all political parties to support the amendments to bankruptcy laws. Duvall has been holding town hall meetings across Canada, calling for citizens to contact their MPs, write letters to the editor and use social media to demand that the law change to protect workers and retirees.

"The issue of retirement security should be important to all Members of Parliament," says Warren. "As long as some Canadians are insecure, all Canadians are at risk."

Add your name to protect pensions from corporate theft at [ndp.ca/pensions](http://ndp.ca/pensions). ■

# A New NAFTA Must Help Workers

As negotiations reportedly approach a deal in principle on a renewed North American Free Trade Agreement, tens of thousands of Steelworkers and other Canadians are rightfully concerned about the impact on their jobs and communities.

From our steel and forest sectors, to our aluminum, auto and dairy industries, USW and Canadian families need a new NAFTA that defends fair trade and prioritizes the rights and interests of working people ahead of the demands of multinational corporations.

Canada's Liberal government has touted its "progressive trade agenda" and promised a new NAFTA that will improve the lives of working people and strengthen the middle class. To be truly progressive, however, a trade deal needs strong, enforceable provisions on key issues such as labour rights and environmental standards.

In fact, one of the most achievable and important reforms that can be made to NAFTA is to entrench binding labour rights and enforceable labour standards in the agreement. Such meaningful and effective protections would help workers and communities in all three NAFTA countries.

The Liberals' track record, however, does not inspire confidence that they will insist on such improvements to NAFTA.

In January, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's "progressive trade" credibility was shattered when his government completed secret negotiations for the Trans-Pacific

Partnership (TPP), a corporate-friendly trade deal among 11 Pacific Rim countries.

The TPP is another corporate rights deal with no meaningful, enforceable provisions on labour rights and environmental standards. It will further erode Canada's industrial base, eliminate thousands of middle-class jobs and drive down wages and working conditions.

The TPP also entrenches Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) that allows multinational corporations to sue our government – in secret tribunals – if they believe our laws infringe on their potential profits. Incredibly, the Trudeau government wants to retain ISDS in a new NAFTA deal.

Steelworkers in Canada and the U.S., along with our allies across the continent, continue the fight for fair trade deals that serve the interests of working people.

It is the USW, more than any other group, that has fiercely lobbied – on both sides of the border – for a fair softwood lumber agreement and for exemptions from U.S. tariffs on Canadian steel and aluminum exports. We continue to fight to make these exemptions permanent.

Steelworkers are not anti-trade – we oppose bad trade deals. We know that many jobs rely on trade and we know that fair trade deals can – and must – raise living standards for all workers and reverse growing inequality.

Canadians need our government to demand a new NAFTA that finally serves the interests of working people. ■



Wendy and Briana Fram, recipients of the prestigious J. William Lloyd Award in recognition of their "outstanding contributions to health and safety," accompanied by USW Local 6500 activists Ryan St. George, left, and Craig Allair.

District 6 locals and our allies received prestigious awards at the USW International Health, Safety and Environment Conference in Pittsburgh in March:

## J. William Lloyd Award Wendy and Briana Fram

The Sudbury mother-daughter duo of Wendy and Briana Fram received the award given to "an individual or organization from outside the union for outstanding contributions to health, safety or environment." The Frams were recognized for successfully advocating for the Ontario Mining Health, Safety and Prevention Review and for their support of the USW's Stop the Killing, Enforce the Law campaign. In 2011, miner Jordan Fram (Wendy's son and Briana's brother) and co-worker Jason Chenier were killed at Vale's Stobie Mine in Sudbury in a preventable tragedy. "My mother and I are honoured to receive the J. William Lloyd Award. It was incredibly overwhelming to see how our story and work have made an impact internationally," Briana Fram said.

## A.Q. Evans Award USW Locals 2251 and 6500

The award recognizes locals "for outstanding accomplishments in occupational safety and health." Local 2251 in Sault Ste. Marie and Local 6500 in Sudbury received the award for organizing intake clinics in their communities to collect information on the working history and medical backgrounds of miners who were exposed to McIntyre Powder aluminum dust at work. The clinics help to further research into the long-term health impacts of McIntyre Powder exposure and to seek compensation for affected workers and their families.

## Karen Silkwood Award USW Local 4153

Local 4153 in Hamilton received this award for its workplace health and safety training program offered to high school students in the community. The award recognizes locals "for union building and solidarity through health, safety and environment." ■

# District 6

## Wins International Health and Safety Honours



Jim Pasel,  
IWAP Co-ordinator

## Real Help for Injured Workers

**THE DISTRICT 6**  
Injured  
Workers  
Assistance  
Program  
(IWAP)  
continues  
to achieve  
tremendous

success in helping Steelworkers get the benefits they rightfully deserve.

The IWAP was established in 2007 to represent USW members in fighting a complex system making it increasingly

difficult to obtain compensation and other benefits.

The program now has a roster of 19 USW activists trained to help members obtain benefits, particularly in appeals of all-too-common denials of compensation claims.

“We take on all levels of appeals, including cases before the Workplace Safety and Insurance Tribunal,” says IWAP Co-ordinator Jim Pasel. “To date our success in winning appeals is running at 91%.”

To ensure its members can access the IWAP’s services, a USW local must officially join the program and contribute to operating costs through modest per-cap payments – 50 cents per member, per month. Currently, USW locals representing more than 25,000 members are participating in the program.

It’s easy for your local to join the IWAP! Request a registration form from the District 6 office at 416-243-8792, from the IWAP office at 1-877-836-9291, or online at [www.usw.ca/iwap](http://www.usw.ca/iwap). ■

## Women of Steel Honoured with Labour Arts Award

The call for contributions went out across District 6 in late 2016: request a fabric kit to make a quilt block towards a commemorative quilt to honour 30 years of Women of Steel in the district.

From there, USW Women’s Committees, locals and staff took to needle and thread to capture what Women of Steel meant to them.

The quilt project earned the District 6 Women’s Committee the Traditional Labour Arts Award from Mayworks Festival. The award-winning quilt is now on permanent display in the District 6 office. Congrats to the quilt challenge organizers: Mary Lou Scott, Lee Hollett and District 6 Women’s Committee Chair Janet Moffat. ■

