



COVID-19 UPDATE

March 24, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic the Provincial Government has ordered that all business offices deemed non-essential, must be closed as of 11:59 p.m. on March 24th, 2020. Therefore, all Local 128 Union offices, weld shops and the Apprenticeship and Training Department will be **closed** temporarily until Tuesday, April 14th, 2020.

Please know that your area representatives will remain available via phone and e-mail and that your ability to be dispatched or post your name on an out-of-work list will remain in tact. Please ensure that you speak personally to your rep if you are calling to place your name on an out-of-work list. I would like to emphasize that your reps will continue to protect our members, Boilermaker jurisdiction and continue to fulfill their duties in their local areas.

Monthly Union Meetings

Due to the importance of physical distancing, the closure and membership safety, the April 8th monthly Union meeting has been **cancelled**. I will keep you informed whether the May Union meeting will proceed once the physical gathering ban has been lifted.

Construction – Essential Service


As of today, our ICI and EPSCA construction remains an essential service but this may change at any time. If you feel unsafe due to working conditions on site or you have symptoms or feel unwell, inform your steward or supervisor/employer before you leave the site and contact your primary care provider or Tele-Health who will guide you. As well, please contact your local area representative to inform him of the situation. Your health and safety are paramount and must come first!


Pension, Health & Welfare

I am pleased to inform you that the Pension and Health & Welfare office, as a financial service, has been deemed essential by the Government and will remain operational. The office itself is **not** open to the public. However, services such as pension payments, retirement processing, benefit claim processing and remittances to your pension and health & welfare bank will continue.

FSEAP Counselling Service

This is an extremely trying and stressful time and I know the importance of being able to access confidential support. FSEAP counselling and referral service will continue to operate for members and their families via telephone. Members can call direct to 1-866-990-1113. This is a 24-hour service every day of the year.



fseap 

Contact fseap 24/7

YOUR MEMBER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Caring and professional assistance for personal, family and work-related concerns.

Services are free and confidential.

1.866.990.1113

TTY 1.888.234.0414

myfseap.ca

Group Name: Boilermakers
Password: myfseap

Brothers and sisters, I understand that this is a time of financial uncertainty for many. There are government programs in place that have made adjustments, such as the extended E.I. program with no waiting period if you are laid off. There is financial aid for those that contract this virus or for those caring for a family member. I can appreciate the anxiety that comes with a financial burden and will do what I can to help lessen this for our membership. I will keep you informed on any changes on the construction sector front as well as any other pertinent information within the Boilermakers.

This is a time of solidarity, a time to be patient and understanding. We are all trying to navigate our way through this unprecedented time. So be helpful. Try not to criticize or judge your fellow brothers and sisters. Keep yourself informed on the ever-constant changes and updates and use reliable sources for this. Above all be safety smart.

In solidarity. I am fraternally yours,



ROY GRILLS

Business Manager / Secretary Treasurer
Boilermakers Local 128 Ontario

RG/pff

