

Ironworkers Local 721 Newsletter December 2023



LUIZ BARROS

President/
Business Agent

NEIL MACDONALD

Business Manager/
Financial Secretary Treasurer

CLINTON KNOWLTON

Apprentice & Training Coordinator
Business Agent

RON COLLIER

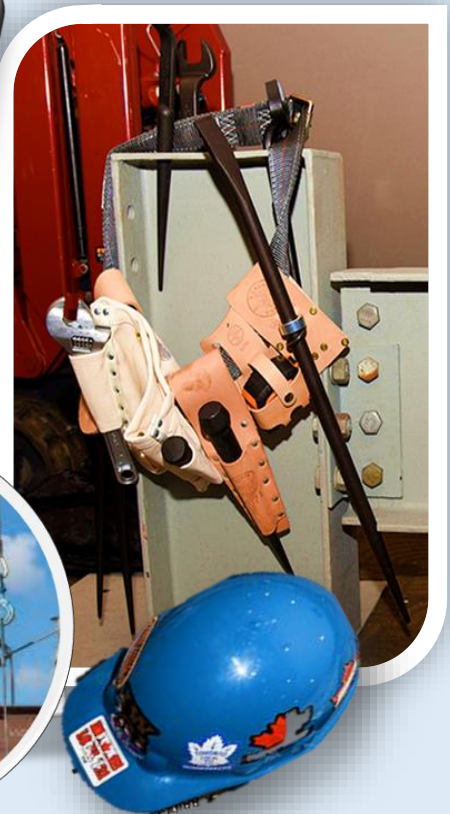
Business Agent

SHANE SHANNON

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Greetings and Happy holidays to all the Brothers, Sisters and Members of Local 721 and their families. I would like to start by saying what an honour it is for me to represent this great local as the Business Manager, Financial Secretary and Treasurer, and what an incredible team we have. The dedication of the Administrative staff, Training department, Organizers and the Officers, is greatly appreciated.



The local is in great financial shape, with record working hours coming in across our jurisdiction. On the Iron side, the work forecast is looking the same if not stronger for 2024, with the ongoing, and up coming work in the automotive sectors, and the work in the energy sectors to provide clean energy. The reinforcing side has been slow and is not expected to pick up for the next 12-16 months, but fortunately with the rod work across the entire country, some of our members have boomed out to other locals and are keeping busy.



Ronald McDonald Cheque Presentation 2023

The 2023 Annual Members Golf Tournament in support of Ronald McDonald house, was a great success again this year, as over \$28,000.00 was raised from the generosity of the members, contractors and sponsors who graciously donated money and prizes for such a great charity, and we look forward to hosting it again next summer. I would also like to thank the ladies, Karen, Doreen, Maria and Charlotte for all of their hard work in putting the tournament together. We hope to see everyone on August 24, 2024 at either Glen Eagle where it was this year or Deer Creek in Ajax, we are just waiting for confirmation as the golf courses have not released their tournament schedules yet. I will keep everyone posted.

The local is looking forward to hosting some big events next year, the Ontario District Council Apprentice Competition, the 75th Anniversary open house of Local 721 and the 75th Pin party. We also have one of our apprentices Hayden Sharpe, heading to the International Apprentice Competition in Chicago next fall and hopefully we can add a couple other apprentices to the list from the Ontario District Council Competition in June. Good luck to all!



Commemorated 75th Coin.



I would also like to pay my respect to all of the fallen or deceased members and their families who have passed in 2023, as they will all be missed.

On a final note, I would like to thank everyone again for their support and from my family to yours have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Fraternaly,

Neil MacDonald

Business Manager/ F.S.T





Dear Brothers, Sisters and Members of Local 721,

On behalf of the Officers, Training and our Administrative staff, my family and I **would like to thank everyone** for another extraordinary year.

Work wise our membership has once again seen **an unexpected increase in working hours with the exception of the reinforcing sector**. On the rod patch we have seen a dramatic decrease in working hours (approximately 30-35% drop). We expect the slowdown in the rod patch to continue for the next 12-16 months. Even with that, it was still another record year for the Local. On a bright note all other sectors

in the Iron side are doing very well. Along with all the other Officers and Staff I would like to thank our membership for their professionalism shown on job sites.

Once more the work situation still looks very good in Ontario; we do not anticipate much will change as many upcoming projects have been in the planning stages for many years. The major concern here would be how interest rates affect the ICI side or even construction sector as a whole. We have seen some projects delayed, postponed or even cancelled but believe our membership's working hours will remain fairly steady for the next 24-36 months.



IW721 Conference

We are fortunate in Ontario to have large federally and provincially sponsored projects that will keep our members busy. Multiple Highway expansions, two multibillion rapid transit projects i.e., Ontario Line -CA\$ 10.9 billion for this 15.5-kilometre (9.6 mi) line which they hoped to complete this project by 2027, a completion date that had already been revised to 2030, multiple hospital and retirement homes projects, numerous school expansions and upgrades, and ICI projects including multi sport facilities upgrades and expansions, Toronto is one of the host cities for FIFA World cup 2026, and the recently announced extension to some our of nuclear reactors and including Small Modular Nuclear Reactor projects.

As the Bank of Canada continues to fight inflation by increasing the federal Bank rates we ask our membership to be careful with their money. We have hopefully seen the end of interest rate increases as inflation numbers were decreasing into September/October 2023. These increases have consequences for our membership

and their families who are seeing their finances stretched on increased borrowing costs for items like cars, mortgages and increased food costs. I pray for our members and their families who have been affected by all the recent strife and tragic global events that continue to plague everyone. There are other factors globally affecting us and hopefully the world can heal itself and restore a normal balance.



Left to right, Neil MacDonald, Jagmeet Singh, Luiz Barros

Please Note:

This years Children and Members Christmas party is going ahead.

We are all looking forward to this event and having the chance to meet, greet and talk with everyone.

Detailed Information is posted on our website www.iw721.org.

Members Christmas Party Friday December 15th, 2023 12:00pm-5:00pm @ Local 721 Union Hall

Children Christmas Party Sunday December 17th, 2023 8:30am-11:30am @ Oasis Convention Centre



Once again work has been steady for most members, yet we are constantly chasing members who are at risk of going suspended and/or falling behind on their monthly membership dues. As a reminder, members are ultimately responsible for their own monthly dues and should not be more than one month behind on their dues to AVOID any potential issues with working in the field or potentially disrupting the various benefit entitlements and death benefits you currently enjoy.

We have multiple methods to accommodate and process dues payments without attending the hall. Please call the front office if you need advice or help with this and please update your contact information when changes occur.

Again, we are constantly looking to improve transparency and timely information; we are engaged in various social media and mail outs to keep our membership up to date with the latest information. We are constantly upgrading, improving, and revising our website with better layouts of information on front page, searchable obituary, and calendar schedules for training to name a few of the changes you can expect. Please reach out with any comments or suggestions.



IW721 Hockey Tournament



Retiree's & Pensioners Luncheon

In this mail out we have once again included a **2024 updated pamphlet on important information every Ironworker** should know as originally developed by Pension/Retiree Committee in 2020. As well as a **2024 Pocket Calendar** designed for our member's needs with important dates, contact information, general info, charts, and other useful material.

*****NEW*****

Retiree's and Pensioners Luncheons

This year we have started to host luncheons for our Retiree's and Pensioners. We are all looking forward to maintaining these Luncheons at every membership meeting day from 12:00pm to 2:00pm at the Local Union meeting hall.

It is a great chance to meet, greet and reminisce with your peers while having some food.

Detailed Information will be posted on our website www.iw721.org.

Additionally, 2024 will be a very busy year for Local 721 as we will be hosting the Provincial District Council Apprenticeship Competition in June 2024 and furthermore celebrating Local 721's 75th Anniversary on July 21st, 2024.

There will be an open house on Saturday July 20th, 2024 from 9:00am-2:00pm. To celebrate, we will be handing out a special Local 721 - 75th Commemorative coin to all members attending in addition to food and various activities. Everyone is free to attend. Stay tuned for more details on our various social media platforms.



Apprentice Competition 2023

Finally, we are announcing on November 2nd, 2024 we will be having our 75th Anniversary Pin Party.



In early 2024 all members with continuous service of 25, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 and yes 75 years will be receiving invites. We at the local look forward to this event that recognizes the special milestones and achievements by our members.

In this mail out you will also find a Local 721 75th Anniversary special Commemorative pin and sticker as well. Please wear them with pride and as a sign of respect to all that came before us and to commemorate this special occasion.

Important Official Notice

Official Notice of Motions to Amended Local 721 By-Laws

All details including dates, times and location are provided on this Notice.

Notice of Motion

1st reading January 17th, 2024

2nd reading February 21st, 2024

3rd reading March 20th, 2024 followed by Voting on proposed resolutions

All during Local 721's membership meeting
at 909 Kipling Avenue, Etobicoke
Local 721 Union Hall start time 6:00pm

A copy of the proposed Resolutions to amended Local 721 By-laws will be mailed to each member at their last known address in the month of January 2024 with a reminder of the Notice.



The **By-Laws committee** has had several meetings in the past months, June, July, August and September, of this year. There are various proposals that are language and correction based in referenced to articles relating to the updated 2021 IW Constitution. There are also several money items including adding one more elected Business Agent, increasing various Training Trust funds, Welfare funds, Shop steward language and potentially changing or amending car allowances. Please as indicated on the Notice above said resolutions and notices will be mailed to each member at their last known address. **The By-Laws Committee will meet one final time on December 14th, 2023 at 3:00pm to finalize any**

resolutions that will then be presented by recommendation of the committee to the membership. I want to thank all the By-Laws Committee members for their work on this committee.

On a final note, I wish to **pay my respect and to recognize all of our fallen or deceased members** and family or friends who passed away in 2023. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. We should never forget to **be grateful and to show our gratitude to our past generation of Ironworkers** that got us here.

I am honoured to serve and would like to thank everyone for the trust and privilege in confiding in me to represent this Local's membership as your President for another term.

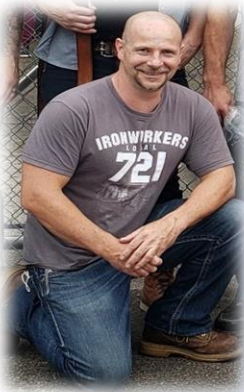


*With that said, I want to wish everyone on behalf of myself
and Family a very safe and Happy Holidays.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*

Fraternally Yours,

Luiz Barros
President/Business Agent





2023 has been very busy at the Ironworker Training Centre with an average of 70 students at all times.

Our top-notch instructors have delivered 17 Apprentice classes to 360 apprentices and over 1200 Ironworker members have attended Journeyman upgrading and refresher courses this year.

Class of 2023

Congratulations to the 105 new Journeymen in the Graduating Class of 2023! It takes 3 terms of trade school, 6000 hours of on-the-job experience &

the Red Seal Trade Qualification Exam to finish the apprenticeship & become a Journeyman, but the journey of learning & bettering yourself never ends. The goal of every day should be to learn something new (even if it is what NOT to do).



March Rod Advance Apprentice Class of 2023



February IW Advance Apprentice Class of 2023



June IW Advance Apprentice Class of 2023

Apprentice Competition

Congratulations to all the participants of this year's Apprentice Competition and thank you to all the judges, volunteers & the Motorcycle club for the great BBQ lunch. We had our biggest turn out ever with 18 Apprentices competing in 8 skilled events:

- Written Test
- 4 position weld
- Torch cutting
- Curtainwall window
- Instrument
- Rigging
- Rebar Ties
- Column Climb



From Left to Right: Tom Price & Hayden Sharpe

First & second place, Hayden Sharpe & Tom Price moved on to the District Council competition to compete against the top 12 apprentices in Ontario. I am proud to announce that 721 got a first-place finish & Hayden Sharpe will be going to Chicago next September to represent Ontario at the International Apprentice Competition.

The top 3 of next year's competition will also join Hayden in Chicago so come show off your skills & have some fun at our Local Apprentice competition on Saturday May 25th 2024.

Financial Wellness

We implemented a new Financial Wellness course for the Apprentice classes, which will also be offered as a Journeyperson upgrading course soon. It is a half day course designed & presented by Eckler the people that take care of our pension plan.

For someone that starts their career during booming times, it is easy to think that work will always be plentiful. But construction tends to come in waves, there are busy times & there are slow times. It is important to prepare for the slow times while the work is busy.

- 47% of Canadians live paycheque to paycheque
- Canadians owe \$1.70 for every dollar earned
- A first year Apprentice makes more than the average Canadian salary of \$51,000
- It is recommended to have at least 3 months of living expenses saved up



2 Simple ways to save money \$\$

- 1
 - 10% Vacation pay (Pay Yourself First)
 - Set up an automatic deposit to a separate account (TFSA)
 - \$125 /week would max out the TFSA allowance
 - By the end of a 3-year apprenticeship you would have \$20,000 in the bank.
- 2
 - Budget your lifestyle at 60% Apprentice rate (currently \$29/hr + Vacation)
 - You do not need a BMW to get to work
 - When you get to 70% save the extra \$4/hr
 - When you get 75% and 80% save the extra \$7/hr and \$10/hr
 - After 1 year you have \$10,000
 - After a 3-year Apprenticeship you have \$45,000 in the bank
 - Now you can treat yourself!



On behalf of the training staff Keith, Paul, Peter's, Chris, Johnny & Eddie we would like to wish you and your family a Happy Holiday season and hope to see you at the Christmas Luncheon Open House on Friday December 15th.

Yours truly,

Clinton Knowlton
Apprentice & Training Coordinator/ Business Agent





Dear Brothers, Sisters and Members of Local 721, First and foremost, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Neil MacDonald on his recent appointment as our Business Manager. Having collaborated with Neil over the past 5 years, I have witnessed his unwavering dedication and commitment to Local 721.

It is indeed an honor to collaborate with President Luiz Barros and our esteemed team of Business Agents, Organizers, Trainers, Compliance Officer and Administrative staff. The collective dedication of this hardworking team is indispensable for the smooth operation of our local.



Pinball Clemons Gala

The reinforcing industry has faced challenges in the past year, primarily due to high interest rates and escalating steel costs. Fortunately, the diversification of projects across Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario (Ottawa and Northern Ontario) has helped maintain employment for many members at Local 721.



Despite the industry's slowdown, we have been fortunate to sustain employment for our members, thanks to ongoing projects in different parts of the country. However, it's worth noting that several projects slated for this year have experienced delays and are now scheduled to commence in 2024.

In the spirit of showcasing our achievements, I contributed two articles to the August 2023 Ironworker Magazine, focusing on signatory companies. The featured articles highlighted NACK Reinforcing Steel Services Inc. a ninety-six hundred square foot prefabrication shop in Palmerston, Ontario and A.G.F. Reinforcing Steel who is building the newly developed Grandview Children's Centre in Ajax, Ontario. Both companies were able to showcase their remarkable projects. I extend my gratitude to Norm McFadden, Chris Langridge, Craig Scarr, and the respective teams for their collaboration.

Front Row: Omar Acevedo, Warah Jobarateh, Moussa Yaffa Back Row: Danny Duong, Yankuba Bayo, Patrick Connolly, Truen Russell, Malick Gakou, Owen Hurtibese, Mark Small, Mike MacInnis, Josh Sinkins, Marcus Moore, Jason Small Portland Commons

A heartfelt thank you to all the members who actively participated in this year's Labour Day Parade, Threads-of-Life Charity Hockey Tournament, and the Centre Ontario Building Trades (C.O.B.T) Baseball Tournament. Keith Fergus deserves special recognition for his efforts in organizing the hockey and baseball tournaments, both of which were tremendous successes, enjoyed by members and their families.



IW721 Baseball Tournament

I want to acknowledge the challenges some of our members have faced this year. I want every member to know that our association with the DeNovo Treatment Centre, helps those in need. I would also like to thank Bruce Simpson, who continues to support our members on a personal level. Additionally, we have introduced the Members Assistance Program (M.A.P.), a valuable resource for unionized tradespeople dealing with life's stresses. For more information, please contact the union hall at 416-236-4026 or reach out to any Business Agent.

As we welcome new apprentices striving to become journeypersons, we must also remember and honour our Ironworkers and their families who have passed away this year. They are always in our thoughts.

In closing, I express my pride in serving as a Business Agent, Organizer, and Rod Instructor for the second-largest Ironworker Local in North America.

Wishing everyone and their families a joyous holiday season!

Yours Truly, *Greg O'Connor* Business Agent/Organizer/Rod Instructor





Hello Brothers, Sisters and Members of Local 721,

Work in the Northern area has been steady in 2023.

Honda has been busy this year with weekend work and a few small shutdowns. They are preparing for big changes in 2024 with the switch to a Hybrid model of the Civic, predictions are that 50% of Civics will be manufactured in the future to be Hybrid.

Newmarket has seen a lot of construction this year with a 1.2 million sq ft Loblaws warehouse and a new library in Aurora with many other smaller warehouses popping up in the Newmarket Aurora area.

Barrie continues to grow at a fast pace with plazas and schools in the new subdivisions. Also, there is major work being done on the 400 HWY with new bridges which will keep our rebar members busy for the next couple of years. A few of the bridges are steel girders which will also employ some of our structural members. Wasaga Beach has seen growth in its housing as well as with a new school and a new state-of-the-art recreational centre built this year. There are also rumors of an expansion to the Wasaga Beach Casino already built in the near future. Collingwood has had a few new box buildings as well as a couple expansions to shopping plazas in the area as new condos are popping up across town.



Wasaga Beach Casino; Playtime

Huntsville has also seen growth in its housing so there have been a few new big box stores in the works for that area. Bracebridge is growing in all sectors with a new school and new recreational centre being built. News of a new Muskoka hospital has been announced and will start in the upcoming new year in either Bracebridge or Huntsville.

Brampton and Bolton have seen a lot of growth with new warehouses and will continue into 2024. Chrysler is expected to shut down in early 2024 for 12 to 18 months for a complete changeover.

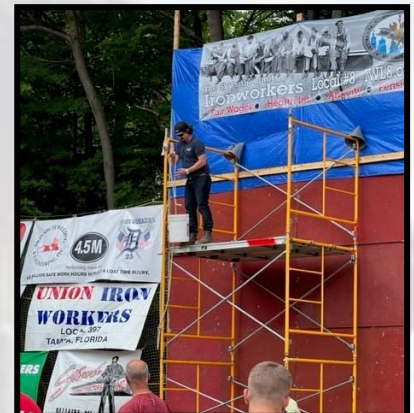


Column Climb in Mackinaw, MI

I attended the Ironworker festival in Mackinaw Michigan this year alongside Mike Coleman, Shane Shannon, Steve Collins and Ron Dee. As well as our top two apprentices Hayden Sharpe and Thomas Price. It was a great weekend and our apprentices represented us well.

Our Contractors are steadily pricing work to keep our members employed next year so hopefully we will all keep busy in 2024.

I would just like to say it's been a pleasure representing our members and working with all the staff for another year.



Mackinaw, MI

I would like to wish all our members a Merry Christmas & a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Fraternally,

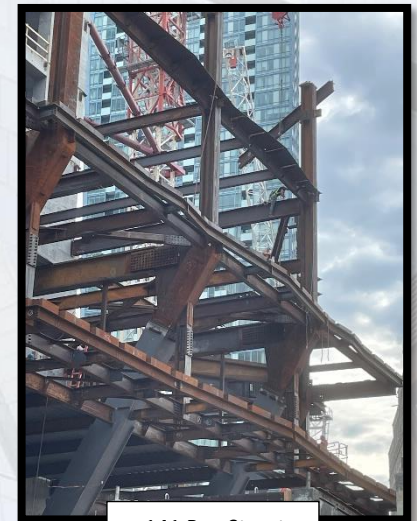
Ron Collier

Business Agent/North





Dear Brothers, Sisters and Members!
Yet another very busy year is coming to an end. I'd like to start with some changes we have in the Downtown jurisdiction that came into effective immediately after this year's election. The Downtown we knew before has become divided. Downtown, now stretches from Keele Street in the West to Victoria Avenue in the East with the northern border line established at Eglinton Avenue. The rest of former Downtown now becomes Downtown Central which stretches from Keele Street in the West to Brock Road, Pickering in the East, North of Eglinton Avenue and South of HWY 7. The Business Agent for Downtown Central is Brother Shane Shannon.



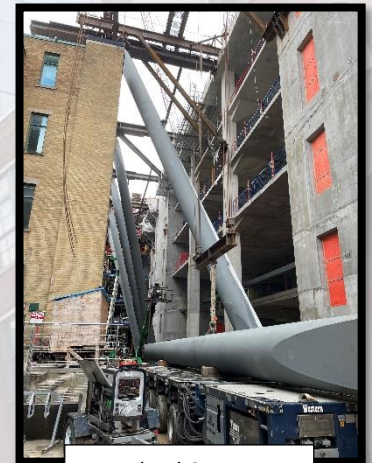
141 Bay Street



160 Front Street

Though 2023 proved to be one of the busiest years, we had losses – Integro Building Systems, one of the major curtain wall contractors, filed for bankruptcy at the end of August, laying off a majority of their workers – about 25 members. Workers were paid until the last day on the job. And we managed to secure pensions and benefits for most of the members and will keep fighting to get remittances for the rest. Liens have been put on three of the jobs and we expect positive results soon.

The glass sector will experience a substantial slow down next year, so my advice would be to consider your options, maybe look into Structural steel or Ornamental companies. Upgrade your skills if needed. If you let your CWB certifications expire, get back to the welding shop for practice – welding skills are in big demand.



Portland Commons

On the other hand, we have a new company coming to town – Harmon Inc., who purchased Sota Wall. Though the curtain wall at 141 Bay Street, phase two of CIBC Square, will be installed without Ironworkers this time, any new jobs Harmon Inc. plans to self perform will be with the hiring of Ironworkers. We already had a meeting at the Union Hall and negotiated signing the contract.

141 Bay Street is a major structural steel project Downtown employing about 90 Ironworkers from Supermetal and GP Custom with E.S. Fox stepping in with glass work.

Metrolinx activity at Ontario Line, with 15 stations between the Exhibition Place and Science Center, is expected to bring employment for many Rodworkers, Structural and Ornamental workers.

Some ongoing projects consist of Phase two at Rogers Centre with Walters and Venture Metals; 1 Bloor West with Walters, E.S. Fox and mobilizing Bass Installation; Portland Commons project with Lorvin Steel, GP Custom and DOK Installations – the new company employing former Integro workers; Eaton Centre with Walters and Bass, and many more continuing.

I'll take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from myself and my family.

Fraternally,

Severyn Salitra

Business Agent / Downtown/ Organizer





Hello, to all Brothers and Sisters of Local 721 and their families. This is my first opportunity to address our membership as a Local 721 Business Agent (East). The past several months has been taxing on many of us. From those emotional first days of school for our little ones to navigating through the instability of the housing market and mortgage rates. As Ironworkers we are fortunate to make a wage that allows us to steer through these times of financial uncertainty. The demand for union Ironworkers is high, our skill, standards, and union pride continue to make Ironworkers a desired commodity among the skilled trades.



Zero Carbon Fire Station
Bay Shore

The Eastern expansion.. the regions are growing from Durham to Kingston. On your travels Eastbound along the 401-take notice of all the projects in various stages of construction. From critical upgrades to infrastructure including Police, fire, emergency services too private sector construction and expansion, Beam and Joist is Booming...



Bowmanville Police Station
"Second Phase" Big House

OPG: Some changes have come into effect related to the OPG security clearance process. The application process has now gone digital. For any member that wishes to start the application process please reach out to myself (jcollins@iw721.org) or dispatch. Please pay attention to your email during this process.

Small Modular Reactor (SMR): Groundwork has begun, E.S Fox has been awarded this part of the project. The SMR is scheduled to be completed in 2028 and if all goes as expected they will be building three more SMR'S on the Darlington site, and possibly more throughout Ontario and the world. Darlington will be the first evolution of work and showcase for the project.



Marmora hydroelectric Project: I recently attended an information session outlining the project including scope, milestones, and timelines. Once all approvals are received proposed construction will take place from 2026-2031 and operate for 100+ years.

NOTE: If I haven't made it to your site yet, I will. Please continue to reach out for support. Any members with expired welding tickets please recertify, as welders are in HIGH demand.



Peterborough Memorial Center
"Final Piece"
McCormick Steel Inc

Tips: Keep those tips coming in, our membership resides across our vast jurisdictional territory. We rely on our members support to identify potential sites both Union and Non, as well as members working outside the collective agreement. Please continue your support allowing for effective policing.

Merry Christmas and HAPPY NEW Year to all

Fraternally,
Jason Collins
Business Agent/East/EPSCA



Merry Christmas!





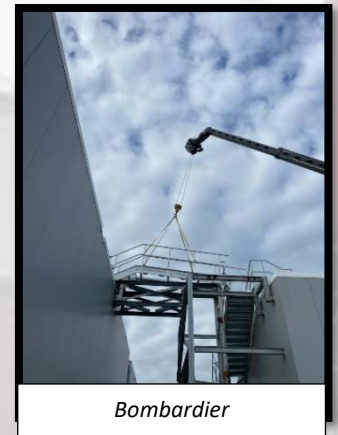
Seasons Greetings Brothers, Sisters and Members of Local 721,

Frist, I would like to thank our Business Manager Neil MacDonald and President Luiz Barros for the opportunity to serve this great Local as a Business Agent for the West end. I have served the Ontario District Council/Ironworkers International for almost 9 years as an Organizer and was excited at the opportunity to represent the members of Local 721 in this new capacity. We have an amazing team of Officers, Organizers, Training and Administrative Staff that I am honoured to be a part of.

Work in the West end of our jurisdiction has remained busy throughout 2023 and signs show the continuing into 2024. Along with various warehouse, box buildings and condos across the city has come some other interesting projects including Bombardier, Woodbine Casino, O-I Glass Plant, Credit River Bridge and Ford Oakville Assembly Plant to name a few. These projects have kept many of our members and contractors busy throughout 2023 and the forecast is that more is expected to come in 2024.

Lilja has been in and out of the O-I Glass plant in Brampton this year and expects a major furnace rebuild in the spring of 2024.

Ford is investing \$1.8 billion to transform the Oakville Assembly Complex into a Canadian hub for EV manufacturing. This site will include vehicle and battery pack assemble and is expected to go into production in 2026. Truss reinforcing work has begun at the Ford Oakville Assembly Plant in preparation for the new EV line and tooling installations to follow in the spring of 2024.



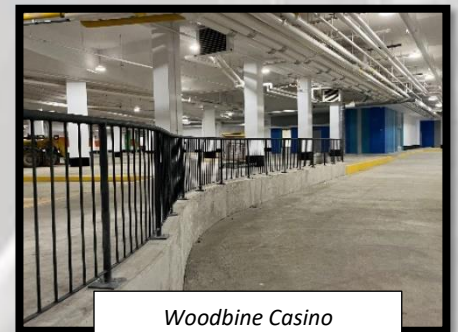
Bombardier



Credit River Bridge

The Finch West LRT Line has kept many of our contractors and members busy throughout this year and work will wind down in early 2024 on this project.

It has been an honour and a pleasure to serve the membership of Local 721 this year and we have a lot to be proud of. Our members are dedicated, hard working and professional Ironworkers who know how to get the job done and I am proud to be a union Ironworker of Local 721!



Woodbine Casino



Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all our members and the staff of Local 721.

Fraternally,

Steven Neveu

Business Agent / West





Greeting Brothers, Sisters and Members of Local 721.

I hope this message finds you all. Work in the central area continues to be very busy and it looks as though it will continue that way for 2024. There are several jobs in various stages of progress at University of Toronto, York University and Centennial College all in Scarborough. Transit projects are ongoing as well as warehouses and small buildings throughout Markham, Scarborough and Pickering.

I continue to look forward to servicing this great membership. The hard work, dedication and skill level exhibited by the members of Local 721 make me proud to call myself a union Ironworker.

From my family to yours, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. With a Safe and Prosperous New Year.

Shane Shannon

Business Agent / Central Downtown / Dock & Doors



U.I.W.M.C 721

This year was full of many exciting events for the UIWMC. We held our Annual Show and Shine and Blessing of the Bikes to support the Local 721 Apprentice Competition. Congratulations to Hayden Sharpe, Tom Price and Ashley Paddenburg.

We also hosted the 20th UIWMC Annual Run that had members travelling from all over

North America to attend. Everyone there was overwhelmed with our

Canadian hospitality. And the run raised \$10,000.00 for Sick Kids Hospital. Next was a trip to Mackinaw where UIWMC was inducted into the Ironworker Hall of Fame. We had another successful Pig Roast to raise money for the Durham YWCA.



Every year we do a Tribute Ride where we pay respect to all the fallen Ironworkers. This ride goes through the

roads of Haliburton with a couple of stops along the way where we pay tribute to our fallen brothers and sisters.

This year we welcomed 4 new members and encourage anyone else interested to reach out. We are happy to continue to provide a charity fundraiser dinner at each Union meeting so that members don't have to worry about stopping for something to eat and being late for the meeting.

We are holding our 3rd annual Johnny Johnson 50/50 draw to raise money for the YWCA. Anyone can buy a ticket and you don't need to be there to win.

From our UIWMC family to each and every Ironworker and their families we want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Ron Dec. President U.I.W.M.C 721 Toronto





Happy Holidays from Ironworkers Local 721 Training and Rehabilitation Centre's Welding Department!

The welding shop would like to take this opportunity to thank the general membership for their support and dedication to our trade over this current year, 2023! Welding is having a bigger demand on our skilled trades and requiring more welding certifications. Whether you need to obtain welding qualifications, upgrade or obtain more welding certifications, we highly recommend doing so – because the need for these skills has never been greater!

Listed below are just some of the current welding qualifications you can obtain at Ironworkers Local 721:

- SMAW – Carbon Steel
- SMAW – Stainless Steel
- SMAW – Reinforcing bar
- FCAW – Carbon Steel
- FCAW – Stainless Steel
- FCAW – Reinforcing bar
- GTAW – Carbon Steel
- GTAW – Stainless Steel
- ASW – Deck Welding
- GMAW – Reinforcing bar
- GMAW – Carbon Steel



When you are booking your C.W.B. welding qualifications test with the administrative staff, please verify and update all your contact information. This will help us improve our service of mailing your C.W.B. welding qualification cards, upon passing. Also, the welding department will send you your results with a digital record of your C.W.B. welding qualifications. This will not replace the physical card as you will still be receiving it in the mail.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me, Chris Rebelo at the office of Ironworkers Local 721, phone number 416-236-4026 Ex.223. You can also E-mail me at crebelo@iw721.org or Direct Message on Instagram @iw721weldshop.

You can follow us on social media.

Instagram - @iw721weldshop or Subscribe to our YouTube Channel – Ironworkers Local 721

You can also follow us on our main Ironworkers Local 721 accounts at:

Instagram - @ironworkers721

Twitter - @721Local

Facebook - Ironworkers Local 721 Toronto – or - Ironworkers Local 721



I would also like to personally thank the general membership and Ironworkers Local 721 for their ongoing support. I am proud to announce my involvement with the CWB Association Toronto Chapter and being voted in as their current Chair. This will allow me to take a more active roll in the welding community and help me to further promote our trade within the industry. If you are interested in becoming a *FREE* CWB Association Toronto Chapter member, you can use the QR code above. Thank you!

From my Family to yours, Happy Holidays, Stay Safe and Weld Strong!

Christopher Rebelo

*Welding Shop Supervisor, Welding Instructor, C.W.B. Certified Welding Inspector.
Ironworkers Local 721's Executive Committee, Social Media Manager & Content Curator.
C.W.B. Association Toronto Chapter – Chair*



Welding Department Hours

Mondays

- In session Apprentice classes only 7:30am - 11:45am
- Open practice for members 12noon - 7:00pm

Tuesdays

- In session Apprentice classes only 7:30am - 3:00pm

Wednesday

- In session Apprentice classes only 7:30am - 11:45am
- Open practice for members 12noon - 7:00pm

Thursdays

- C.W.B. testing for members starting at 7:00am

Please check the website www.iw721.org for any updates or changes to the schedule



Brothers, Sisters and Members of Local 721,

I hope it has been a promising year for yourself and your families, even through the turbulence of 2023. Everything that affects our day-to-day living has gone up in cost, which can lead to a lot of stress and anxiety to contest with. The silver lining, however, is we have a great work outlook over the next few years. If you are willing and able to show up to work every day, fit for duty, you can be assured that many of those obstacles can be easier to overcome.

We are approaching a point as an organization where we will have many of our most skilled and experienced members becoming eligible for retirement, and once that happens, we have a large void to fill. Fortunately for us, we also have people ready to step into those positions. I am confident from what I've seen from my years as an Ironworker and instructor, that we do in fact have the labour force available to continue to carry on and maintain our great reputation of being the most reliable and hard-working group in all the skilled trades.



If you see yourself as a person who can step into the shoes of a higher role, now is the time to get yourself ready for that position. Things that could aid you in that process include extra journey person upgrading, and courses available through IMPACT, however, no course you take can teach you the necessary skills as well as on-the-job experience can.

If you feel like you are ready, and can step into that higher role, **now** is the time to go for it. Get your feet wet while we still have the people around that can teach us the same mistakes they made along the way. We will get to a point where the torch must be passed along, and it is up to us as the next generation to assure that all the hard work done in the past doesn't become all for nothing.



IW721 Hockey Team

Reminder! We have monthly membership meetings on the third Wednesday of each month, from 6:00pm-8:00pm, so add it to your phone calendar. Meetings cover work outlooks, financial stability of the local, and various other business topics that are significant to members. It is vitally important to the health of a union to have active participation among the membership, and that means we as members doing the best we can to attend and engage in union matters such as wage breakdowns and contract negotiations. We didn't get our great union pension, benefits and wages without it, so let's assure that it continues. See you there!



IW721 Golf Tournament

To a prosperous and successful 2024

to all members of Local 721!

Fraternally yours,

Keith Fergus

Vice President / Ironworker Instructor



PROVINCIAL COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Lorne Corcoran

Greetings Brothers, Sisters and Members,

As another year ends, I would like to wish everyone all the best as we head into 2024. It's been a very interesting year to say the very least. We saw a lot of changes and growth, however we are gaining momentum and getting stronger and better as an organization. I couldn't be prouder to be a part of this team.

This year work has slowed down a lot in the Rod sector but with projects coming on board from all over the province we are setting record craft hours. And as usual 721 is leading the charge and keeping our membership employed and busy. Delinquency has its ups and downs, but numbers are holding steady and trending in the right direction. In the next quarter we are expecting to get some closure on some ongoing files resulting in better numbers to get started in 2024.

As we grow and get busy, we face new problems, Mental health, Suicide, Drug and Alcohol abuse. We have support programs including the DeNovo Treatment Centre and M.A.P. who will assist our membership. Please reach out to someone if you or someone you know is struggling and needs help.

I would also like to recognize the members that we have lost over the past year, keeping them and their families in our thoughts.

2023 has been a very good year for both our membership, local and contractors. Let's continue to grow these relationships and always maintain pride in our trade.

Wishing everyone all the best and a safe and healthy year to come.

Fraternally,

Lorne Corcoran

Ontario Ironworkers Pension and Benefit Provincial Compliance Officer



DISPATCH OFFICER

Scott Draper

2023, Don't blink, time goes by so fast! The Boom continues... Money is Up! This cannot last forever. At this time, all regions are busy. I cannot encourage you to "Boom Out", but there are opportunities in other Locals. If you do choose to "Boom Out", please let us know and at the same time ensure that your safety Certificates are valid. Apprentices, if you are at all interested in welding, I encourage you to get your C.W.B Certificates. We cannot have too many welders available to our contractors.

*We've had a great year; a beautiful summer and I wish you all the best for Christmas & 2024.
Play Safe, Be good to each other. Cheers.*

Dispatchingly Yours,

Scott Draper

Dispatch Officer



MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

It has been a heart-warming experience to see the number of Ironworkers who want to volunteer their time with this committee hoping that they will help their fellow brothers and sisters. Mental health, in recent years, has been treated with the same seriousness as jobsite safety. This is because matters of mental illness have ailed our members as much as, or arguably more than, jobsite incidents. The passion I've seen from this committee proves that, as a union member, you are part of a community which has your back and wants the best for you.

The Mental Health Committee has 2 main goals. Firstly, we want to support and continue the work our brother Bruce Simpson took on over 5 years ago by his own initiative. This would result in 721 members having more people to call in a time of need. Those who volunteer would help to connect members to services like De Novo and MAP which are available to all Ironworkers in Ontario.

Our other goal is to support the members of 721 in the maintenance of good mental health through awareness, education, and community events. If you have any suggestions or ideas that would help us achieve this goal, please reach out to one of the committee members!

The list of committee members can be found here: <https://iw721.org/about-us/leadership>

The holiday season and the month or 2 following can be a difficult time for many of us. Please remember that, if you are suffering or struggling, you do not have to do so alone.



Member Assistance Program

Helping Unionized Tradespeople with the stresses of life.

www.tradesmap.org

Call or email the office to book:

Office: 613-742-7962
Toll Free: 1-800-258-0580
Emergency: 613-742-5257
Email: support@tradesmap.org

We are a non-profit network of counsellors providing individual, couple & family counselling, to help alleviate the symptoms and stresses from issues like:

- Substance & Alcohol misuse
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Panic
- Relationship struggles
- Abuse (physical, sexual or emotional)
- Trauma
- Navigating separation & divorce
- Anger management

MAP counselling is available through participating locals to unionized members in good standing, their partners, and dependent children (age limits apply).



Who we are

In 1996 Gabriel Chauvin, a unionized tradesperson, founded the MAP for unionized tradespeople. The Member's Assistance Program (MAP) is a non-profit organization focused on assisting our members through counselling on the issues that unionized tradespeople face daily.

How to access the services

It's easy to use; call the office to book your services with a mental health counsellor. There is no billing and no payment required. Licensed mental health counsellors provide all services, and all services are confidential.





Take care of yourselves,

The Mental Health Committee

Chair - Peter's Shannon



ORGANIZERS

Steve Collins & Pius Ryan



Steve Collins

Hello again Brothers, Sisters and Members of Local 721,

On behalf of the Organizing team, we would like to thank you again for all the support we have received from the membership. The growth of this local and of all Ironworker locals across the International depends on our ability to bring new and existing companies and workers into our organization as signatory contractors and members. As we strive to expand our contractor base, we grow the local by having greater work opportunities and increasing our market share. WE have a goal to have every worker and contractor involved in our trade signatory to the union. Higher market share equals better wages, pension and benefits for all members, now and in the years to come.



Pius Ryan

We have had some great success in Organizing over the past two years and have also had some changes within the organizing department in itself. Long time Organizer, Steven Neveu has now moved on from the Organizer role and has taken on the huge responsibility of serving the membership in his new role as Business Agent for the West end of Toronto. In his years as Organizer, Steven has been involved with numerous certifications of non-union contractors and through these efforts has increased our contractor base and provided our members with countless manhour opportunities. I'm sure that Steven will never totally leave the "organizer" behind, but the department will miss his hard work and dedication to growing the local union over his past years. We wish him all the best in his new role, and we are sure the membership will be well served by his constant dedication and commitment to the members of this local.

With 60 + new contractors and over 125 new members through organizing efforts, we are growing. Now is not the time to sit back and figure we have it licked! Each day new and old non-union contractors are out there in the field welding, erecting and fabricating. We want to sign up ALL the non-union contractors and ALL unrepresented workers, and on that note, please help us help you by letting us know if any jobsite you might come across in your travels needs our attention. We have a large geographical area to cover and can't do it alone.

We want to wish every member and contractor of this great union of Ironworkers a safe, productive and prosperous year.

Thank you for your continued support, please contact us at anytime regarding any matter.

Steve Collins 289-200-4634 ~ Pius Ryan 416-951-6220

Steve Collins & Pius Ryan



ADMIN. STAFF

We would like to wish all the members of Local 721 a Merry Christmas & a Happy Holidays! from the Admin staff

Maria, Karen, Doreen & Charlotte



Officers, Staff and Administration



Neil MacDonald Business Manager / F.S.T.	416-347-8668	nmacdonald@iw721.org
Luiz Barros President / B.A.	416-986-4026	Lbarros@iw721.org
Clinton Knowlton Training & Apprentice Coordinator / B.A.	647-449-7210	cknowlton@iw721.org
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Severyn Salitra Business Agent/Organizer; Downtown	416-318-5500	ssalitra@iw721.org
Shane Shannon Business Agent; Central Downtown/Door Sector	647-236-0602	sshannon@iw721.org
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Steven Neveu Business Agent; West	647-545 0721	sneveu@iw721.org
Ron Collier Business Agent; North	416-524-3814	rcollier@iw721.org
Lorne Corcoran – Provincial Compliance Officer	416-347-8977	Lcorcoranodciw@bellnet.ca
Pius Ryan - Organizer	416-951-6220	pryan@iwintl.org
Scott Draper - Dispatch Officer	416-236-7765	dispatch721@rogers.com
Chris Rebelo - Welding Instructor	416-236-4026 Ext 223	crebelo@iw721.org
Keith Fergus - Vice President/Iron Instructor	416-236-4026 Ext 229	kfergus@iw721.org
Paul Myers - Iron Instructor	416-236-4026 Ext 257	pmyers@iw721.org
Peter's Shannon -Iron Instructor	416-236-4026 Ext 327	pshannon@iw721.org
John Sousa - Rod Instructor	416-236-4026	jsousa@iw721.org
Melanie Mitchell - Custodian	416-236-4026	mmitchell@iw721.org
Karen Werlick - Bookkeeper / Administrator	416-236-4026 Ext 305	kwerlick@iw721.org
Charlotte Anderson - Front Office Admin.	416-236-4026 Ext 303	canderson@iw721.org
Doreen Rebelo – Front Office Admin.	416-236-4026 Ext 302	drebelo@iw721.org
Maria Rizzuto – Training Admin.	416-236-4026 Ext 329	mrizzuto@iw721.org

2024 Holiday and Event Schedule

DUE TO THE ONGOING SITUATIONS, SOME DATES MAY NEED TO BE RE-SCHEDULED OR CANCELLED

(Mon.)	January 1 st , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED – New Year’s	
(Wed.)	January 17 th , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Fri.)	February 16 th , 2024	Early Office Closure - 7:30am – 11:30am	
(Mon.)	February 19 th , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED – Family Day	
(Wed.)	February 21 st , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Wed.)	March 20 th , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Thurs.)	March 28 th , 2024	Early Office Closure - 7:30am – 11:30am	
(Fri.)	March 29 th , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED – Good Friday	
(Fri.)	April 5 th , 2024	Glenn Kimmett Memorial Scholarship applications open to member’s children	
(Wed.)	April 17 th , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Wed.)	May 15 th , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Fri.)	May 17 th , 2024	Early Office Closure - 7:30am to 11:30am	
(Mon.)	May 20 th , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED – Victoria Day	
(Sat.)	May 25 th , 2024	Local 721 - Apprentice Competition	
(Wed.)	June 19 th , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Fri.)	June 28 th , 2024	Early Office Closure - 7:30am to 11:30am	
(Mon.)	July 1 st , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED – Canada Day	
(Wed.)	July 17 th , 2024	CANCELLED Membership Meeting	
(Sat.)	July 20 th , 2024	Local 721’s 75 th Anniversary Open House – 9:00am to 2:00pm	
(Sun.)	July 21 st , 2024	Local 721’s 75 th Anniversary Day	
(Fri.)	July 26 th , 2024	Glenn Kimmett Memorial scholarship deadline	
(Fri.)	August 2 nd , 2024	Early Office Closure - 7:30am to 11:30am	
(Mon.)	August 5 th , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED – Civic Holiday	
(Wed.)	August 21 st , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Fri.)	August 30 th , 2024	Early Office Closure - 7:30am to 11:30am	
	TBA	Annual Member’s Golf Tournament	
(Mon.)	September 2 nd , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED - Labour Day	
(Wed.)	September 18 th , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm (Scholarships Awarded)	
(Mon.)	September 30 th , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	
(Fri.)	October 11 th , 2024	Early Office Closure - 7:30am to 11:30am	
(Mon.)	October 14 th , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED –Thanksgiving	
(Wed.)	October 16 th , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Sat.)	November 2 nd , 2024	IW721 75 th Anniversary & Pin Party Awards	
(Mon.)	November 11 th , 2024	Remembrance Day	
(Wed.)	November 20 th , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Fri.)	December 13 th , 2024	Member’s Christmas Party, 12pm – 5pm	
(Sun.)	December 15 th , 2024	Children’s Christmas Party 8:30am – 11:30 am	
(Wed.)	December 18 th , 2024	Membership Meeting, 6:00pm	
(Tues.)	December 24 th , 2024	Early Office Closure - 7:30am to 11:30am	
(Wed.)	December 25 th , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED – Christmas Day	
(Thurs)	December 26 th , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED – Boxing Day	
(Fri.)	December 27 th , 2024	OFFICE CLOSED	
(Tues.)	December 31 st , 2024	Early Closure - 7:30am to 11:30am	
(Wed.)	January 1 st , 2025	OFFICE CLOSED – New Year’s Day	

**NORMAL OPERATING OFFICE HOURS ARE MONDAY TO FRIDAY 7:30am – 3:30pm
EXCEPT WHERE NOTED ON SCHEDULE**

GLENN KIMMETT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

On behalf of the Glenn Kimmett Memorial Scholarship Committee consisting of Brothers:

Luiz Barros, Brenton McCarthy, Brian Linton, Keith Fergus, Jason Collins, John Toffoli, Peter's Shannon, Shane Shannon and Steven Neveu

We are pleased to announce that a selection has been made from the applicants for the annual Glenn Kimmett Memorial Scholarship Award.

Submissions are judged based upon 5 criteria:

Academics, Athletics, Leadership, Volunteer work, An essay on Labour History

It was a very close competition and a difficult decision for the Committee this year. It was with great pleasure that we presented scholarships to the recipients (below) at the September 20th, 2023 membership meeting.



- ❖ \$5,000.00 Scholarship Award to Allyssa Tassone, daughter of member Joe Tassone
- ❖ \$3,000.00 Scholarship Award to Ava Allaire, daughter of member Chris Allaire
- ❖ \$1,000.00 Scholarship Award to Susanna Nowak, daughter of member Miroslaw Nowak
- ❖ \$1,000.00 Scholarship Award to Chris Shannon, son of member Shane Shannon

We wish all participants and winners the greatest of success!



RON DEE SCHOLARSHIP PARTICIPATION AWARD WINNERS:

Recently added in 2021, we also had the Ron Dee Scholarship Participation Awards. Moving forward any person participating in the Glenn Kimmett Scholarship that does not get one of the primary scholarships will be awarded a bursary of \$500.00. In recognition of the values, traits and in the spirit of Ron Dee who championed and encouraged members and family to participate in Union events. Brother Ron Dee has served on multiple committees, executive board and various member events (Labour Day, Golf Tournament, Kids Christmas party, etc.). Always encouraging the younger members to participate, upgrade their skills and to try to achieve their true potential as Ironworkers.



- ❖ \$500.00 Scholarship Award to Shayne McLachlan, daughter of members Steven Neveu
- ❖ \$500.00 Scholarship Award to Abigayle MacDougall, daughter of Jamie MacDougall
- ❖ \$500.00 Scholarship Award to Ella Cochrane, daughter of member Dwayne Cochrane
- ❖ \$500.00 Scholarship Award to Zachary Kerr, son of member Ryan Kerr
- ❖ \$500.00 Scholarship Award to Marco Norena, son of member Rodrigo Norena



Thank you to all the members and their families that came out to participate in this year's Labour Day Parade. It was amazing to see such a large turn out despite the heat wave. A special Thanks to all the volunteers and staff that came in early to setup and hand out the Labour Day merchandise.

IN MEMORY OF THOSE MEMBERS WE REMEMBER TODAY & AWAYS...

DEPARTED IRONWORKERS

As reported to the Local (November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2023)

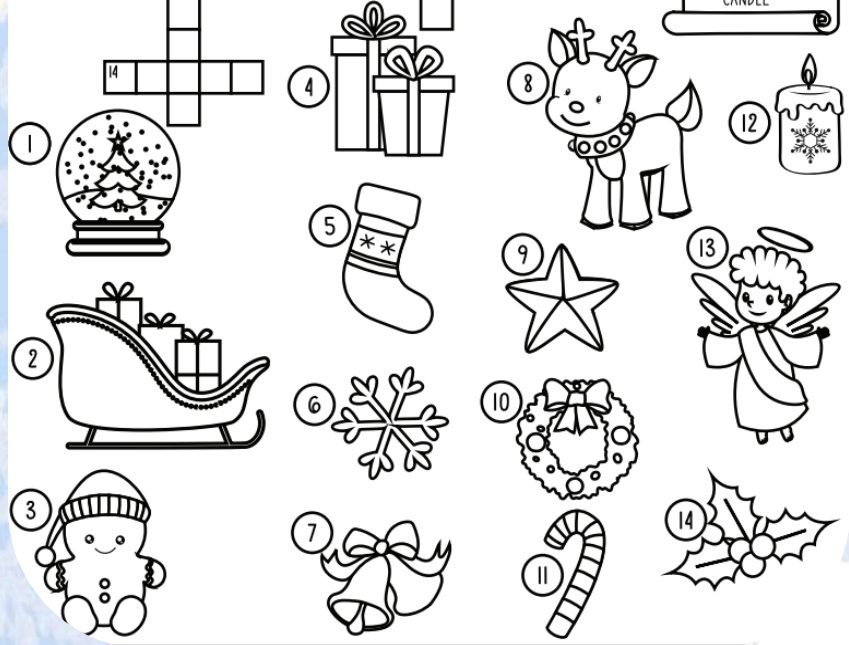
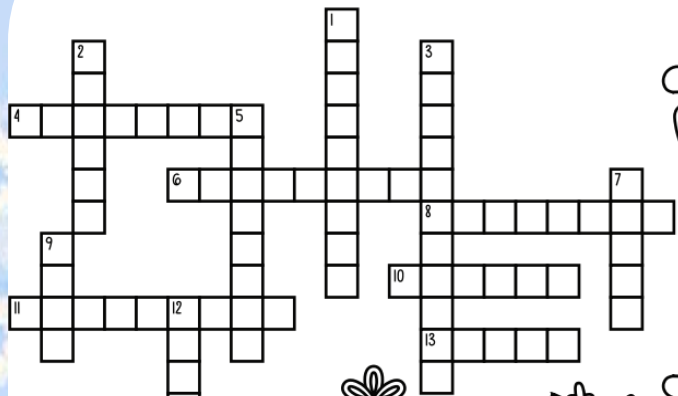
RONALD STEWART	OCT. 6, 2023	CLINTON LOPEZ	NOVEMBER 2, 2022
CHARLES HIGNEY	SEPT. 29, 2023	FRANK MORRIS	OCTOBER 8, 2022
ELI CANNING	SEPT. 26, 2023	JAMES NUGENT	JUNE 29, 2022
JOSE CABRAL	SEPT. 14, 2023		
DANIEL RICHARD	JULY 29, 2023		
RONALD HISEY	JULY 22, 2023		
ROBERT FELTHAM	JULY 10, 2023		
DOUGLAS COLE	JULY 6, 2023		
GEORGE MAC ARTHUR	JUNE 14, 2023		
JOSE MACIEL	JUNE 10, 2023		
JEAN PERRON	JUNE 7, 2023		
GEORGE BUJOLD	JUNE 6, 2023		
MICHAEL R. TAYLOR	MAY 30, 2023		
JOHN HILL	MAY 25, 2023		
JAMES GIBSON	MAY 24, 2023		
FRANK ECCLES	MAY 15, 2023		
ELLIS HARPER	MAY 13, 2023		
ANDRE BOSSE	MAY 4, 2023		
DENIS JOSEPH BATTAH	APRIL 18, 2023		
PIETER SPIERING	APRIL 17, 2023		
AMERICO GIALONARDO	MARCH 22, 2023		
GEORGE BROWN	MARCH 14, 2023		
MANUEL DA COSTA	MARCH 12, 2023		
LEONARD TOWNSON	MARCH 2, 2023		
JAMES ARMSTRONG	FEBRUARY 4, 2023		
JAMES ELLIS	JANAURY 15, 2023		
NEIL DESPINS	JANUARY 14, 2023		
RAYMOND SLANEY	JANAURY 4, 2023		
GILLES BERGERON	DECEMBER 19, 2022		
RAYMOND THIBODEAU	DECEMBER 17, 2022		
PATRICK BOUILLET	DECEMBER 14, 2022		
LUIGI BACCHIN	DECEMBER 6, 2022		
JEREMIAH RICHARD	NOVEMBER 27, 2022		
ROY WEDGE	NOVEMBER 25, 2022		
ALBINO DE JESUS	NOVEMBER 16, 2022		
CASEY J VAN LEEUWEN	NOVEMBER 14, 2022		
MICHELE MACCHIUSI	NOVEMBER 14, 2022		
NUNO SOUSA	NOVEMBER 14, 2022		



There are some
who bring a light so
great to the world
that even after they
have gone the light
remains.

LB: dr
COPE343

Christmas Crossword



Christmas Maze

HELP SANTA GET TO HIS SLEIGH



Christmas Word Search

M I O F W I Q E B T E S P T W Q V K J I
 O E N M K K F H H V G H P A Z I F J O K
 D P R N I E Q N E N Q S S I F E P T L Y
 P T G R G Q L S I A H G E M R N D F L E
 T V R B Y W S D H Z N V P A T I U C Y Y
 Q S D S L E I G H I E J D W S N T V M O
 J J D C J T O J K O K Z V G R O H R X D
 N P Z Z F Y S C T C A N D Y C A N E S L
 H O L G A N O E T L E I B R S G E I G U
 M S S T C T L E N N W S P G P Y B N C Y
 R R S A S T C F M F R B L O E P I D H G
 M Y F A S S T M Q J E H V N Z Q P E R P
 X U L I N H I N I O A N M G V G F E I Z
 G E M A S T Z Z W B T I V B X L V R S J
 F H X N P O A J Y N H C E L E B R A T E
 B Q H P Z W G U P C H B A O L V Z G M Q
 J V X P F A U K H C I H N V V Z T A A B
 C S E N Y J X O Q A B O R S E J F R S J
 K O B M T Y G L D S W L B A S A T W S S
 S G F C X U L W M I J G H O L I D A Y M



CELEBRATE HOLIDAY MERRY
 NOEL SEASON SPIRIT
 STOCKINGS TIDINGS CANDYCANES
 MISTLETOE WREATH CHRISTMAS
 CHIMNEY ELVES JOLLY
 REINDEER SLEIGH SANTA





1949 - 2024
75th Anniversary

