

SPRING 2020

# **LiUNA** **LOCAL 1059** **NEWS**



**SUPPORTING  
YOU AND YOUR  
FAMILY**

**\$1M TRAINING  
PRE-APPRENTICE FUNDING  
ANNOUNCEMENT**

**#1059FAMILY FUN  
THE FACTORY AND  
STORYBOOK GARDENS**

**MEMBERSHEALTH  
TELEMEDICINE  
SERVICE**



*Brandon MacKinnon,  
Business Manager  
LiUNA Local 1059*

Dear Members,

2020 has been very eventful so far, to say the least. For our Local, it began with the transition to our new facility at 635 Wilton Grove Road. We officially moved in on January 13th, and construction will be ongoing throughout the year. Upon completion, there will be a grand opening (once social distancing measures allow for it), as well as a member open house to celebrate this exciting new development in our Local's history.

We have also been busy enhancing member benefits with the addition of coverage for medical cannabis, the adoption of the MembersHealth telemedicine program, and the establishment of the LiUNA Wellness Centre, which will re-open as soon as it is safe to do so. The Optical Centre has expanded, and we are also very excited to announce that we have added a chiropractic, physiotherapy, and massage studio, with plans for a dental office in the near future. Keep an eye on your inbox and our social media channels for further updates and details.

There has also been a concerted effort to increase member engagement with family events such as the Storybook Gardens family skate night, our spectacularly well-attended LiUNA Day at The Factory and, although it ended up being cancelled due to the public health situation, our planned sponsorship day with London Lightning Basketball. We have also continued to leverage the strength and numbers of our union to secure discounts for you at various businesses in the London and Grey-Bruce regions.

We have continued to foster our relationships with all three levels of government, which has resulted in significant funding opportunities for our Training Centre. This dialogue ensures that government officials recognize

the important role Local 1059 serves in our community and local economy, and the powerful voice LiUNA members collectively have in supporting legislation that is favourable to our membership and the goals of our union.

2020 will feature a number of firsts, including distribution of the inaugural James MacKinnon Local 1059 Scholarship Fund scholarships to worthy recipients. Details regarding the application process were sent out by email/letter mail and posted on our website in late April. To access the application package, please call the office at 519-455-8083 or visit our website at [liunalocal1059.com](http://liunalocal1059.com).

On the topic of our website, we are also excited to announce that we will very shortly be launching a brand new and improved Local 1059 site. After listening to your feedback over the years, and with a view to ramping up our recruitment efforts, the website has a far more user-friendly design to allow you to quickly and easily find the information you need, and we have also included enhanced functionality like the ability to book Optical Centre appointments and Training Centre courses online. We look forward to unveiling the new site very soon!

I must of course take a moment to address the changes that have been wrought as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This newsletter was delayed in getting to you by two months, since our world was rapidly changing and we wanted to wait until our 'new normal' had settled somewhat before releasing it to ensure we could offer you the most up-to-date and relevant information.

First and foremost, I would like to extend sincere appreciation to our members who have continued to work on their job sites throughout this pandemic. This includes our construction sector members who make

sure our essential infrastructure continues to function, and our service sector members who have put themselves in harm's way to help keep institutions like our hospitals and long term care homes clean and safe.

The past several months have been a trying time for our membership, our community, and around the world. These unprecedented and rapid changes in how we live, work, and interact with our loved ones has challenged us in ways we never could have predicted, but has also, in many ways, brought out the best in us. Unions are based on the premise that there is power in numbers, and that many people working together can accomplish great things for the whole. We have seen this strength manifested in how members of our union and our community have come together in mutual support of their brothers, sisters, and neighbours, even when that support and assistance must be given from a distance. I have never been more proud of Local 1059 and its membership.

On behalf of myself, the Executive Board, and our entire team at Local 1059, it has been our pleasure to support our members as we navigate these unfamiliar waters together. We look forward to continuing to represent you, ensuring a safe and prosperous year ahead. ■

All my best,  
**Brandon MacKinnon**

## BUSINESS REP RE-CAP

# Union Updates



Philip Da Silva

### The Kingsmen Group Inc.

Through negotiations, Local 1059 reached a deal with The Kingsmen Group Inc. (formerly Senator Homes) for a \$4 increase over the next 3 years for our members. This is the biggest increase we have ever had within the home building sector. The Kingsmen Group is the largest volume home builder in Woodstock, building approximately 200 homes per year. There are currently six members in the bargaining unit, but this will increase at pace with production over the coming years.



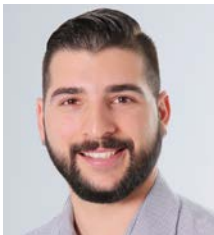
Josh Stewart

### Jameson Landscaping

I'm pleased to report that Jameson Landscaping – operating out of the Grey-Bruce area – has entered into a voluntary agreement with Local 1059. They are looking to expand their business, and this is a great opportunity for both parties.

### Ramkey Communications, Inc.

After years spent arguing its case at the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB), the Divisional Court and the Ontario Court of Appeal, Ramkey Communications Inc. appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada (our country's top court). On May 7, 2020, the Court dismissed Ramkey's appeal, which means that Ramkey is subject to provincial regulation. Local 1059 holds the bargaining rights for all construction labourers employed by Ramkey as originally certified by the OLRB. This was a hard fought win for Local 1059 and LIUNA, and will influence all future certifications in the Utility Sector. As always, we are thrilled when a decision can impact our membership in such a positive way, and this sets an important precedent that will help protect Local 1059 members in future.



Nathan Moniz

### Van Horne Construction Ltd.

Van Horne Construction Ltd. was caught utilizing a non-union company to perform our jurisdictional work, and was not recognizing Local 1059's bargaining rights. We grieved the company for this violation of our agreement and received damages in the amount of \$11,000. This helps ensure that our bargaining rights are recognized in the future, and that any labourers' work performed by Van Horne Construction Ltd. – including any sub-contracted work – is carried out by Local 1059 members.



## Local 1059 Pre-Apprentice Program: APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

Do you know someone who might be interested in working in the skilled trades? We are now taking applications for the Local 1059 Pre-Apprentice Program. This 12-week, tuition-free program gives you a crash course in all the entry level skills and experience you'll need to be successful and stay safe during your apprenticeship, setting you on the path to a satisfying, stable, and well-paid career. Apply online at [www.liunalocal1059.com](http://www.liunalocal1059.com). ■



## Medical Cannabis Coverage

We would like to remind our members that as of January 1, 2020, medical cannabis became a reimbursable expense through the Benefit Trust Fund for certain pre-determined conditions. This applies to all members and their eligible dependants (subject to the eligibility provisions).

The conditions eligible for medical cannabis coverage are:

- Neuropathic/Chronic pain
- Palliative care
- Nausea/vomiting from chemotherapy treatments
- Spasticity (Multiple Sclerosis)
- Spinal cord injury
- Anorexia

The plan will provide coverage for a maximum of \$2000 per member and per each eligible dependant per calendar year.

We have partnered with Starseed Medicinal Inc. (a Health Canada licensed medical cannabis company) to provide you and your eligible dependants with

preferred pricing and electronic claim reimbursement for medical cannabis products, which means no out-of-pocket transactions are necessary. For information on how to register with Starseed, contact their Client Care Team at 1-844-756-7333. While Starseed is our preferred supplier, there is no obligation to use this company in order to receive medical cannabis coverage. However, if you use a different supplier, pre-authorization by a medical professional will still be required, and you will need to submit your claim manually for reimbursement. ■



## MembersHealth

For the past few months, we have been involved in a pilot program offering a new healthcare service called MembersHealth. Many of you registered for the service and took advantage of all it has to offer. As such, we are pleased to inform our members that we will be adding MembersHealth as a permanent service included in your comprehensive benefits plan through the Local 1059 Benefit Trust!

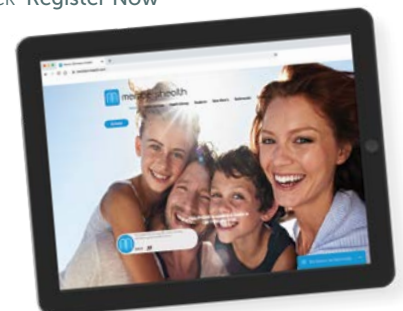
In late fall 2019, you received a package via email or regular mail outlining the registration process and benefits of MembersHealth. The service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Once you register, you can connect with a doctor via a video call in minutes using your phone, tablet, or PC. The doctor can provide various medical services including diagnosis of ailments, writing and renewing prescriptions, referrals to specialists, and ordering lab tests like urinalysis and bloodwork. This service is particularly helpful if you don't have a family doctor, but even if you do, it can still help you avoid the wasted time and frustration of walk-in clinics to receive care when your doctor's office is closed.

Some examples of common ailments a MembersHealth doctor can help you with include:

- Infections
- Sprains
- Skin irritations/allergic reactions
- Birth control, STIs and UTIs
- Anxiety/depression
- Coughs/colds/flu/fevers
- Lots more! ■

To register for  membershealth

1. Visit [www.members-health.com](http://www.members-health.com)
2. Click 'Register'
3. Fill in the registration form. Under 'Name of Plan', enter 1059
4. Click 'Register Now'



## NEW Optical Centre

We have a newly renovated and expanded Optical Centre at our new facility on Wilton Grove Road! Local 1059 offers a complete optical benefit plan to our members and their dependants, including eye exams with our on-site optometrist, frames, lenses, contacts, prescription sunglasses and safety glasses. Our plan even covers tints, anti-scratch coating, and transition lenses! When you take advantage of the Local 1059 Optical Centre, you don't have to pay for your glasses and eye exam and then wait to be reimbursed. We cover the cost upfront, so there are no out-of-pocket transactions required. ■



### The Optical Centre hours are:

Wednesday: 2PM - 8PM

Thursday: 9AM - 8PM

Friday: 9AM - 6PM

Saturday: 9AM - 4PM

Call 519-963-2969 to book an appointment.

MEMBER UPDATES

## Lots of Fun with the #1059Family

### FAMILY SKATE NIGHT AT STORYBOOK GARDENS

On January 30th, nearly 200 of our members and your families embraced the cold to come out to our Family Skate Night at Storybook Gardens. Thank you to everyone who joined us, and to Business Representative Nathan Moniz for snapping your photos out on the ice! ■



Keep an eye on your inbox and our social media channels for information on upcoming family events. Also, be sure to white-list [admin@liuna1059.ca](mailto:admin@liuna1059.ca) to make sure invitations we send out don't end up in your spam folder.

### FAMILY FUN DAY AT THE FACTORY

Our Family Fun Day at The Factory on February 22nd was a massive success, with a turnout of over 850 people! We received incredibly positive feedback from the membership about this event, and we hope you and your families had a great time. ■



## Ontario Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development Announces nearly \$1M in Funding for Pre-Apprenticeships

In late January, we were pleased to host the Hon. Monte McNaughton (Ontario Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development) at our Training Centre. The Minister was joined by his colleague the Hon. Jill Dunlop (Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues) to announce over \$900,000 in pre-apprenticeship funding to help address the skilled trades shortage in our region. They also tried their hand at some cement finishing and tapping a water main. We extend a big thank you to both Ministers for taking the time to check out our state-of-the-art training centre, and for your continued support of the skilled trades in Ontario! ■



## UPDATE: Your Record of Training (ROT) Card

All construction sector members now have both a QR code and a new Access Code. When you/your employers visit our main website ([www.liunatocal1059.com](http://www.liunatocal1059.com)), you will find a tab along the top that says 'ROT Card'. From there, you can enter the code shown on the card or scan it using your smartphone to see your credentials. The short URL code on the card is being replaced by this new Access Code. However, the short URL will still work for those who have the older card. **No change or action is required by members.**

The online ROT access shows you which certificates are coming due. If the card is highlighted yellow, you need to call the Training Centre (519-455-5299) as soon as possible to sign up for that course. A red highlight indicates that your ticket is no longer valid. Be sure to stay on top of your training requirements; it helps you stay employable and ready for work in a variety of sectors. ■



## Visit from Federal Minister of Labour Filomena Tassi & MP Fragiskatos

In February, the Hon. Filomena Tassi (federal Minister of Labour) along with Peter Fragiskatos (Member of Parliament for London North Centre) visited us for a tour of our Training Centre. Instructor Corey Chambers showed the Minister and MP how to tap a water main, and they got to see our trade school classes in action to get a full sense of the scope of our training facility. In a sit-down meeting after their tour, we discussed our industry-leading wellness support for our members, and how UTIP (Union Training and Innovation Program) funding has helped us establish a cutting-edge training facility. We thank the Minister and MP for taking time out of their schedule to meet with us! ■



## James MacKinnon Local 1059 Scholarship Fund Application Process **NOW OPEN**

In September of 2019, we held a tribute dinner in honour of our long-time former Business Manager, Jim MacKinnon. The dinner served as a fundraiser to establish the James MacKinnon Local 1059 Scholarship Fund, and we shattered our original goal by raising an incredible \$400,000 to launch the scholarship.

We are very pleased to announce that the application process is now open for this exciting scholarship fund! If you have a child or grandchild who is attending a post-secondary institution this coming fall, he or she is eligible to apply (please note that the student does not have to be entering their first year; this scholarship is open to students at any stage of their post-secondary studies).

Further information was sent out to members by email/letter mail and was posted on our website in late April. If you have any questions or need a copy of the application, visit our website to [download the PDF](#), or call the office at 519-455-8083.

**Please note that the application process closes at 11:59PM on June 26th, 2020. Late applications will not be considered. ■**

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be a LiUNA Local 1059 member in good standing or the son, daughter or grandchild of a LiUNA Local 1059 member in good standing\*
- Must have received the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or its equivalent
- Must be planning to attend a recognized Canadian post-secondary institution or an equivalent in the same calendar year in which you apply. This includes candidates graduating from an Ontario high school this year as well as those already attending a post-secondary institution
- Must be registered as a full-time attendee in their program
- Must submit a completed application package by 11:59PM on June 26, 2020

*\*A member in good standing is one who meets all thresholds required of a LiUNA member as stipulated by the Uniform Local and District Council Constitutions of the Labourers' International Union of North America, as may be amended.*



### AVAILABLE AWARDS



#### UNIVERSITY

Number available - 5

**\$3,000** each



#### COLLEGE

Number available - 4

**\$2,000** each



#### GENERAL

(EITHER COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY)

Number available - 8

**\$500** each

## The Jim MacKinnon Community Builder Award

Back in September, United Way Elgin Middlesex President and CEO Kelly Ziegner announced that United Way's previously-titled Community Builder Award would be renamed the Jim MacKinnon Community Builder Award to acknowledge Jim's many years of philanthropy and contributions to United Way and the London community at large. Jim was then tasked with choosing the next honouree.

On January 23rd, your Assistant Business Manager Carlo Mastrogiuseppe and Business Representatives joined our friends at United Way for their annual Labour Appreciation Awards ceremony. Local 1059 legal counsel Lauren Donohue is a Director on United Way's Board of Directors, and was on hand to present the awards. Longtime industry partner and friend of Local 1059 John Payne

(International Representative for IUOE Local 793) was honoured with the newly-minted Jim MacKinnon Community Builder Award. On behalf of the entire Local 1059 family, we thank John for his decades of contributions to the London community! This award is well-deserved. ■



## Local 1059 Members Build the YOU Youth Shelter

Local 1059 is an enthusiastic supporter of various charities and non-profit organizations in the London area, but we're also incredibly proud to contribute to our community through construction projects that improve the lives of vulnerable Londoners. Currently, several Local 1059 members are hard at work on the Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) Housing First Youth Shelter in East London. This shelter will contain 30 bedrooms for youth in urgent need of safe shelter, as well as an on-site support staff to help them find long-term, stable housing and access social services, education, health care, and employment opportunities to break the cycle of homelessness. ■



*Keith Crone and Glenn Crouch of Aveiro Contractors Ltd., and Zach Lenssen, a mason tender operator for Render Construction Inc. We extend huge congratulations to our members and signatory contractors for their work on this outstanding project!*



## Local 1059 at the London Home Builders' Lifestyle Home Show

We took part in a skilled trades feature space at the London Home Builders' Association Lifestyle Home Show from January 31 – February 2, along with our friends at Fanshawe College and the London and District Construction Association. We set up several exhibits as part of the feature, including a water main demonstration, road safety signs, a mini excavator, and scaffolding complete with Manny, our fall arrest mannequin! Our organizers staffed the exhibit and spent time speaking with members of the London community about who we are and what we do. It was great exposure for the skilled trades and our union. ■



## Build a Dream: London & Port Elgin

In November, we sponsored and participated in two career expos for Build a Dream. This incredible organization helps girls broaden their career choices to include fields where women have been historically under-represented, including the skilled trades, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), emergency response, and entrepreneurship. The response from the communities in both London and Port Elgin was overwhelming, and we were so pleased to speak with hundreds of girls and their parents about all the benefits the skilled trades have to offer. For more information, visit [www.webuildadream.com](http://www.webuildadream.com). ■



## MEMBER PERKS

We're always looking for ways to improve the lives of our members and your families by offering added perks for being a member of Local 1059. Recently, we've partnered with a number of local businesses to secure various discounts for you. Check out the deals below, and be sure to keep an eye on our social media channels and future newsletters – we'll continue to update you as we add more perks to the list! ■

	<p><b>GoodLife Fitness</b></p> <p>We recently partnered with GoodLife Fitness Clubs to offer you a <b>Corporate Membership rate</b> for you and up to four family members. You will have received this information by email and letter mail, but in case you missed it, visit <a href="http://corporate.goodlifefitness.com">corporate.goodlifefitness.com</a> to register.</p>
	<p><b>Adrenaline MMA</b></p> <p>We are also pleased to be able to offer Local 1059 members a <b>20% discount</b> at Adrenaline MMA Training &amp; Fitness. Just show your union card to receive the discounted rate on monthly memberships. Check them out at <a href="http://adrenalinemma.ca">adrenalinemma.ca</a></p>
	<p><b>The London Lightning</b></p> <p><b>\$14 tickets available</b> to all LiUNA Local 1059 members using the promo code LIGHTNINGLOCAL. This price is valid for any regular season game. Visit <a href="http://lightningbasketball.ca">lightningbasketball.ca</a></p>
	<p><b>Collins Formal Wear</b></p> <p>Local 1059 members get <b>15% off menswear purchases</b>. Just show your union card!</p>
	<p><b>Mark's</b></p> <p>We have savings cards available here at the Local office that entitle our members to a <b>15% discount</b> at any Mark's location. Ask for a card the next time you visit us!</p>
	<p><b>Work Authority Port Elgin</b></p> <p>15% off regularly priced merchandise. Just show your union card to receive the discount.</p>
	<p><b>Flying Squirrel London</b></p> <p>BOGO FREE: Buy 1 hour of jump time and get another hour free. Show your union card to receive the deal.</p>
	<p><b>Columbia Sportswear</b></p> <p>We recently partnered with the Columbia Sportswear Employee Store to give Local 1059 members access during certain time periods throughout the year. Please note this is <b>not a standing discount</b>. Rather, the Columbia store will alert us to a 2-week time frame where Local 1059 members are allowed to use the store to take advantage of the significant discounts it offers. We will send out an email blast with a specific invitation when we receive notice about an upcoming access period. As such, please keep an eye on your email (and be sure to update your email address with us).</p>

## In Memoriam

In memory of our Local 1059 brothers and sisters.

- **Robert Hurst**, Oct 13/19  
Member from 1975-2008
- **Francisco Goulart**, Oct 23/19  
Member from 1984-1996
- **Mario Cardoso**, Oct 19/19  
Member from 1976-1999
- **Manuel Amaral**, Dec 10/19  
Member from 1978-2019
- **Robert McFaul**, Dec 20/19  
Member from 2015-2019
- **Donald Lightfoot**, Dec 31/19  
Member from 1965-2005
- **Martin Ball**, April 19, 2020  
Member from 2018-2020

### NORTHERN CORNER

## SON Votes No on DGR Facility in Bruce County

We are disappointed to relay the news that members of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) have voted down the proposed plan for a permanent nuclear waste DGR (Deep Geological Repository). While we respect this decision, it is unfortunate news for our Local, since the facility would have provided years of employment for a significant

number of our members. With regard to a high level waste repository, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) has narrowed their search to two host communities, including South Bruce. Site selection will be determined by 2023, with selection of South Bruce resulting in job opportunities for members of Local 1059. ■

## DO WE HAVE YOUR UP-TO-DATE EMAIL ADDRESS?



Be sure to email [admin@liuna1059.ca](mailto:admin@liuna1059.ca) to update your contact information any time it changes

SPRING 2020

# SUPPORTING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

## DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Having email addresses allows us to quickly and inexpensively relay important information to members and for construction members to respond to employers needing construction workers immediately. Contact us today to add your email address to our database.

[liunalocal1059.com](http://liunalocal1059.com)

# LiUNA LOCAL 1059 NEWS

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**LiUNA**  
LOCAL **1059**

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