

May 2010

THE SNAG SHEET

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CANADIAN
AIRWAYS LODGE 764



International Association
of Machinists and
Aerospace Workers
Representing Air Transport
Workers in
British Columbia and the
Yukon



President's Message

Brother Kevin Cox has stepped down as Chairman of the YVR Airport Shop Committee effective May 1st, 2010 for personal reasons. Kevin has done a tremendous amount of work on behalf of LL764 and our members over the last several years. He will be returning to his Lead Station Attendant position and on behalf of the Executive and members of LL764 I would like to thank him for all of his efforts and wish Kevin well in his "new" job.

Brother Craig Chard, YVR Airport Shop Committee member has assumed the Chair of the ASC for the duration of the current term which ends at the end of 2010. Brother Steve Prinz has kindly accepted an appointment to the ASC member position to assist Craig until the end of the year.

The current Collective Agreements with MTU, United Airlines and Air Canada will all expire in 2011. To begin the preparations for these 3 separate sets of negotiations, LL764 will be accepting nominations for negotiations committee members for all 3 employers at our June 2010 monthly general meeting. Elections will be held in September 2010.

Training for all negotiations committee members will be scheduled for later this fall and we want to have all of our representatives elected and in place to participate in this training and the pre-negotiations meetings. Anyone who is interested in being on their respective negotiations committee will need to attend the June 9th monthly General meet-

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ing to accept nomination. If you are unable to attend the meeting then you must submit a letter of acceptance of nomination to the recording Secretary prior to the June 9th meeting.

The 2011 round of negotiations will be pivotal for all 3 Collective Agreements. There are unique challenges for each of our employee groups and we will need the full engagement and support of our members if we hope to be successful at the bargaining table.

Christopher Hiscock
President,
Canadian Airways Lodge 764

E.A.P.

I would like to thank Local Lodge 764 for the use of the retirees boardroom April 20 & 21 to facilitate the District Lodges IAMAW Employee Assistance Program Regional Meeting here in Richmond BC.

The meeting was attended by Ron Rawding YYZ, Gilles Fillion YUL, Barry Lazaruk YWG, Leon Du Bois YYC, Jeff McAulay YHZ, Denis Yelle YUL and Brian Bethell YVR to organize a Shop Steward Training Presentation across the system in recognizing that EAP program is here to help when a member and families are resolving personal difficulties in their lives.

Brian Bethell
Western Region EAP Coordinator

*Photo on front-page:
Brian Bethell YVR,
Leon Du Bois YYC
Denis Yelle YUL*

Annual GM YVRAA



The Vancouver Airport Operating Authority (YVRAA) held its first annual general meeting (AGM) in 1992. I attended that first AGM as an IAM Local Lodge representative. Graham Clarke was the newly-appointed Chair, and the meeting heard, for the first time, the YVRAA visions to make the airport both community-focused and an economic generator for the Province of British Columbia, from newly-appointed CEO David Emerson.

Eighteen annual general meetings later, in 2010, Graham Clarke called the meeting to order promptly at 1530 hours for his last time, and announced that he was stepping down from the YVRAA Chair position. Graham then walked the audience through a crisp, short, PowerPoint presentation of the operational and financial summaries of the 2009 year, aided by the YVRAA VP's of Operations and Finance. CEO Larry Berg wrapped up the presentation by thanking the broad airport community for its substantial support and professionalism for this year's Olympic effort.

Much has happened over eighteen years. YVRAA has

grown in size and reputation. The airport continues to win recognition for its efficiencies, its user-friendliness, its architecture and design, and its customer service. For the first time, CEO Larry Berg has stated that “the YVRAA brand” has become an effective selling tool for the services of its subsidiary, Vancouver Airport Services (YVRAS). YVRAS now provides airport management expertise to eighteen airports around the world, and is bidding on its nineteenth contract, to manage an airport in the Bahamas.

Clearly, for the AGM, YVRAA has learned that “shorter is better” for presentations, so reports from six YVRAA VPs’ previously has been reduced to three now, and the opportunity for public input at the meeting comes sooner.

This year, your delegate attended the May 13, 2010 meeting with Brothers Bethell and Steadman present, (and Brother Penman alternate), to introduce these brothers to the processes necessary to participate in the AGM.

Opening remarks from the podium paid tribute to several retiring officers of YVRAA – Chairman Graham Clarke, the VP of Engineering Bob Cowan, and Director – at – large Bruna Giacomazzi.

General public remarks focused on YVRAA efforts to secure more direct flights to Asian, African, South American, and Australian points. Citizens also spoke on the concerns about the fuel pipeline being considered through Richmond from a barge depot on the Fraser River, foreign language service and signage at the airport, and the limited access allowed for baggage carts at security points.

My questions this year were based on the new 96 page 2009 Sustainability Report, now published electronically on the YVRAA Website (hardcopy available only upon request). CEO Larry Berg’s responses to my questions are in ***bold italics (bracketed)***.

New draft accounting rules in 2010 will mean implications for not-for-profit organizations like YVRAA, and a question was asked about the impact of these rule changes on the Airport (***not evaluated yet***), the pension plan rules and costs for YVRAA personnel pre-and -post 1992 (***pre-1992 defined benefit plan adequately funded and post 1992 defined contribution plan in good order***), a request for specifics on the \$725,00 of doubtful accounts receivable and \$208,000 in accounts written off in 2009 (***not prepared to provide names, but this is considered a “cost of doing business”***), a write-down of 865 YVRAS preferred shares in June 2009 by \$5,780 per share (***to provide a dividend to YVRAA***), the granting of a \$450,000 rent deferral to an operator in July 2009 (***economic circumstance -- to be re-paid over four years***), and whether the groundwater well under the ITB, originally drilled in 1996, is still being used, given the glycol leak discovered last year in the holding tank under the de-icing pads (***yes, for ITB cooling only***).

It was also noted that much of the construction at the Airport is now complete, and that the Authority had to borrow \$92.3 million from its bank credit line, to pay for this last phase of construction (ITB and Gate C expansion and renovations, and Canada Line extension).

I was very pleased to hear the announcement that Board Director-at-Large Mary B. Jordan will assume the YVRAA Chair following this meeting.

Mary brings wide experience of air transport issues to the podium, having served in senior executive capacities with American Airlines, Canadian Airlines, and Air Canada.

In addition to her new YVRAA duties, Mary is also a Director of Coast Capital Credit Union.

I took the opportunity to thank Graham Clarke for his considerable years of service to the Airport Authority, and invited him to make www.iam764.ca one of the websites that he visits regularly to remain informed of



air transport issues in Canada.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Delegates.

David Varnes, ST LL764 and Chair, History Committee
YVRAA AGM Intervener

1992 – 2010

Pension Report

On Monday, May 3rd, 2010 The Federal Department of Finance held its final Pension Reform Townhall meeting in Richmond. The CLC coordinated the attendance and responses of many Labour organizations for this event. LL764 was fairly well represented with 6 of our members in attendance.

The meeting was chaired by Ted Menzies, Conservative MP from Alberta and Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty. The Panel also included, Conservative Diane Ablonczy, Minister of State for Seniors, Alice Wong, Conservative MP for Rich-

mond and Graham Whitmarsh, B.C. Deputy Minister of Finance.

Mr. Menzies briefly outlined the 3 pillars of the Canadian pension system and then opened the floor for submissions and responses from the people in attendance. He admonished that he was aware of a large number of labour representatives present but wanted to hear from “real and ordinary people” He has already heard what Union leaders have to say. Speakers were limited to 3 minutes each. There were about 160 people in attendance and close to 40 people spoke to the Committee about their personal stories and the need for pension reform in Canada. All but 3 speakers were affiliated with labour organizations and almost all of them told personal stories of some of the members they represent, friends or family. Most were very heartfelt and moving.

This consultation process has been going on since February 2009 and will culminate in a report to the federal and provincial Ministers of Finance at their meeting in June 2010. The committee claims that no decisions have yet been made and the final report and recommendations will not be written until just prior to that meeting. I take that with a grain of salt. But the important piece of information here is the timeline. You have one last chance to make a submission to the Committee or to contact your MP or MLA and let them know how important real pension reform is for you and your family.

The Ministers of Finance will make the decisions on which reform measures they will propose and support at that June meeting. It will then go to the bureaucrats to be turned into policy and legislation. It was not spe-

cifically stated, but the inference was that it would be introduced into Parliament in the fall. Remember that anytime is election time in a minority government and all 3 parties want to be seen as advocates for seniors when they go looking for their votes.

There were some very eloquent speakers at the meeting who gave very moving testimony about the plight of friends and family members who are trying to subsist on CPP and OAS and meager RRSP benefits. If you have not already done so, please ensure they hear your story on behalf of any of your friends or family who may be struggling to live on a small pension income. Your submissions can be sent to ris-consultations-srr@fin.gc.ca. Please take this last chance to have your voice heard on this very important issue. Do it for your children and your grand children to give them an opportunity to retire with dignity and not in poverty. They probably won't have a good defined benefit pension plan like you have unless we can get the government to make some much needed changes. Email is the most effective way to reach me. I may be contacted at pres764@telus.net with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Hiscock
Chairman, LL764 Pension Committee

Tech-Ops Report

May 12, 2010

Layoff and Bump Meetings: District 140 General Chairpersons and Shop Committee Representatives from Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Montreal, Toronto and Halifax are scheduled to meet on May 6th, 2010 in Montreal to begin Round 1 of the June 1st layoff.

UMCM: The next UMCM meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 10th – 14th, 2010 in Montreal.

Article 16.18.01 Seniority Appeals: Anyone who has submitted an appeal should be receiving a written response from the Company, it is our understanding that the letters are delayed due to Labour Relations' workload.

Category 13 work issues: Air Canada has announced its intentions of reducing the quantity of Category 13 personnel in Line Maintenance through attrition with the expectation that Category 1, 19 or 38 personnel would perform that work. This issue was heard by Chief Arbitrator Martin Teplitsky on March 30th, 2010, with the parties scheduled to meeting again on this issue within forty – five (45) days. In the interim, the Union's request to cease and desist was granted, and members are reminded to advise the Shop Committee of any further efforts by the employer on this issue.

Tech Ops Retirements: The Shop Committee would like to congratulate the following Members; Austin Cooper – Category 19 and Rick Donnelly – Licensed Technical Instructor who retired on May 1st, 2010. The Shop Committee would like to wish them a long,

happy and healthy retirement. The Shop Committee also requests the assistance of all Shop Stewards in notifying the Shop Committee of any Member considering retirement.

Joe Toth, L/L 764, Tech Ops Chair
 Glenn Cooper, L/L 764, Tech Ops Member
 Glenn Girard, L/L 764, Tech Ops Member

Airports/Cargo Report

MAY 12, 2010

RAMP:

The Ramp shifts have been bid and were implemented May 08, 2010. The Shop Committee would like to thank the Shift Committee for their work on the Summer 2010 shifts.

The Shop Committee has presented a grievance in regards to Swissport handling our checked baggage in various locations in the Airport. At the time of this report being written, we still had not received the Company's response.

The Company has hired 25 Part Time Station attendants for the Summer shift. The Shop Committee, along with the Tech Ops Shop Committee, have voiced our concerns that the Company may have bypassed members on the Alternate Employment list for these jobs. The Company is currently investigating these claims.

CABINS:

The Cabin shifts have been bid and implemented. The Shop Committee would like to thank the Shift Committee for their work on the Summer 2010 shifts.

CARGO:

The Cargo shifts have been bid and will be implemented on May 23, 2010. The Shop Committee would like to thank the Shift Committee for their work on the Summer 2010 shifts.

The Shop Committee has confirmed that Cargo has submitted a staffing request for Station Attendants, due to the increase in mail volume, and if approved, Management will meet with the Shop Committee and the Shift Committee to discuss shifts.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention Brother Kevin Cox. I would personally like to express my thanks for his support and the time we have worked together. Kevin is very dedicated to the Membership of Local 764 and has always had their best interest at heart. I hope that he continues to serve the Membership of this Local. He is an asset to this Membership and we need to always welcome his assistance or guidance.

Craig Chard
 Shop Committee Chair
 Airport /Cargo.

MTU-C

Policy Complaints:

- Process Planer/DC duties (step one)
- Reassignment of machinist duties (step one)

Personal/Group Grievances

- Removal as a Lead (resolved)
- Denial of call in pay (step 2)
- Article 2.04 –Welding (resolved)

Please join me in welcoming Frederick Niles, Craig McCallum, Michael Hardy, Ronnie Ramzan, Yawer Abbas, Brandon Clarke, Manveer Dhesi, Denese Gentry, Tanya Oickle, David Kasper, Hassan Fawad, Colin Oswald, Minesh Ramji, Filadelfo VianaThomas Walters,Aqeel Uddin Siddiquiand Glenn Chopiak.

Peter Klisch Director of Human Resources MTU Global visited our facility on May 12, 2010. He was impressed with what he saw and complimented the work force.

Due to the full capacity at MTU Canada and the urgent situation regarding spare engines it was decided to send three of the USAF engines to MTU Hanover along with all the spare modules. This will hopefully bring the USAF spare level up to contractual requirements and allow us to start concentrating on double weekly inductions.

The Company continues to interview for positions in the GTE Mechanic, Machinist and Document Controller positions. Those who are interested are encouraged to send a resume to:

MTU Maintenance Canada

6020 Russ Baker Way

Richmond, B.C.

V7B 1B4

Attn. Neil Carter

OR

Email – cssmtu@telus.net Attn. Neil Carter

In Solidarity,

Neil Carter

Senior Steward

Partners For Life



Local Lodge 764 is pleased to announce that we have partnered with Canadian Blood

Services as a member of their *Partners for Life* program

The Local Lodge 764 *Partner for Life* identification number is: INTE010909

The organization is:

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local Lodge 764

You can register in person when you go to donate or you can pre-register online at www.blood.ca/partnersforlife.

When you open the *Partners for Life* website scroll down to the *Forms* box on the left hand side and select “*Become a Partner for Life Member*”.

Next General Meeting

Jun 09, 2009

5 PM

**7980 River Road
Richmond, B.C.**



**WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.IAM764.CA**

**IN MEMORIAM
BROTHER
GHAFOOR**

Local 764 Executive Board

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Craig Chard - Airports/Cargo Shop Chair

Neil Carter – Senior Steward MTU

Janet Andrews – Senior Steward UAL

Ron McKelvie – Clerical Chief Shop Steward

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