

The IAM Connection

A publication for members of IAM Local 2797

Summer 2025 Edition



Local Meetings

Local 2797 meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Currently, meetings are held at the NSGEU Office, 255 John Savage Ave., Dartmouth. You can also attend meetings virtually. Be sure to receive the meeting notice and link to join by emailing Sarah Covey, Communicator at: scovey@iamaw2797.ca.

Members at Large

Your Local Executive Board is please to welcome two Members at Large to the Executive Board who were voted in at the May Local meeting.

Stephanie Swikehardt is representing workers at Swissport and **Kristian LeBlanc** is representing workers at Menzies.

Congratulations!



We're Growing



Welcome to our new members! The staff of Kal Tire in Burnside are the newest members of Local 2797.

Be sure to say hi to them if you're at the shop for tires and when you see them at our local meeting.

Get Involved

If you are interested in being active in your Local there are many opportunities to get involved. We are happy to have members take an active role —we are stronger together! You can be more involved by attending your local meetings, being a representative on a committee, or by volunteering your time and/or special abilities to the local when needed. For more information please contact a member of your Executive Board.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Coat Donations

Local 2797 **Community Services Committee** will be collecting gently used, clean coats for men, women and children. All coats collected are donated by the committee to local charity organizations on behalf of our Local. Please bring your coats to a local meeting or contact a member of the committee to make other arrangements for drop off.

Chair, Deedee Slye—dslye@nsgeu.ca



Feed Nova Scotia Donations

Local 2797 **Women's Committee** will be collecting non-perishable items for Feed Nova Scotia at our local meetings. Please bring items to the local meetings for our donation box. This is an ongoing initiative of the Committee that is made possible with your support.

Chair, Stephanie Swikehardt—stephanieswikehardt@gmail.com

NSFL Campaigns

Local 2797 **Political Action Committee** is supporting several Nova Scotia Federation of Labour (NSFL) campaigns:

- El Must Be Fixed Now!
- Stop Violence in the Workplace
- Anti-Scab Legislation Now!
- Stop! Misuse of Non-Disclosure Agreements

For more information on these campaigns, please visit:

<https://nslabour.ca/take-action/>



Member Profile

Kristian LeBlanc

Aircraft Fueler at Menzies Aviation

Involvement in local:

- Chief Shop Steward
- Executive Board Member at Large

Where are you from: Moncton, NB

Hobbies: Hockey, video games and going to the movies

Fun fact: I've watched "The Office" at least 5 times over (it's my favourite show of all time).



IAM Member Benefits

Members of IAM are eligible for discounts from numerous businesses within Canada and the US. There is a wide range of services offered for home, automotive and/or health and wellness. To view the full list of organizations offering benefits, please visit: <https://www.unionplus.org/>



Cheers To You

Is there a member of our local that you know has a reason to celebrate? We would love to celebrate with our members; if you know of someone celebrating a milestone or accomplishment (marriage, birth, becoming a grandparent, job/career change, graduation, awards or recognition) let us know! We'll ensure they get the praise they deserve! You can send your submissions to any member of the executive.

Follow us on Social Media

Website: <https://iamaw2797.ca/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1896265710412058>



Maritime Council of Machinist



The Maritime Council of Machinist includes IAM members from New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and most recently, Newfoundland & Labrador.

With our new members comes a new name that is inclusive of all provinces, the **IAM Atlantic Council**. Now the Council requires a new logo!

Contest Alert! IAM members are invited to design a new logo for the Council! The winner will receive a \$50 Visa gift card! You can send your logo submissions to Zita Hildebrandt, Council Secretary at zhildebrandt@nsgeu.ca. The deadline to submit is Monday, September 1 by 5:00pm.

The 2025 IAM Atlantic Council Conference will be held September 12-13, 2025 in Moncton, NB. This year's theme is **Organizing**. We are hoping to see delegates from each of the provinces in attendance. There is a great line up of guest speakers including George Leaman, VP of Small Unions for the NB Federation of Labour and Mary McHugh, Director of the Winpinsinger Centre.

Knowledge is Power!



YOUR PENSION IS YOUR SAFETY NET FOR THE FUTURE

Your pension is more than just saving; it is about securing your hard-earned benefits for the long haul.

As a union, we fight for fair pensions to help workers live with dignity and security in retirement.

Planning for retirement? The IAM offers two types of pensions to secure your future:

1) The IAM Multi-Employer Pension Plan (MEPP):

A low-cost, defined benefit pension, run by labour and management trustees. The MEPP provides coverage for workers under federal legislation, ensuring secure retirement benefits for participants across various industries.

2) The IAM Labour-Management Pension Fund (Canada):

Dedicated to enhancing and delivering pension benefits with services like pension estimates, payments, and more. This fund operates under provincial legislation in Ontario, ensuring comprehensive retirement support for participants in the region."

LEARN MORE ABOUT PENSION BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE ON
WWW.IAMAW.CA



Halifax Pride Festival

The Halifax Pride Festival is July 17-27, 2025. Please come out to the Pride celebrations and plan to walk with fellow IAM Members in the Pride Parade.

A full list of events can be found here: <https://www.halifaxpride.com/>



Virtual Training for Summer 2025:



JULY 2025

Microsoft Excel I (Basic). *This is a two-hour training.*

Wednesday, July 9, 10 a.m. to 12 a.m. ET / Thursday, July 10, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. ET /

Saturday, July 12, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. ET

Online Common Sense Economics. *Teaches how our economy works and how actions and policies impact our economy.*

Wednesday, July 16, 10 a.m. to 12 a.m. ET / Thursday, July 17, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. ET

Saturday, July 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. ET

SEPTEMBER 2025

Microsoft Word II (Intermediate).

Wednesday, September 3, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ET / Thursday, September 4, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. ET

Saturday, September 6, 11 a.m. to noon ET

Please visit <https://w3iam.org/programs/virtual-training/> to register.

Cook It Up

Black Bean Veggie Burgers

Ingredients

- cooking spray
- 1 (16 ounce) can black beans, drained and rinsed
- ½ green bell pepper, cut into 2 inch pieces
- ½ onion, cut into wedges
- 3 cloves garlic, peeled
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1 tablespoon cumin
- 1 teaspoon Thai chili sauce or hot sauce
- ½ cup bread crumbs

Directions

1. Preheat an outdoor grill for high heat. Lightly oil a sheet of aluminum foil with cooking spray.
2. Mash black beans in a medium bowl with a fork until thick and pasty.
3. Finely chop bell pepper, onion, and garlic in a food processor. Stir chopped vegetables into mashed beans.
4. Stir together egg, chili powder, cumin, and chili sauce in a small bowl. Add to the mashed beans and stir to combine. Mix in bread crumbs until the mixture is sticky and holds together.
5. Divide the mixture into four patties and place on the prepared foil.
6. Grill on the preheated grill for about 8 minutes on each side.
7. Serve hot and enjoy!



The intent of this newsletter is to keep the members of IAM Local 2797 informed on current events within your Local. Submissions can be made by emailing: cindyblack2009@gmail.com or any member of your Executive.