

The IAM Connection

A publication for members of IAM Local 2797

Fall 2026 Edition



Pride 2026

Celebrating our diversity is one of the many ways that Local 2797 supports our members. Each year we strive to get more member attendance at Pride celebrations across the province to show our support and raise the profile of the IAM Union.

This year, Local 2797 members Cynthia, Stephanie and Melissa took part in the Truro Pride Parade alongside members of the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour and other affiliated unions from Nova Scotia.

It was a great event and along the parade route we spotted our District Rep, Chris Lipsit and his family taking part in the celebrations.



Labour Day 2026



Labour Day was celebrated on Monday, September 7th. It is a statutory holiday that is dedicated to honouring workers and the labour movement.

In Halifax, the Halifax-Dartmouth District Labour Council organized a rally at the Nova Scotia Labour Board followed by a march to Peace & Friendship Park for family-friendly activities.

Members of IAM were in attendance, proudly sporting their IAM gear.

Follow us on Social Media

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

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

Air Canada Reaches Tentative Agreement



Members of the IAM have reached a tentative agreement with Air Canada. The agreement covers approximately 11,000 workers in technical operations, airports & cargo, logistics and supply.

Union members voted to accept the tentative agreement, which will be in place retroactively from April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2030 once ratified.

IAM staff worked tirelessly with Air Canada to come to an agreement that would be acceptable to both parties.

Welcome to Our New Members at Jazz Aviation



IAM Union is proud to announce another organizing success in the aviation sector. The Canada Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) has officially certified a new bargaining unit at Jazz Aviation.

The newly certified bargaining unit includes Aircraft on Ground (AOG) Coordinators and Maintenance Planners, bringing 19 new members into the IAM Union family.

This successful organizing campaign is proof to the power of solidarity and the commitment of workers who chose to stand together for a stronger voice in their workplace.

"I want to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to making this organizing drive a success. A special thank you goes to my mentee, Stephanie Swikehardt, for her dedication and leadership throughout this process, as well as the internal coordinators who worked alongside us to make this certification possible. Most importantly, thank you to the 19 new members at Jazz Aviation for putting their trust in IAM Union. We are proud to welcome you and look forward to standing with you every step of the way." said IAM General Chairperson Chris Lipsit.

Congratulations to our 19 newest members at Jazz Aviation. We are proud to welcome you to the IAM Union and look forward to working together to protect your rights, strengthen your workplace, and build a better future for all.

Member Profile

Cynthia Black

Communications Administrative Assistant, NSGEU

Involvement in local:

- Educator, Local 2797
- Chair, Local 2797 Human Rights Committee
- VP Unions Under 1000 Members, NSFL
- Chair, NSFL Organizing Committee
- Recording Secretary, IAM Atlantic Council

Where are you from: I grew up in Miramichi, NB which is known as the salmon fishing capital of the world and also hosts the world's largest Irish Festival annually.

Hobbies: Kayaking, hiking, chasing waterfalls and singing. I love an adventure and am always up to try something new.

Fun fact: Recently purchased a motorcycle and am loving the open road!



Keep Canada's Airports Public Stop the Privatization of Canada's Airports

The IAM has launch a campaign aimed at ensuring that Canada's airports do not become private businesses.

Privatization of airports can lead to:

- Higher cost for travelers and airlines
- Less connectivity for rural, northern and smaller communities
- Less public control over critical Canadian infrastructure
- Fewer good jobs and the loss of experienced airport workers
- More pressure to maximize profits instead of reinvesting in our airports and communities

Canadian airports should serve Canadians not shareholders.

Tell the government that airport privatization won't fly by scanning and signing the House of Commons petition E-7453.



Scan the QR code to sign the House of Commons petition.

Executive Committee Elections

Elections for the 2027-2030 term will take place in December 2026. Official notice of nominations will take place at the October meeting with nominations beginning at the November meeting and voting in December.

Please consider running for an Executive Board position or nominating a co-worker that you feel would be an asset to the Executive Board.

The Executive Board meets monthly, normally before the local meeting to discuss items that affect the local and to review and approve the agenda.

The positions on the Executive Board include:

Positions voted in by members of the local:

- ⇒ President
- ⇒ Vice President
- ⇒ Secretary/Treasurer
- ⇒ Recording Secretary
- ⇒ Conductor Sentinel
- ⇒ Trustees (3)
- ⇒ Auditors (3)
- ⇒ Member(s)-at-Large



Positions appointed by the Local President:

- ⇒ Communicator
- ⇒ Educator

50/50 Raffle in Support of Local Charities

The Women's and Human Rights Committee will be selling 50/50 tickets each month with draws taking place at our local meeting. Proceeds will be donated to local charities.

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.





School Supply Drive

The Human Rights and Women's Committees were able to donate \$70 from our 50/50 draw and school supply items to the Dr. T.L Sullivan's Caring Closet. The Caring Closet supports students and families in need in rural Cape Breton Communities. Pictured are the supplies that Tammy Young, IAM Local 2797 member delivered on behalf of the committees.



Chairs, Cynthia Black—cindyblack2009@gmail.com and Stephanie Swikehardt—stephanieswikhardt@gmail.com

Coat Donations



Local 2797 **Community Services Committee** is collecting gently used, clean coats. All coats collected are donated by the committee to local charity organizations. 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

Winter Wear Donations

The IAM Local 2797 **Human Rights Committee** is seeking donations of new or gently used hats, scarves and mitts that will be donated to a local shelter during the winter months. Please bring items to a local meeting or drop off to a member of the committee.

Chair, Cynthia Black—cindyblack2009@gmail.com



Interested in Joining a Local 2797 Committee?

We have a number of active committees in our local that are doing great things in our communities and for our local! Committees include: Women's Committee, Human Rights Committee, Community Services Committee, Political Action Committee, Organizing Committee and By-laws Committee.

For more information or to express your interest please contact our local President at janetmbaker@eastlink.ca.



2026 Programs

To view a full list of programs offered for 2026, please visit the W3 website at: <https://w3iam.org/2026-programs/>

Virtual Training

OCTOBER 2026

Just Cause.

[Wednesday, October 21, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ET](#) / [Thursday, October 22, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. ET](#) /
[Saturday, October 24, 11 a.m. to noon. ET](#)

Parliamentary Procedure for IAM Members and Leaders.

[Wednesday, October 28, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ET](#) / [Thursday, October 29, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. ET](#)
[Saturday, October 31, 11 a.m. to noon. ET](#)

NOVEMBER 2026

Microsoft Excel II (Intermediate). *Build a wage chart.*

[Wednesday, November 18, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ET](#) / [Thursday, November 19, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. ET](#)
[Saturday, November 21, 11 a.m. to noon. ET](#)

DECEMBER 2026

Organizing Your Workplace for Power.

[Wednesday, December 2, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. ET](#) / [Thursday, December 3, 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. ET](#)
[Saturday, December 5, 11 a.m. to noon. ET](#)

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

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 the Committee Chair or a member of your Executive Board.



Cook It Up

Traditional Nova Scotia Hodge Podge

This is a traditional recipe that is made in homes across Nova Scotia during the harvest season. It is rare to find this recipe or anyone that has heard of it that isn't originally from Nova Scotia. Enjoy!

Ingredients

- 4 medium new potatoes
- 10 baby carrots or 2 medium carrots, sliced
- 1 cup fresh green beans, trimmed and halved
- 1 cup fresh yellow beans, trimmed and halved
- 1 cup fresh shelled peas
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- Salt and freshly cracked pepper to taste



Directions

1. Place potatoes, carrots, and beans into a pot with the butter, cream and a small amount of water (enough to ensure the vegetables are covered). Bring to a light boil, then reduce heat to a simmer until potatoes are cooked.
2. Add the peas during the last few minutes of cooking so they stay bright and crisp; simmer until the peas are warm.
3. Add salt and pepper as needed and serve hot.

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.