

Annual Report #2

UA Local Union 488

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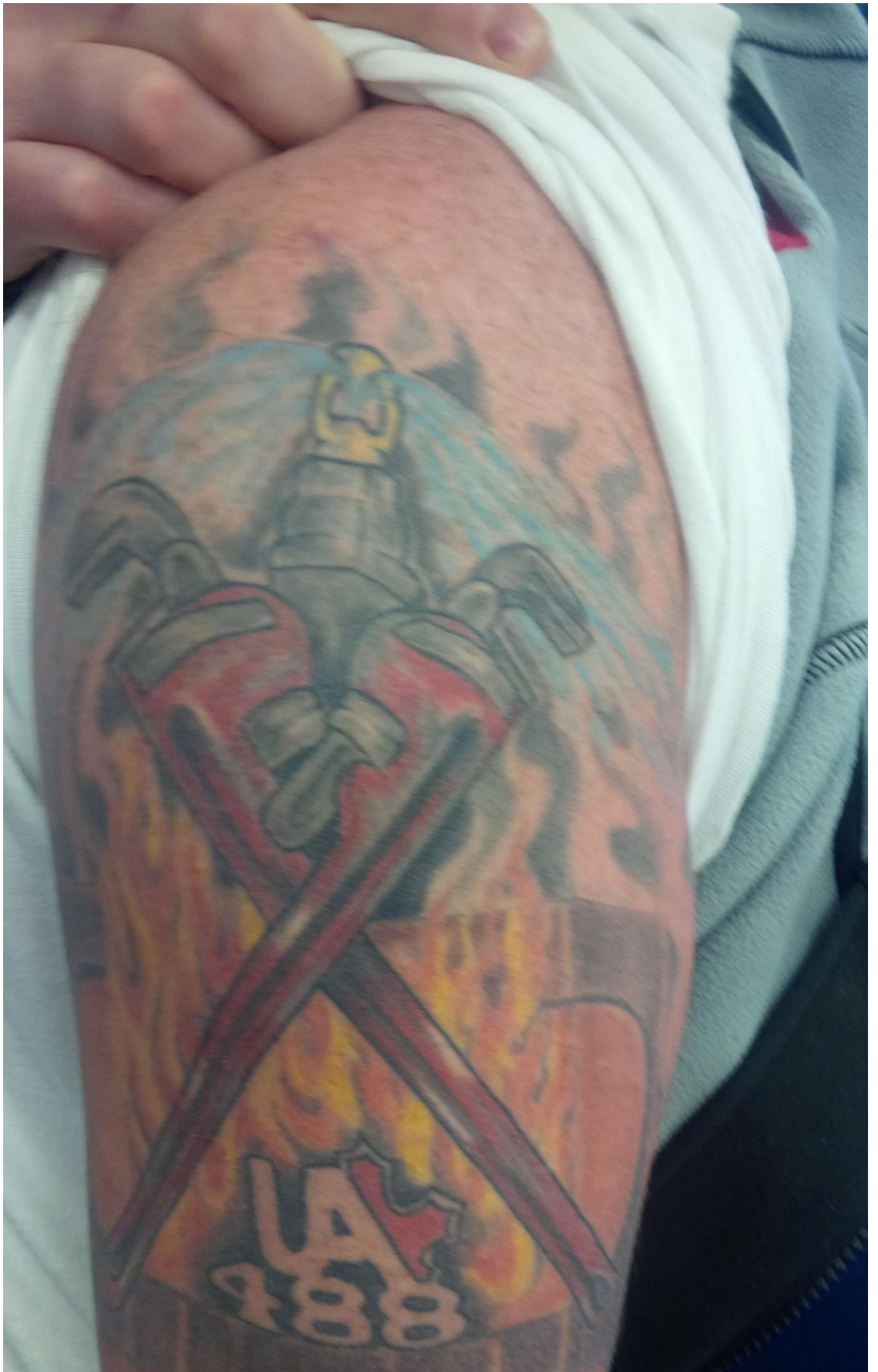
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To The Sprinkler Members

Job Overview:

I have now served two years as a Business Representative with UA Local Union 488 covering the Jurisdiction of Sprinkler System Installers.

Year One Achievements:

- Obtained a seat on the Sprinkler Provincial JATC and helped convince the CASA representatives on the importance of having a Sprinkler Member from the field attend these meetings, so as to bring a fresh and current opinion to the table.
- Signed *Bandit Fire* to a Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- Have made Numerous Non-union Sprinkler contacts (planting seeds)
- Brought *Karlen Elecom* back onboard for their sprinkler division.
- Brought to fruition the Sprinkler Manifold in the Sprinkler lab and spray booth piping.
- Brought to fruition the NAUSC Inspection course here at UA Local Union 488.
- Coordinated the fire pump course; (finally, the fire pump lab has been used)

Skills Competition Responsibilities:

- Designed and coordinated the Sprinkler portion of the UA National Skills.
- Ordering the materials for the projects.
- Finding the three volunteer Judges who are experts in the field of fire pumps, hydrants, rigging and pre-action valve installations.

Year Two Achievements:

- The signing of a major United States contractor *FE Moran* to Local 488 and the National Road Sprinkler Fitter Agreement. *FE Moran* are currently bidding on three Cogen projects in the Edmonton region.
- We have signed *Rotaflo* to the National Road Sprinkler Fitter Agreement
- Axe Fire Protection has chosen Local 488 to represent them under the National Road Sprinkler Fitter Collective Agreement
- I have been appointed to the Provincial Apprenticeship Committee. for the Sprinkler System Installer Trade
- Designed and held the first Alberta Skills Competition for the Sprinkler System Installer Trade apprentice competition.
- Appointed Tim Raho to the second Sprinkler teaching position for journeyman upgrading courses here at Local 488.
- Took part in getting the lobbyist group Navigator hired to help lobby the provincial government for compulsory certification of our great trade and to aid in the application process.
- We now have held two NAUSC certified ITM courses and one more is scheduled for the fall.
- We have now held three fire pump courses and will be holding one more on June 20-21st 2015.

Help!!! *Metro Fire* is moving into the Edmonton region from Calgary and plan on going non-union. I have invited Brett Keyworth one of *Metro Fire*'s three owners to meet with upper management here at Local 488. The *Metro Fire* owners have chosen not to show up on two separate occasions. *Metro Fire* employs **60 Union Sprinkler Fitters** in Calgary, and it would seem that they do not want their employees to have a decent health and welfare plan. *Metro Fire* have ads on Kijiji stating that plumbing experience is an asset. They currently have "Block D" at the arena and three schools as well. If you know any of the *Metro Fire* guys, please have them get in touch with me or give me their contact info.

Fire Sprinkler Expo

2015 CASA Conference & North American Fire Sprinkler Expo™

The 2015 CASA Fire Expo was a great experience, I was able to speak with the entire NFPA 13 coordinating committee.

Over the last year CASA has seen several successful outcomes:

- The compulsory certification announcement in April 2014 by the Ontario College of Trades in Ontario and the Government approval Feb 2, 2015.
- The review of compulsory certification here in Alberta to retrofit legislation of care homes in several provinces.

On the horizon CASA has a few encouraging proposals in development:

- The HFSC and their industry partners, on residential voluntary installations for one-two family dwellings.
- Discussions with some municipalities across the country have begun on the retrofitting of municipal or Social Housing units.

CASA is still committed to continue efforts to see that all student housing is sprinklered and or retrofitted. As a result, changes on various Provincial and National Fire Codes are in the works.

Looking Ahead to 2016

These are exciting times with enormous potential for the Sprinkler Installer Trade. As all of you are aware, the Alberta subcommittee alongside with CASA and the UA have hired a lobbyists group Navigator for the compulsory certification push, with a timeline of December 1st 2015. The feeling from the lobbyist group is even though the provincial government has drastically changed and new ministers have been appointed, that this will not slow down our submission.

Fire suppression a priority: minister of health and seniors

Calgary Herald

Thu Jun 11 2015

Source: Calgary Herald

Installing fire suppression sprinklers in seniors lodges will be a priority for Alberta because it's a matter of "life and death," says the province's new health and seniors minister.

Sarah Hoffman said Tuesday she will follow through on commitments made by the outgoing Progressive Conservative government to install sprinklers in Alberta's facilities after a fire at a Quebec seniors lodge killed 32 elderly residents last year.

"Details on exactly how that will be rolled out will still have to be worked out, but it's my intention to make sure we proceed with that," Hoffman said as she left a cabinet meeting at the legislature.

Timothy Wilson, a spokesman for the minister, said the NDP government will be proceeding with fire and safety upgrades to government-owned or supported senior's lodges and continuing care facilities "so that seniors can be safe and secure in their homes."

He said 73 government-owned or supported seniors' lodges and 30 government-owned or supported continuing care facilities will have their fire suppression systems upgraded between now and the spring of 2018.

Alberta Seniors will issue a request for proposals for the sprinkler installations and other fire safety upgrades, he said.

"Work could begin as early as this fall," Wilson said in an e-mail. "We are fully committed to ensuring safe and secure residences for seniors and other Albertans who rely on this accommodation."

Most of the province's 24,000 seniors housing units aren't fully equipped with fire suppression sprinkler systems because they weren't required under the building code until 1990.

Ministry documents obtained under freedom of information legislation reveal that 455 of the province's 657 seniors facilities are not fully equipped with sprinkler suppression systems.

Several provinces, including Ontario and Quebec, moved to make sprinkler systems mandatory in senior's facilities after the Quebec fire.

Sprinklers installed in the living units of senior's facilities suppress fires and give seniors with mobility issues more time to evacuate.

Last November in a speech to reeves and county councillors, then-premier Jim Prentice announced \$160 million in new funding over four years to upgrade accommodations for low-income seniors in rural Alberta.

Prentice said at the time \$40 million a year in federal and provincial money would help renovate and replace aging senior's lodges. The funds were to have been provided through a Canada-Alberta agreement for investment in affordable housing.

Last March, PC Seniors Minister Jeff Johnson said the province committed \$80 million over three years specifically to pay for fire suppression system upgrades in 6,500 units in 105 facilities. He said priority would be given to facilities housing seniors with mobility issues and those served by volunteer fire departments in rural areas.
dhenton@calgaryherald.com



Doug Webber

Alberta Skills competition 2015

Sprinkler competitor from Local 488

Brandon McCulloch

His challenge was

- To install a working pre-action system on a portable cart.



Personal Thanks to the Volunteers:

Doug Webber	SimplexGrinnell for judging the Double interlock pre-action valve competition.
David Sparks	Western Canada Representative Victaulic
Doug Dory	UA Local 488 Safety Officer
Jason Forchuk	Flocor
Larry Matychuk	UA Local 488 Business Manager
Tim Raho	Vipond



Personal Thanks for Donations:

Tyco Fire Integrated and Security for allowing us to use the fire extinguisher demonstrator.

Victaulic for donating the handouts to all the students.



Future courses

Fall of 2015

- NAUSC Inspection (ITM)
- Sprinkler Obstruction (Spray Booth)
- NAUSC – ITM of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems Certification
- Spring of 2016
- Fire pump course
- NAUSC Inspection (ITM)
- Sprinkler Obstruction (Spray Booth)

Contact me with courses that you the sprinkler member might want added to the upcoming course schedule:

- Understanding alarm devices?
- NFPA 13 2002-2013 upgrader?
- NFPA 14 – Standard for Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems
- Understanding Alarm Devices
- Foam Systems
- 2013 Updates for NFPA 13 Standard for the Installations of Sprinkler Systems & NFPA 20 Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection
- Detection Systems for Pre-action
- Sprinkler & Obstructions
- NFPA 13 – Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems – 2010 Update
- Introduction to Seismic
- Commissioning and Acceptance Testing of Water-Based systems

Note:

- We are currently building a NFPA 13 2002-2013 upgrader for Journeyman
- Please call me with your Ideas (780-819-5661)
- Or email me at lorin.bates@local488.ca





Sprinkler Meeting:

Saturday June 27th @ 9:00am

Agenda:

- The National Road Sprinkler Fitter Collective Agreement is coming to an end April 30th 2016, we need to be prepared for the next round of negotiations.
- We will be nominating and electing six sprinkler members to the position of Sprinkler Contract Negotiating Committee.
- In my time in office I have heard many concerns on the grey areas in the current collective agreement. If you feel you have some constructive input towards the negotiating of the new contract please be proactive and run for one of the seats on the negotiating committee!

Sprinkler Training Lab

- We here at Local Union 488 are looking to be pro-active by coming up with solutions before they become concerns. We have a great teacher (**Rod Ingram**) to teach the journeyman upgrader courses, but Rod will have to retire one day, so we are looking for a self-motivated Individual to be mentored by Rod for the journeyman upgrader courses.
- We finally have a training manifold in our sprinkler lab that **Vipond** has installed for us and it is amazing.
- We are also looking for defective parts that can be used as part of our training.
- Example: a torn rubber for a 4" DV-5, Defective external diaphragms from any Victaulic valve, distorted seat on a Tyco DPV-1. (Newer valves with issues would be great for training)



A special thanks to **Jean Sallaberry** for salvaging six dry pipe valves for the college. Viking was doing a demolition at the old Sysco foods, Jean called me to head on down to site and claim what I believed would be good for the college.

Contact Information



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