

PIPELINE NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

We are in uncertain times still and do not know what will come next. I hope you are all doing well under these circumstances. We are starting to see calls coming in for turnarounds and new construction. I will go over the details for my sites later in this communication.

I want to start by letting you all know our buildings will be starting to re-open in the coming weeks. The plan is posted on our website. I am asking everyone to follow the rules set out, regardless of opinion. These protocols are following the guidelines from the Government and Alberta Health Services and to keep everyone as safe as possible. If they are not followed, they can shut down our facilities and we will not be able to serve our members, contractors, and clients. Be patient, as we are all working diligently to open in the safest way possible for everyone involved.

Dispatch will not be opening at this time and we will continue to run online only. Members must have an account set up to bid on jobs online. We have increased the limit of job choices to six (6) when bidding online to ensure members can access more opportunities.

All members pulling a slip must have all their work ready workforce safety certificates including half mask before pulling a slip and going to site. We cannot go to site without all certifications up to date or you will be sent back to the hall. This is very important as it is part of our collective agreement, it delays members getting to work, and disrupts the planning and execution of the work being done on site. Please ensure your tickets are up to date and you do the online training as soon as possible to avoid delays during onboarding.

As for my Jurisdictional area:

Shell Scotford has finished recalling workers that were temporarily laid off due to COVID 19 for the turnaround. This includes Edmonton Exchanger, Worley, Tams, and Chemco. Currently there are approximately 300 members working on site with approximately 400 to 500 more members to be called for start dates ranging from June 29 to July 27. The turnaround starts July 8th, 2020 and is expected to run for 55 days. On site there are new protocols in place to keep the spread of COVID-19 to a minimum. I expect all our members participating in this event to follow the rules set out by the client and contractors. Following the protocols will ensure the work will continue and keep everyone as safe as possible during the turnaround. After pulling a

slip, please complete onboarding requirements as soon as possible, especially the online orientations to alleviate any delay on getting on site.

Maintenance and projects are still going ahead with crews and will continue moving forward with limited hiring until after the turnaround is complete.

Heartland Petrochemical Complex (IPPL) currently has approximately 70 members on site, including all supervision between Fluor and BFI. We will continue to see calls coming in for this project. Fluor is currently working on the Rail Car Loadout area and the Extruder building. Members considering pulling a slip for the Extruder area must be able to climb stairs as that tower is 95m tall. The Rail Car loading area will peak at 40m in elevation. We are anticipating approximately 250 to 350 members on site at peak for both BFI and Fluor. BFI has a smaller portion of work doing interconnects and some vessel work. There is an opportunity to gain more scope of work based on our performance onsite. I am confident in our membership showing our highly qualified skills and the professional work we do. This project is under an SPNA contract and if you have questions about it, feel free to contact me. We recently signed a new wage agreement for this work that entails an increase in base rate and pension contribution. This has helped us secure the work and get our members on site.

Nutrien Redwater is continuing maintenance day to day that employs 10 members and should be starting to recall temporary laid off workers by the end of June. They will be resuming a 4-10s shift effective June 29th, 2020. Most of the major turnaround work has been postponed until next year. They will do small pitstops as needed with regular maintenance workers.

Nutrien Fort Saskatchewan has scheduled a small pitstop this year that will utilize roughly 12 members for a few weeks.

Dow Chemical currently has 24 members on site. They have just completed a small pit stop; they will continue to do day to day maintenance for the remainder of this year. The Turnaround has been postponed until next year.

NWR has been reduced to a small crew on site for the time being as Melloy has completed their project work and the plant is running as intended. Thank you to the members that worked on this site over the past year. Without your hard work and resilience this plant would not be running today.


CNRL Albion sands will be having a turnaround that coincides with the Scotford outage. They are anticipated to start July 8th, 2020 and run for approximately 45 days employing 100 to 200 members at peak. More details to come on this event.

I want to extend my gratitude to all my Job Stewards out on the frontlines with all our brothers and sisters. I am grateful for your day to day assistance that you have provided me and our members with. I want to thank everyone on site for their diligence in following the new protocols and working effectively and efficiently during this pandemic. This is showing our commitment to excellence and ability to adapt during uncertain times. Keep checking our website for updates and further communications.

If you require assistance or have any questions please feel free to contact me via email at pascal.contant@local488.ca or by phone at (780) 288-6505.

Take Care and Stay Safe.

One Team! One Dream!

 Fraternally Yours,
Pascal Contant
UA Local 488 Business Agent