

# A worker dies. Everyone SUFFERS.



In **2010**, over **1000** workers  
**died** from workplace injury  
and disease.





## Message From Your Day of Mourning Campaign Team



(L-R President Robert White, Business Manager Steven Martin, Jan de Jong, Joey Vandebos)

On behalf of President Robert White and myself, we are proud of our members who have in previous years come together in the spirit of IBEW union solidarity and supported the National Day of Mourning.

This year, I'm pleased to introduce two union activists, Brothers Jan de Jong (Guild Electric) and Joey Vandebos (Stacey Electric), who have both graciously accepted the responsibility to serve as our 2011 Day of Mourning Campaign Co-Chairs. Their selection is very appropriate after the tragic loss of Brother Kevin "Beaver" MacDonald who was crushed to death by a TTC bus while at work on December 23rd, 2010. Both Jan and Joey work for contractors with a large footprint in the traffic and utility side of the business and know the risks that we each face every working day, which is why they are perfect ambassadors to bring home this year's campaign message regarding the **Right to Refuse.**

As your Business Manager, I want the members to know that when I was working on the tools, section 43 of the *Occupational Health & Safety Act* was a law I strongly

“Getting the job completed on time; also means doing it safely.”

believed in. It's a message that never gets old and we must take time this year to re-familiarize ourselves with our legal rights, so we don't take short cuts and risk our own lives just to get a job done on time. Getting the job completed on time, also means doing it safely.

The tiny canary was once the only safeguard miners had against dangerous gas buildup. If the canary died, it was a signal to evacuate the mines... **fast!**

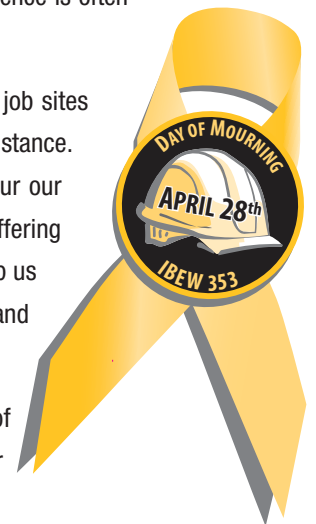
The National Day of Mourning, held annually on April 28th was chosen when the Canadian Labour Congress proclaimed the Day to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the day the first Ontario *Worker's Compensation Act* was approved by government. The Day of Mourning was enshrined in national legislation by an Act of Parliament on February 1, 1991.

### Mark the Day

April 28th is an important day for workers all across Canada, because it represents an opportunity to pause and remember those workers who were killed and injured on the job. It offers workers, unions and employers an opportunity to mark the day with vigils, services, or candle-lighting ceremonies; unveiling monuments, flying flags at half-mast, or wearing ribbons, armbands or stickers. A moment of silence is often observed at 11:00 am.

I have instructed all Business Representatives to visit job sites and shops to distribute campaign materials and offer assistance. Please take a moment on April 28th at 11 am to honour our brothers and sisters who have been killed, injured or suffering from long term latency occupational disease, and to help us strengthen our resolve to improve occupational health and safety everywhere.

Your assistance in sending us photo's of your Day of Mourning efforts is also appreciated, and we'll consider publishing these in our May 2011 Newsletter.





# DAY OF MOURNING

APRIL 28<sup>th</sup> at 11am  
CAMPAIGN 2011

## Joey Vandebos

Co-Chair  
*Stacey Electric*

## Jan de Jong

Co-Chair  
*Guild Electric*

## Steven Martin

*Business  
Manager*

## Robert White

*President*



## Jeff Irons

*Vice-President*

April 28<sup>th</sup> is dedicated to honouring the memory of those who  
have been injured or killed at work.

At 11 am, please stop working and observe one minute of silence.

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