



IBEW - CECA | National Electrical Trade Council

## The NETCO Minute

News from the National Electrical Trade Council, 1st Edition June 2017

NETCO is jointly sponsored by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Canada and the Canadian Electrical Contractors Association (CECA) to address workforce development for Red Seal electrical trades. [www.local424.netco](http://www.local424.netco)

### Training Centre of Excellence Showcase



#### A World-class Training Facility in Newfoundland & Labrador

[www.ibewcollege.ca](http://www.ibewcollege.ca)



IBEW College is a specialized trades college for the electrical industry that has the latest training technology and facilities in an environment that has been carefully designed to promote health and well-being. The campus makes the most of its tranquil setting in the woods southwest of St. John's.

"Our property is a huge marketing tool for us," Training Director Kelly Power said in an interview. "We have walking trails, and areas for de-stressing, quiet study, and outdoor instruction... The landscape here supports a culture of healthy living and healthy learning."

Inside the new facility, which opened its doors in the fall of 2016, the IBEW College team is mastering an array of digital instructional tools and online connections.

"We launched our virtual classroom this spring," said Power. "Students join us from anywhere in the world, as long as they have an internet connection. They can watch the live presentations and videos while following along with their online instructional materials, and participate in the classroom quizzes and evaluations."

"Newfoundland has such a large geographical landmass and we recognize the need to reach out to IBEW members across the province. The blended learning and virtual technologies we have available at the College remove the physical barriers and provide our members and students the benefit of participating in more training opportunities."

These new technologies also allow IBEW College to respond quickly to workplace training requirements. "Recently we had an urgent training requirement from a contractor on the west coast. Within 24 hours, we delivered the training utilizing our virtual classroom and the members did not lose any work hours," said Power.

IBEW College is currently offering a variety of safety courses and continues to develop and deliver advanced specialty courses for workers within the electrical industry. A major expansion is pending as IBEW College prepares to become an authorized training provider for the Newfoundland & Labrador apprenticeship program in the Construction Electrician and Industrial Electrician trades. Programs and courses at the College are open to all members of the IBEW as well as the general public. "Our doors are wide open to anyone who wants to train with us," Power said. "Our specialized and hands-on training courses will strengthen the skills of electrical workers and give them enhanced employment opportunities."

"Building community partnerships is huge for us. We are excited to be working with the Innu Nation, the largest Indigenous group in the province. Our partnership will bring training opportunities to the Innu communities and will prepare the Innu workers for employment opportunities in the construction industry, assist them with employment placements, provide mentoring throughout their apprenticeship and secure individual support. These are all essential components for their success in the workplace. It's a legacy initiative with the long-term goal of enabling the Innu to become self-sufficient in training."



*Kelly Power joined IBEW College as Training Director in 2015. Leveraging 20 years of leadership in apprenticeship training she is responsible for curriculum, training delivery, staff and student relations, facility management and partnerships. As a member of NETCO's National Training Committee she influences the pan-Canadian framework for electrical apprenticeship and continuing electrical training. Kelly is a graduate of Memorial University of Newfoundland in Adult Post-Secondary Education and a certified Post-Secondary Education Instructor.*

### NETCO News From Across Canada



NETCO President & IBEW Canada International Vice-President Bill Daniels with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the unveiling of the Canadian Building Trades Monument in Major's Hill Park on May 16, 2017 in Ottawa, ON.

- NETCO's 2017 training conference is August 19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> in Montreal, QC. Visit <http://www.cvent.com/d/15qzm7> for the program and online registration. A talented roster of speakers will address themes such as Harmonization, Aboriginal Training Partnerships, Green Skills, Learning Technologies, Technological Change and Emerging Construction Labour Markets.
- The Government of Canada will roll out the \$85 million *Union Training and Innovation Program*, announced in Budget 2016, with a call for proposals on July 24, 2017. NETCO provided electrical industry feedback on the proposed terms of reference and hosted a briefing session for its National Training Committee. [https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2017/05/backgrounder\\_uniontrainingandinnovationprogram.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2017/05/backgrounder_uniontrainingandinnovationprogram.html)
- NETCO and Plug'n Drive ([www.plugndrive.ca](http://www.plugndrive.ca)) signed an MOU to partner in promoting the adoption of electric vehicles in Canada. For example, they are collaborating in developing an Energy curriculum for Ontario youth in Grades 11/12 informed by NETCO's Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program™ Canada curriculum. NETCO Executive Director Carol MacLeod showcased the partnership at a conference sponsored by Electric Mobility in Markham, ON on June 1, 2017.

- Congratulations to IBEW Local 424 Business Manager John White on his election as a NETCO Director in April 2017. [www.ibew424.net](http://www.ibew424.net)



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