

The NETCO Minute

News from the National Electrical Trade Council, 12th Edition
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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.

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\$5.5-Million Federal contribution supports training at IBEW 804



The first cohort in IBEW Local 204's new pre-apprentice training program, summer 2019.

IBEW Local 804, based in southwestern Ontario, has launched a major new pre-apprentice training program with strong contractor support and funding from the Government of Canada.

The Pre-Apprentice Training and Retention Innovative Learning Program will provide entry-level training for up to 240 people over the next five years at no cost to the trainees.

"It's designed for people without prior electrical training or experience," said IBEW 804 Business Manager Mark Watson. "We are reaching out to groups that can be under-represented in the trades, including women, Indigenous people, military veterans and new immigrants."

The federal Union Training Innovation Program will contribute \$5.5 million, allowing the Local to assign two instructors and a training coordinator to each cohort of up to 16 trainees. The program's 10 weeks of skills and technical training is supported by a new online training platform, also thanks to the federal funding agreement. Local 804 signatory contractors have agreed to provide 16 weeks of work experience for qualified trainees.

Formal training takes place at the Local 804 training centre in Breslau, Ontario, a 15,000-square-foot facility that opened in 2015.

Watson said he's excited about being able to provide full safety training at the pre-apprentice level.

"We see incidents where someone is grievously injured or even passes away on job sites, and it's tragic. We know from stats gathered on the subject that new workers are the most at risk for injuries or fatalities," he said.

IBEW 804's Business Representative for Training & Skills Development, Dave Graham, said the plan to expand the Local's pre-apprentice program was in process for several years, and the federal funding has made it possible to proceed.

"It's a big step forward in our pre-apprentice training, and it reflects what's happening in IBEW-affiliated training centres across Canada," said Graham. "We're opening the doors to a broader pool of applicants, and we're making use of supplementary online tools to fill the skills gaps. With the federal government's support, we'll be bringing a lot of new people into the electrical trades."



Waiting for the formal announcement of IBEW's 804's UTIP funding at the Local 804 training center, summer 2019

NETCO News from Across Canada

- WELCOME to our newest partner IBEW Local 37! As one of the largest IBEW Locals in Eastern Canada, NETCO will be providing all services to IBEW Local 37 for their Powerline Technicians (PLT) and other closely related classifications. PLT is an Interprovincial Red Seal trade across Canada.
- Congratulations to the EJTC in British Columbia for being recognized as the #1 ranked sponsor of female apprentices and #3 sponsor of Indigenous apprentices.

https://twitter.com/the_EJTC/status/1161714529128058881

- Energize625 has been busy preparing a 35 week Pre-Apprenticeship Program through the Building Trades Advancement College of Nova Scotia which started September 16, 2019. In addition to running the Pre-Apprenticeship Program, Energize625 ran an IP refresher and two Technical Training Level 2 courses for the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency. The most recent Technical Training Level 2 course began September 9, 2019

<https://btacns.com/#programs-training>

<http://energize625.ca/training>

https://nsapprenticeship.ca/sites/default/files/docs/pubs/Training_Schedule-2019-20.pdf



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