

## NextGen News: Focused on the Future

### International Vice President Daniels



Brothers and Sisters, six years ago we introduced the NextGen Initiative and since then, thanks to many of you, we have seen the interest, and perhaps more importantly, the participation of our younger members increase an impressive amount. From having NextGen Committees in many Local Unions across the country, to getting involved in political action, including some amazing work to defeat the Harper Conservatives in the recent Federal Election, you are stepping up and taking action. Hopefully this newsletter, other NextGen events, and our upcoming International Convention will provide opportunities for you to continue to be involved, or become more involved in our union. It's your participation and work as IBEW members that contributes to our strength as a union, and to ensuring we have a bright future ahead.

In solidarity,

Bill Daniels, International Vice President

### Upcoming Events

# 2016

#### 2016 All Canada Progress Meeting, Winnipeg, MB

NextGen Caucus Sunday, May 15, 2016

#### International Convention, St. Louis, MO

Young Worker Delegation September 16-23, 2016

#### Canadian Labour Congress, Ottawa, ON

Young Worker Conference October 24-26, 2016

#### Ontario NextGen Conference, Mississauga, ON

Details to be sent out soon, October 28-30

### NextGen Caucus 2015—Meeting Highlights

#### NextGen Committees

Talk to your Business Manager/President to develop/get approval your committee

Local Unions structure may change your committee set up

Examples: Local 37 – six person committee based on geographic representation

Local 2034 – geographic representation, 3 appointed spots, 3 elected spots

#### Why have a NextGen Committee?

To participate in your union, build interest, get people excited about the union

Increase participation at union meetings

Increase communication amongst younger members

Explain why it is important to get involved to other young workers

Update new member orientation, highlight the history of our union and the labour movement

#### Tactics

Develop a budget

Plan something and do it, may not be successful right away but the work is important so keep at it.

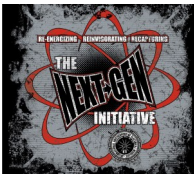
Create a Guide to Union Meetings

Social events—great way to meet members

Facebook group (for discussion, asking questions, reminder of meetings)

Teleconference/online meetings.

### NextGen Committee Local 804



NextGen in Local 804 is in its 3rd year of operation. We have had over a dozen members sit in the committee over the last few years but have had a steady group the past two with Co-Chairs Mike Kaufman and Ben Frey. Previous Chairs Eric Hunter, Rob Scott—both members since day one, along with member Andrew Lazaowich. Honourable mention to dedicated and long serving members, Peter Connolly and Pat O'Brien.

This group has been working hard to build the foundations of tradition in our local, the communities our members live, building relationships with charity's like Habitat for Humanity, and The Food Bank. We have also been running information booths about safety in the workplace at festivals in our community.

We have been pushing hard different ways to engage with members of our Local and other tradesmen for social outings.

Pub nights have always been the usual social outing. We have had new ideas such as; paint ball, Batl Axe and running an open house before the general meetings. Our open house idea would allow conversations about local policy's, new education options, provided food and meet new other members.

The next Open House is this April, hosted at our newly built Union Hall in Kitchener. The NextGen Committee will be taking our book of by laws and teach it to our next generation. We will be hosting the event a few hours before our monthly general meeting. It's a great way to get the guys out for both events and to learn a little something.

Here in 804 we are always down to get people together and inspire them to be good union members. We do our best to plan events and things that appeal to everyone. As we go forward, we will continue to focus on our mission and build on what we learn!

The NextGen committee is proudly being backed by our leadership on the Executive Board. The future of the movement in the IBEW has no boundaries.

NextGen - Get engaged, Be Informed.

Sincerely Local 804 NextGen

### NextGen Local Union Committees

Contact Kate Walsh ([kate\\_walsh@ibew.org](mailto:kate_walsh@ibew.org)) to submit an article on your Local Union NextGen Committee for the next newsletter. We want to hear from you!