

Local 853 Brothers and Sisters,

As we continue to monitor the Covid-19 situation, we wanted to update you with the most recent information. As a direct result of Premier Ford's announcement that construction was an essential service, we reached out to our members requesting site photos with project information. We wanted to make sure the sites our members are working on are providing the necessary health and safety requirements as outlined by the Government guidelines and Occupational Health and Safety Act.

I would like to thank those who have sent photos (one site MOL was contacted and on site) and we encourage our members to continue to provide this information.

In addition Local 853 has our reps and organizers meeting with the General Contractor site supervisors checking on their facilities to see if they are adhering to the Government's policies.

In a recent letter sent out to the membership it stated the Union hall was closed to both the membership and the public. Although this continues our hall is still operating the day to day activities and have staff including myself on hand to assist with members who have any questions or concerns. For those reps in the field any calls directed to them at the hall will be forwarded to their cell phones.

Local 853 has seen an increase in members out of work either due to self quarantine, site closings or companies closing down for a few weeks. We understand the financial burden of not working and the concerns our members have.

Local 853 officers and the Trustees will be working on ways to help with those members who have not been working due to Covid-19.

Finally I have attached a link from the Ont Government Press release today. Click [HERE](#)

Please work safe for you and your families.

Dale Hawrychuk
Business Manager
Local 853