



By: Bradley T. Watt, RCDD, Director of Education and Training

## Summer 2016 Semester

While I write this newsletter article we are just hours away from registration opening for our largest ever summer semester. As mentioned in my May newsletter article, with the sale of the Bowmanville offices we are running additional courses this summer as there will be no courses in Bowmanville for our fall semester.

The education and training department is looking forward to serving the membership this summer at our Toronto and Mississauga Training Centres.

## Vubiz Online Courses

If you are not up to sitting in a classroom this summer but would like to keep your learning up, you can always take advantage of the Vubiz online courses.

We are pleased to announce the renewal of our online course program through Vubiz. This comes to you through IBEW Canada (First District) and each of the locals. Vubiz has over 200 online courses for members, their families and friends to use. Courses can be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until May 1, 2019.

Courses range from computer use, safety training and business skills to supervisory skills. There is even a section for courses in French. Accessing any of these courses is easy with a simple login to get you started. The process is outlined below.

To start your learning experience, go to: [http://learn.vubiz.com/chaccess/IBEW2\\_LU353](http://learn.vubiz.com/chaccess/IBEW2_LU353)

**Every time** that you sign on, you will need to enter:

- The IBEW Password, which is: IBEW2
- Your Membership Card Number: That is the number on your IBEW Membership Card – for example 123456

or 123456AA or AB123456. If you do not know your Membership Card Number, you can use any unique number such as your home phone number or postal code **without any spaces** for example 4165555555 or L3P4R9.

The **first time** that you sign on, you will need to enter a little extra information so that we can set you up.

- Membership Card Number (confirmation): This is to confirm the information that you keyed above.
- First Name: So that we can identify you properly in the system when you return.
- Last Name: So that we can identify you properly in the system when you return.

*NOTE: Sometimes you may need to re-enter the card number confirmation, first name and last name when you login even though it is not the initial login. This has been my personal experience, but not a big deal.*

Again, with over 200 courses to choose from, there is most likely something for everyone to take advantage of. Some of the membership have taken advantage of this training as a supplement to what our continuing education program has to offer. Some utilized the training because they have never taken an online course and wanted to see how it worked. Either way, we hope that you find this service useful for your education needs.

## Movie Review

Yes, that's right, a movie review. Not something that I normally do, however, not so long ago I stumbled across a documentary on solar power – **Catching the Sun, (2015)** on Netflix.

Although this 1h 13m documentary is very single sided it does illustrate some of the difficulties behind getting alternate energies

in place. It was interesting to see how “non-American” countries are adopting this type of energy. Regardless of your views of the environmental situation, it was interesting to watch and see how widely things are changing...or not. We can realize how “big business” tries to block some of the paths to a “greener approach” for energy development – not like we haven't seen this action before as outlined in the 2006 documentary – **Who Killed the Electric Car?**

Even though there was no talk about Unions and how we fit in on the subject, there was a part of the movie, around the 1h 5m mark which shows a climate rally/parade with an IBEW Local 3 banner behind a very large banner with “HEALTHY PLANET & GOOD JOBS” on it.

Just some food for thought, as we move forward into the future.

## Independent Electric Supply Inc.

It is a pleasure to report to the membership this month the start of a new program with one of our training partners - **Independent Electric Supply Inc.** Together, we are pleased to officially announce the commencement of the Independent Electric Supply Inc. / IBEW Local 353 discount program.

This new program will allow the IBEW Local 353 membership to take advantage of the lowest prices offered when you make your purchase from *Independent Electric Supply Inc.* when the enclosed discount card is used. In order to utilize this program, members must produce their discount card and Union identification at the time of purchase. This program is intended for our membership for their personal purchases.

At *Independent Electric Supply Inc.* WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE! We have:



- The highest order fill rates in the industry with over \$2M in inventory
- Designated lighting consultants (LC) on staff to help obtain available hydro grants
- Fully staffed and dedicated divisions looking after industrial, lighting, commercial, quotations and project co-ordination

- Same day GTA delivery with our fleet of 5 GPS tracked trucks, and
- We are open from 6:30am – 5:00pm Monday – Friday.

I think that the membership will agree that this program is very exciting! As we move forward I hope that you will take advantage of this discount program.

With this discount program coming to fruition I would like to extend a very large IBEW Local 353 thank you to everyone at *Independent Electric Supply Inc.* for making this a reality, it is greatly appreciated.

Fraternally yours,

**Bradley T. Watt, RCDD**

Director of Education and Training

**LEARN MORE, BE MORE**



# INDEPENDENT ELECTRIC SUPPLY INC.

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