



New Brunswick Building & Construction Trades Council

NEWS RELEASE

Construction Trades Council throws full support behind Energy East

November 4th, 2014

Fredericton: The head of the New Brunswick Building and Construction Trades Council says the Energy East pipeline project will bring many New Brunswick workers back to their home province to work.

Gary Ritchie said the \$12 billion project will provide a massive boost to the New Brunswick economy and create thousands of good-paying jobs for New Brunswickers.

“We are 100 per cent behind this project,” Ritchie said. “Every since the idea was first floated it has been a main topic of conversation among our members.”

“Because of the state of our economy in recent years, many of our members have been forced outside the province to find work,” Ritchie added. “This project will provide an opportunity to bring them home, close to their friends and families. Our members will go wherever there is work, but like anyone, they’d prefer to work close to home.”

The Conference Board of Canada expects the Energy East project to create more than 2,300 jobs per year in New Brunswick during the construction phase, which will see more than 400 km of pipe laid from near Edmundston to Saint John.

New Brunswick will also see construction of five pump stations along the pipeline route, a tank storage terminal and construction of a new marine terminal in Saint John.

The Building and Construction Trades Council represents New Brunswickers with specialized skills needed in the construction industry. But Ritchie pointed out that there will be many spinoff jobs as well.

“This is going to create thousands of jobs around the province. And New Brunswick is in desperate need of jobs. Now that TransCanada has filed for approval of this project, every New Brunswicker needs to get behind Energy East.”

Ritchie said he’s met with TransCanada to discuss the labour needs for the project.

“I assured them that there will be no problem in finding New Brunswickers will the necessary skills to perform the specialized work required for the construction of the Energy East pipeline. Our members are already lining up to find out what opportunities will be available to them.”

Ritchie also believes there are benefits that will extend beyond the construction of the pipeline.

“We’re home to the country’s largest oil refinery and it has undergone significant upgrades over the years as the industry has evolved. We’re familiar with the oil industry here. I fully anticipate direct access to western crude in New Brunswick will lead to more investments and job creation down the road.”

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About the NBBCTC: Originally formed on May 25, 1971, the New Brunswick Building and Construction Trades Council is a non-profit umbrella organization representing 17 building trade unions across 13 construction trades around the province with more than 7,500 active members. More commonly known as the New Brunswick Building Trades, the Council is a forum for unions in the NB construction industry to develop a common front on issues affecting the sector, such as Industry Legislation, Occupational Health and Safety Leadership, Trades Pre-employment & Apprenticeship Training Standards, Labour Representation on numerous Industry/Government Boards and Commissions, Jurisdictional Assignment Mediation and an Industry Best Practices Exchange. Overall the Council works with both employer organizations and government to improve the working situation of our union members as well as all construction workers in the province of NB. Our website: www.nbbctc.com

Our Locals:

Boilermakers Local 73, <http://www.boilermaker73.ca/>

Bricklayers Local 8, <http://www.bac8nb.ca/about-your-local-bac-8/>

Elevator Constructors Local 125, <http://www.iuec.org/>

Heat & Frost Local 131, <http://www.heatandfrostinsulators.ca>

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 37, <http://www.ibew37.com/>

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 502, <http://www.ibew502.org/main.html>

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 1555, <http://ibew1555.ca/>

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 2166, <http://ibewlocal2166.com/>

International Union of Operating Engineers Local 946, <http://www.local946.com/home.html>

Ironworkers Local 842, <http://www.ironworkers842.ca>

Labourers Local 900, <http://www.joinliuna.ca/nb.html>

UA Local 213 Plumbers & Pipefitters, <http://www.ualocal213.org/>

UA Local 325 Plumbers & Pipefitters, <http://www.ualocal325.ca/>

Carpenters Local 1386, <http://www.acrc.ca/join-us/new-brunswick/carpenters-local-1386/>

Sheet Metal/Workers Local 437, <http://local437.ca/sheet-metal/>

Sheet Metal/Roofers Workers Local 437, <http://local437.ca/sheet-metal/>

NB Regional Council of Millwrights Local 2262, <http://www.acrc.ca/locals/new-brunswick/contact/millwrights-local-2262/>