



Canadian Merchant Service Guild

Western Branch

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AFFILIATED WITH

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME PILOTS' ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION

BULLETIN

CMSG WB Membership

DATE	April 29, 2010
FROM	Brad MacTavish Secretary Treasurer, CMSG WB

Thank you all for your attendance at our April general meetings. We had a quorum at all three meetings. This is a rare occurrence that I hope will now be common practice.

The By-Law changes below are a start, however to ensure that this is **YOUR** Guild and the practices of the past are never repeated, there will be more changes to follow. Please feel free to put forward your ideas.

CORRECTION

In my last bulletin regarding legal defence protection (MOPS), we missed a period at the end of a sentence which caused confusion for our Members at BC Ferries as well as others. The important point we were trying to make is that Members in good-standing who are paying full monthly Guild dues are eligible for MOPS coverage in the event that the marine incident is properly reported in accordance with the instruction on the CMSG wallet card. In the event that a Member needs a new wallet card, they are available here at the Guild office. My apologies for any misunderstanding.

▶▶▶▶ IMPORTANT CHANGE ◀◀◀◀

Effective May 31, 2010

Only Members in good-standing who are **not** holding withdrawal cards are eligible to continue to maintain seniority and recall rights in a bargaining unit, unless the applicable Guild Collective Agreement states otherwise.

Going on a Withdrawal Card will Suspend your Seniority and Recall Rights

If you are currently on a Withdrawal Card and want to maintain your seniority and recall rights, you must contact the Guild office before May 31, 2010 and arrange to pay unemployed dues.

BY-LAW CHANGES

approved by the
NATIONAL BOARD
and ratified by the
WESTERN BRANCH MEMBERSHIP

AMENDMENT #1

Article 5 – (Western Branch)

The Branch President

5.07 A candidate for the office of President shall have been an Active Member for at least three (3) consecutive years prior to the election and shall have served at least one (1) **year** in a position on the Executive Board **or a Branch Council.**

AMENDMENT #2

Article 6 – (Western Branch)

The Branch Secretary Treasurer

6.09 **DELETE...**
Contravenes National By-Laws Articles #9.04 and 9.06

6.10 **DELETE...**
Contravenes National By-Laws Articles #9.04 and 9.06

AMENDMENT #3

Article 8 – (Western Branch)

Councils

8.09 **CHANGE TO...**
The Branch Executive Board shall hold a joint meeting of the Council of Deck Officers and Council of Engineers at least once a year, prior to a meeting of the Branch Executive Board.

AMENDMENT #4

Article 10 – (Western Branch)

Branch Trustees

10.01 **DELETE last sentence...**
upon "The Trustees shall be the Past President of the Branch who, retirement from office, become Trustees."

10.02 In the event of a vacancy in the office of Branch Trustee, the Executive Board shall appoint a replacement from among Branch Members who have served at least **one (1) year** in an elected position.

10.03 **DELETE and REPLACE with...**

Trustees shall serve a term of four (4) years at which time they may be replaced or re-appointed at a meeting of the Executive Board.

AMENDMENT #5

Article 11 – (Western Branch)

Pension, Benefit & Welfare Plan Trustees

11.02 ADD...
Candidates for these positions shall be nominated at a General Meeting of the Membership. Nominees need not be present to be nominated but shall provide to the Meeting, either in writing or in person, an indication of their willingness to accept the nomination and a brief biography.

11.03 DELETE existing and REPLACE with...
In the event that the number of nominees exceeds the number of positions available, nominations shall close and the Secretary Treasurer shall initiate the referendum provisions of the National By-Laws (Article 11).

11.04 DELETE existing and REPLACE with...
Ballots shall be mailed to Members eligible to vote no later than two (2) weeks following the close of the meeting. Biographies shall accompany the ballots. Biographies shall be limited to a maximum of 100 words. Only Active Members covered by the appropriate plan shall be eligible to vote. Unemployed Members shall vote as Members of the category in which they were employed. In the event of a tie vote, the Branch President shall cast a deciding vote.

11.05 *Pension, Benefit, and Welfare* Trustees shall serve a term of **four (4) years** and may be re-elected.

AMENDMENT #6

Article 12 – (Western Branch)

Elections

12.12 NEW...
Ballots shall be counted one day prior to a General Membership meeting. The election results shall be announced by the Chairman during the General meeting. Elected Members shall take office at the end of this General meeting.

12.13 Same wording as existing Article 12.12 but now re-numbered 12.13.

NOTE:

There was one proposed change that was not approved by the National Board as it was not related to a Western Branch By-Law. The National Board recommended that this be put forward at the 2011 National Convention to propose for consideration the amendment of the National By-Laws to say...

Any Member that has been found guilty of violating the National By-Laws or Code of Ethics or Branch By-Laws or Trust Agreement or Trust Laws shall not be eligible to hold any position of Trust within the Guild, including but not limited to, Branch President, Branch Secretary Treasurer, Business Agent, Council Member, Branch Trustee, or Pension Plan Trustee or Benefit Plan Trustee.

THE PIONEERS ASSOCIATION

The Pioneers Association is open to all retired and/or close-to retiring Guild Members. The group meets monthly on the second Tuesday of each month, except July and August, in the Chain Locker at the Guild offices in Coquitlam.

Dues are twenty dollars per year. What do you get for this?... a light lunch, a drink afterwards and a chance to meet up with old shipmates. An annual Christmas party is held each December and a boat trip, barbeque, etc., is held during the summer. For further information, please contact:

John Eveleigh

604 – 324 – 2393

or

James Hannigan

604 – 940 – 0128

or

Peter Davies

604 – 682 – 1582

CLOSING

In the short time Captain MacDougall has been President, there has been a staggering change in the right direction. Neil has put in a tremendous amount of his own time and our recognition is the least we can give him. The Guild President is an unpaid position and his expenses have been miniscule.

My personal thanks Neil!

Yours truly,

WESTERN BRANCH



Brad MacTavish
Secretary Treasurer