

BOILERMAKERS
LOCAL 146
WOMEN'S
COMMITTEE
February 2025



Welcome 2025!

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season filled with warmth, joy, and time spent with loved ones. As we step into this new year, it's the perfect time to reflect on the incredible memories and accomplishments of 2024.

We're so proud of what we achieved together as a committee and a community. The turnout for our events last year was truly heartwarming, and your enthusiasm made every effort worthwhile.

Some standout moments include the WIN House volunteering event, where we came together to support an incredible cause, and the holiday gathering, which was filled with laughter, connection, and a true sense of celebration. Another highlight was our insightful Zoom meeting with Hilary Peach. Her stories and expertise provided an inspiring opportunity for personal and professional growth, leaving us all with much to reflect on.

As we look ahead to 2025, our excitement only grows. This year, we have an even more robust calendar of events planned ranging from meaningful volunteer opportunities to engaging social gatherings. Our goal is to continue fostering a space where women can connect, support one another, and create lasting memories. We encourage you to join us for these events, bring your ideas, and help shape the direction of our committee.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for being part of this journey. Together, we've accomplished so much, and we can't wait to see what this new year brings. Let's make 2025 another year to remember!

In Solidarity,

Boilermakers Local 146
Women's Committee

In this newsletter
you can expect:

New Years
Greeting

2024 Last
Quarter Event
Recap

Upcoming
Events

Meet the
Committee

2024 Last Quarter Event Recap:



Left to Right: Monette Brownlee, Alexis Paradis, Victoria Miller, Jasmine Willier, Meeka Faucher, Chrystal Tremblay, Alexa Royal, Karina Leslie, Payton Lucas, Laura Chasowy

Amazing Volunteer Turnout for WIN House!

We cannot thank the amazing group of Sisters enough for coming out to help sort donations and write heartfelt thank-you cards. Your support made a significant impact, and we're so proud of what we accomplished together.

We are excited to continue supporting WIN House in future events! If you'd like to contribute, here's how you can help:

Monetary Donations: Every dollar counts and goes a long way in supporting their programs. www.winhouse.org/donate

Clothing Donations: Drop off clothing at Goodwill and mention WIN House. They will receive the profits from your contribution!

Thank you again for being part of this meaningful initiative. Together, we're making a difference.

AFL commemorates Montreal's Polytechnique massacre at dinner event

Eight of our sisters attended the Alberta Federation of Labour (AFL) commemorative event. Boilermakers Local 146 kindly sponsored a table, allowing us to reflect on this tragedy and the ongoing issue of violence against women and minorities. The event highlighted how to recognize the signs of domestic abuse and its ripple effects, including how it can show up in workplaces and on job sites. It was an important conversation and a reminder of the role we all play in creating safe spaces.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, please reach out to our **24/7 provincial helpline at 780-479-0058**



Left to Right: Tayler Stadnick, Alexa Paradis, Meeka Faucher, Monette Brownlee, Meka Schroeder, Chrystal Tremblay, Myranda Cook, Victoria Miller



Nick Dobson, Apprenticeship Administrator, and Rob James, Director of Apprenticeship and Education present Katerina Sanders with top apprentice award

Katerina Sanders

The Boilermakers Local 146 Women's Committee would like to take the time to highlight and congratulate Sister Katerina Sanders for being recognized at the Boilermakers 77th Annual Banquet as the best 1st year Boilermaker apprentice. We're very proud of you Katerina, keep up the great work!

2024 Last Quarter Event Recap:

Spreading Holiday Cheer

Before the Christmas break, a few of us gathered to share some holiday cheer, and to say it was an amazing event is an understatement!

We enjoyed heartfelt laughs, reconnected with one another, and truly embraced the spirit of the season.

A special thank you to Boilermakers Local 146 President Trevor Loren and Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer Mack Walker for showing your support and celebrating with the Sisters of the hall. Your presence made the event even more meaningful!

Here's to the incredible memories we've made and the connections that continue to grow.



Fun and Games at the Women's Committee Dinner Event



23 Sisters were in attendance at the Women's Committee Dinner Event

Upcoming Events:



International Women's Day 2025

International Women's Day Event

Join us on March 8th, 11 AM - 3 PM at the Boilermakers Local 146 Apprenticeship and Mechanical Training Centre (AMTC). The event includes an in-person gathering for Sisters and a Zoom session open to all members, featuring guest speaker Ms. Leanne Chahley, one of our Hall's lawyers and advocate for women's equity. She'll speak on workplace harassment and hold a question period afterward. Her presentation will be held in-person and online between 12:30 and 1:30 for all members, followed by an extra 30 minutes reserved for our Sisters only.

Sisters, please let us know that you'll be joining us by emailing:
womenscommittee146@boilermakers.ca.

All members are welcome to submit a question related to harassment in the workplace during the question period. Specify if you'd like to stay anonymous. We'll try to read as many as possible, depending on time. Submit question(s) to:
womenscommittee146@boilermakers.ca

Boilermakers 146 Cookbook

Everyone knows ladies make better sandwiches, but this initiative goes beyond that! Your Boilermakers Local 146 Women's Committee wants to put together a Cookbook! We're asking you to share your favourite recipes! We have such beautiful diversity within our members, let's celebrate them with food!

Whether it's a family tradition, a quick weeknight meal, or that one dish everyone begs you to bring to potlucks, we'd love for you to share it with us, and we'll add them to our compilation.

We'd also like to take advantage of that platform to learn a bit more about you. Along with your name, and amount of years you've been part of the 146 family, share a bit about yourself in a few sentences. We also welcome pictures taken of your meal, of yourself and/or your family member who created the recipe.

You have until December 31st, 2025, to submit your recipe(s) to:
womenscommittee146@boilermakers.ca

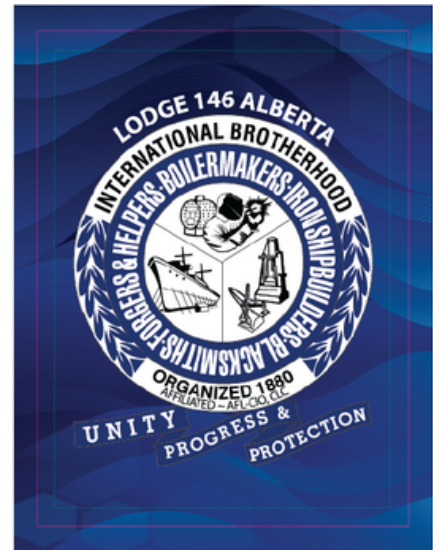


Upcoming Events:

Baby Blanket Gift Set

The members of your Boilermakers Local 146 Women's Committee are happy to announce the upcoming Baby Gift Set project. We'll be giving out blankets and care packages to welcome new babies from our 146 members, soon-to-be and recent parents (from Jan 1st, 2024). Boilermaker parents will be able to proudly wrap their bundle of joy in a nice plush blanket printed with our union's logo. Even though we are not quite ready to distribute our baby gift sets yet, we'd like to start collecting names of soon-to-be and recent parents. Please share your good news by emailing us at womenscommittee146@boilermakers.ca, and include the following info:

- your name, baby's gender & name (if he/she has one yet!)
- your location pickup preference at either Edmonton or Calgary hall. (Gift can not be mailed)



Proof of blanket



Boilermakers Local 146 Blood Drive

Here's another great initiative that is quickly taking shape! Starting a Canadian Blood Services Donation Group will be a great way for each of us to give back to our community. The great thing about setting up a group with Canadian Blood Services is the flexibility. Members can donate from anywhere in the country, as long as they mention our group "Boilermakers 146 - Hard Hats & Soft Hearts" when they donate.

To make it even more exciting, we were thinking of starting a friendly competition with the Pipefitters.

More details to come shortly.

Meet the Committee:

Meeka Faucher

What does being part of the Women's Committee mean to you on a personal level?

Being part of this amazing group of Sisters makes me feel like I'm doing my little part in advocating for women's rights & equity, which is very important to me.

What first drew you to the Boilermaker trade and was there someone who inspired or supported you along the way?

I moved to Alberta from Québec in 2008 and put my foot in the door by being manwatch. I sat on a bucket for two months; watched and learned what a Boilermaker does, and decided that I wanted to join the Boilermakers. I've since had the opportunity to learn from so many great tradespeople, I wouldn't be able to name them all, but Lucky Gueutal was a precious support during my apprenticeship.

Outside of work, what are some of your favorite hobbies or activities that keep you grounded?

When at home, I love spending time with family and my dog Jasper, taking walks on the waterfront.

Monette Brownlee

What does being part of the Women's Committee mean to you on a personal level?

It means creating more resources for women in the trades, and renewing the union's camaraderie with more inclusivity and opportunity for women. I aim to lead positive change, focusing on women while benefiting all.

Outside of work, What are some of your favorite hobbies or activities that keep you grounded?

I'm always studying and building my dream home on a cattle farm where I raise beef for direct sale and plan to grow fruits and vegetables. I'm also developing a campground in Slave Lake.

If you could give one piece of advice to your younger self when you were just starting out what would it be?

Stand up for what's right, even if it's not the popular thing to do.

Meka Schroeder

Outside of work, What are some of your favorite hobbies or activities that keep you grounded?

I enjoy cooking for my family while creating new recipes, kayaking, rollerblading, and gardening. In the fall and winter, I focus on preserving my garden's produce and spending time with loved ones.

What does being part of the Women's Committee mean to you on a personal level?

It means advocating for a more equitable work environment, particularly for women in supervisory roles. As a mother who worked through three pregnancies in the trades, I aim to support changes that make balancing family and career more manageable for women.

What has been most Rewarding experience for you?

Seeing my work come to life and knowing my skills contribute to meaningful projects. Mentoring others and shaping the industry's future has been fulfilling.



Women's Committee Members: Meka Schroeder, Monette Brownlee and Meeka Faucher

Meet the Committee:

Kalandra Freelove

What first drew you to the Boilermaker trade and was there someone who inspired or supported you along the way?

I was inspired by my dad and his friends, who would talk about their work at hall events we attended. I admired the strong friendships they formed and how rewarding the work and income were.

What does being part of the Women's Committee mean to you on a personal level?

It means contributing to a better work environment for everyone and supporting women entering the Boilermaker trade.

If you could give one piece of advice to your younger self when you were just starting out, what would it be?

Never let anyone put you in a position where you feel unsafe - Always stand up for yourself!

Renee Gaudet

What first drew you to the Boilermaker trade and was there someone who inspired or supported you along the way?

I was inspired by my dad's friends and coworkers, who visited with pride in their work as Boilermakers, always well dressed and passionate about their craft.

What has been the most rewarding experience for you?

Working independently on projects and forming meaningful connections along the way. The relationships I've built and the trust I've earned have been incredibly fulfilling.

What does being part of the Women's Committee mean to you on a personal level?

Being part of the Women's Committee means upholding the values of integrity and honesty to ensure our union remains strong and representative of our Brothers and Sisters.

Alexis Paradis

What first drew you to the Boilermaker trade and was there someone who inspired or supported you along the way?

Growing up, I was often surrounded by my father's friends, and he frequently spoke about one in particular, Sister Angela Borsy. He admired her financial independence and would always highlight it in conversation. I rebelled and went to University but I found my way back, drawn by desire for independence, just as I had admired in her.

Outside of work, what are some of your favorite hobbies or activities that keep you grounded?

Lots of hot yoga, hockey games, concerts and I love to volunteer at my local animal shelter.

What has been most rewarding experience for you?

Being able to share my day with my dad. Having him be able to give me advice and share his stories. Also reconnecting with past crews to reminisce about old jobs.



Women's Committee posing with wristbands made at the AFL Remembrance Event.

Meet the Committee:

Ashley Flemming and Tayler Stadnick



Ashley Flemming AOS Business Representative (left) and Tayler Stadnick Western Zone Administrator (right), affiliate members of Boilermakers Lodge 146.

Ashley and Tayler recently joined the Lodge 146 Women's Committee on behalf of the Quality Control Council of Canada (QCCC). The QCCC is a collaborative initiative between the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers (IBB) and the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters (UA), serving as the designated union representing nondestructive testing (NDT) and field heat treatment technicians across Canada.

Many Boilermakers may not be aware of the QCCC, but through their work alongside those performing MT, PT, UT, RT or heat treatment services, IBB members have likely worked with QCCC members, often without realizing their shared affiliation.

One of Ashley and Tayler's primary objectives is to increase awareness and visibility of the QCCC within the affiliated trades, fostering greater camaraderie among members. Both are deeply passionate about their roles and take immense pride in their dedication to serving the needs of their members.