

**Mainstream Canada**

**Unions need dose of democracy**

by W. ROGER WORTH

If businesses treated employees the way many union leaders treat their members, governments across the country would be up in arms, and with good reason.

Consider what's happening:

- In Quebec, 3,000 out of 9,000 textile workers rejected a leadership-approved deal to end a strike. The method used to decide this crucial issue? A show of hands.

There's little wonder, then, that union president Gilles Gauthier was quoted as saying "democracy did not play a great role (in the vote)."

It boggles the mind to think that anyone could reasonably count hands among an unruly crowd of 3,000. What's worse, there is every indication that some of those in attendance were not members of the textile union at all, yet apparently participated in the vote.

As a result, Gauthier reverted to using a little common sense, calling another vote, but this time using a secret ballot where every worker has the right to make a private and thoughtful decision.

- Across Canada, settlements between labor and management are either approved or rejected by a small minority of the union members affected.

Union leaders claim apathetic members are at fault. But others argue that devices such as "show of hands" votes and one-sided leadership explanation of important issues have turned off so many individuals that a lot of members have given up hope that crucial meetings will be run fairly and democratically.

- Union leaders can be heavy-handed, sometimes more so than their big business counterparts. Following Roman Gralewicz's election as

the president of the Seafarers International Union of Canada, for example, union trial committees sought and won membership suspensions from ten years to life against four members charged with various offences such as "refusing to obey a union officer" and "refusing to cooperate with a union representative." The four had supported Gralewicz's opponent.

The union members, whose sentences were later reduced, have been barred from working at their trade for periods of up to nine months, a heavy penalty indeed.

Clearly, there is a problem when ordinary members do not feel comfortable when they participate in union affairs. But there is also a simple solution.

Governments, who have never been shy about intervening in the private sector when they perceive problems, should force all unions to hold secret membership ballots on basic issues such as wage settlements, strikes, election of leaders, increases in union dues and the like. What's more, these secret ballots should be held at the place of work.

That way, every member would have a real opportunity to become involved, and the silliness attached to accepted policies such as "show of hands" votes would end.

Who knows, a heavy dose of democracy in unions might even result in fewer strikes. It's worth considering.

**You and Your Insurance**

**Stolen car?**

It's likely that more than 16 readers of The Terrace Bay Schreiber News newspaper will have a car stolen from their household this year.

How big is the problem? In 1981 there were 93,436 motor vehicles stolen in Canada. That's an average of one car stolen from every 90 Canadian households — or 16 cars stolen from approximately 1,525 households served by The Terrace Bay Schreiber News newspaper.

If you left your car unlocked today, be thankful it is still there. Car theft is a major crime in our country today and it is safe to say

that many stolen car incidents could be avoided with just a few seconds of thought by the owner.

Who pays for this loss? You do in the form of increasing automobile premiums.

Police break car theft down into three main categories: joy riding, quick transportation and organized theft rings. While automobile manufacturers continue to "build in" features to outsmart thieves, police say that if a skilled thief really wants your car, then he'll usually get it.

However, by taking common sense steps to deter a thief, you can greatly reduce the chance of your car being

stolen. For instance, latest statistics show that 40 per cent — or 6 households served by The Terrace Bay Schreiber News newspaper — have their cars stolen because they left keys in the ignition. So, for a starter, always lock your car and take the keys with you — even if you are leaving your car for only a few minutes.

What are some of the other ways that you can help to protect your car?

Roll up your windows. There's no sense in locking the doors if the windows are open.

Make sure that you keep all of your valuables in the trunk of your car.

Cassettes, cameras or

tape recorders that are left on the seat are an open invitation for theft. (Although the car itself might not be taken, you'll have to replace a smashed window as well as the stolen valuables).

Park in well-lit areas. The majority of cars are stolen under the cover of darkness.

Don't hide spare keys under bumpers or fenders. It only takes a few seconds to check all the possibilities.

If you have a garage, use it.

Park with front wheels turned sharply to right or left, making it difficult for the professional thief to tow your car away.

**\$6 million Job Training Programme**

The Ontario Government will pay employers and their trainees bonuses up to \$4,000 under a new \$6 million job training programme, Colleges and Universities Minister Dr. Bette Stephenson announced last week.

Under the long-term component of the Ontario Training Incentive Programme, employers who hire and train an unemployed or laid-off worker or who retrain a worker who is already employed, will receive \$1,000 for each year the worker remains in the programme. Maximum

length of the training programme is four years. Employers will also be eligible for an additional \$1,000 bonus to cover a 10-week familiarization period, for new employees only.

In addition to getting paid for their training, workers taking part in the programme will receive \$1,000 a year for each year they stay in the programme. The long-term component applies to six occupations: draftsmen/women, systems analysts and programmers, chemical process operators, industrial elec-

tricians, instrument repairman/woman, and millwrights.

Trainees may also, as part of their training, attend a college of applied arts and technology for up to 50 days each year (valued at up to \$1,500 a year) at no cost to either the trainee or the employer. The Ontario Training Incentive Programme will be delivered through the college system.

Under the short-term component of the programme, employers who hire and train an unemployed or laid-off worker in other occupations, will receive a \$1,000 bonus if the worker stays in the programme for one year.

Dr. Stephenson said it is the first time that the bonus payment idea has

been offered in a job retraining programme. She said that she expects the programme will create about 9,000 new training positions in the next year.

Employers eligible for OTIP assistance must have been in business since September 19, 1982. They must guarantee that training will not result in the dismissal, lay-off or reduction in the regular hours or period of work of existing employees.

Employers may also be eligible for assistance from the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, the General Industrial Training Programme and the Critical Trade Skills Training Programme.

**PROSPECTORS - EXPLORATION COMPANIES:**

**SCHREIBER-TERRACE BAY-MARATHON**

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources will provide an economic geologist to visit, assay and advise you on the potential of any mineral occurrence you may have staked, or know the location of in the Schreiber-Terrace Bay-Marathon areas. This service is provided free of charge. The Schreiber-Terrace Bay-Marathon economic geologist program encompasses an area from Nipigon east to Marathon.

This program is funded by the Ministry of Northern Affairs.

For further information call (collect):  
Bernie Schnieders  
Resident Geologist's Office  
Ministry of Natural Resources  
Thunder Bay  
(807) 475-1331



Hon. Alan W. Pope  
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**SCHREIBER - TERRACE BAY ASSOCIATION for the MENTALLY RETARDED**

**General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 19, 1983**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Home of Art LeBlanc, President,  
602 Scotia St.,  
Schreiber, Ont.

**More funding for Indian Band Management**

The Honourable John C. Munro, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, recently announced that an additional \$10 million has been allocated to Indian Band management development and training - this brings the support for local band government training to a total of \$16.8 million in 1983/84 and 1984/85.

The money will be used to support a new

band management development programme and para-professional training and many of the 3,500 managers and support staff now involved in local band management will benefit from the new training thrust.

Out of a total of 573 of Canada's Indian Bands, 214 of them manage more than 59 per cent of the services provided to them by the federal government and another 272 band councils manage between 26 and 50 per cent of those services.

The para-professional training will be geared towards improvement of preventive and rehabilitative activities in regards to social problems on the reserves (within the context of Indian social values and traditions).

As 63 per cent of the bands administer social assistance programmes, plus the growing number of the bands who also manage child welfare and adult care programmes, the need for training in social service delivery is particularly acute.

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in co-operation with  
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offers



**ZA 003 CUSTOM CAR INTERIORS**

Learn how to plan and create your custom car interior. Topics for this two day workshop will be:

- 1) **Materials** - selection and use of colour.
- 2) **headliners** - types of installations and how to take layouts and make patterns.
- 3) **Panels** - construction materials and how to form, fasten and cover the panels.
- 4) **Carpets** - types of installation, selection, underlays, forming and laying carpet.
- 5) **Seats** - selection and how to re-cover.
- 6) **Weatherstrip and Trim** - types, uses and installations.

**DATES:** October 22 & 23, 1983  
**TIME:** Saturday 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**INSTRUCTION:** Eric Fair  
**FEE:** \$40.00  
**FACILITY:** Schreiber Recreation Centre - Arts and Crafts Room  
**REGISTRATION:** To register please contact Kevin Duguay or Michelle Godin at 824-2317 by October 17, 1983.

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**ZA 133 RELAXATION WORKSHOP (Section 98)**

Relaxation is the foundation for optimum physical, emotional and spiritual health. By attending this workshop you will learn simple relaxation techniques that can be used at home, at work or anywhere and at any time. Many new methods of relaxation will be presented and you can adapt them to suit your lifestyle. The instructions are stimulating, fun and very practical. Throughout the day you will be doing the techniques yourself and by the end of the workshop you will know how to relax! You will feel confident that being a better person is within your grasp.

**DATE:** November 5, 1982  
**TIME:** Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**INSTRUCTOR:** Edward E. Kenney, Mh. D.

**FEE:** \$30.00  
**FACILITY:** Schreiber Recreation Centre - Arts and Crafts Room  
**REGISTRATION:** To register please contact Kevin Duguay or Michelle Godin at 824-2317 by October 28, 1983.