

Power & Steam

Newsletter for Power Engineers of Atlantic Canada

Winter

December 2014

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N.S.I.P.E. GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

Date: October 28th, 2014 Tour of Oland Breweries, Halifax
Present were 25 members (student and full)

Call to order: Tour started at approximately 1840 hours. Meeting started at approximately 2015 hours.

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of last executive meeting was \$2544.11.

Newsletter: Our fall newsletter is very close to issue.

Web Page Committee: Neil Oldreive, branch treasurer, keeps the branch website current.

Legislative Committee: Nothing to report. There are changes coming to the plant registration system. A national rating system is being implemented which considers plant ratings as well as risk based factors.

Chief's Conference: The 2014 Chiefs' Conference was a success with 65 paid registrants. The agenda included presentations from NS DoLAE – Boiler and Pressure Equipment Division, Pan Global Training Solutions, NSCC, NSP Power Engineer Training Programs and Efficiency Nova Scotia

New Business:

- i) Akerley Campus student pizza party.
- ii) Those present gave a big thanks to Gail MacDonald and Jamie Swindells for taking time at the end of their day to conduct the tours of the process and plant related facilities.

Meeting/Tour adjourned at 2040 hours.

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October Meeting



From a NSCC student on our Google page

*"Thanks for the tour last night as a 1st year student. I found being able to see some of the systems we're learning to be very helpful.
So thank you again and I look forward to attending future tours."*

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Chief Power Engineers / Chief Operators of Nova Scotia Annual Conference and Trade Show

October 22nd & 23rd, 2014

The Institute of Power Engineers, Nova Scotia Branch, proudly hosted the 2014 October Chief's Conference October 22nd & 23rd at the Holiday Inn Harbourview, Dartmouth. This was the 13th time this event has been held and once again the Holiday Inn Harbourview and its staff were the perfect hosts. This year the conference had 65 registrants.

The organizing committee would like to acknowledge this year's sponsors – Fossil Power Systems, Pan Global Training Systems, Maritime Pressure Works Ltd., Maynard Reece Engineered Solutions and Oland Breweries. Their continued support is gratefully appreciated.

This year's conference included a trade show featuring 16 exhibitors. The trade show allows these exhibitors an opportunity to display their products and services to a much focused group of current and future clients. A big thank you goes out to Neil Oldreive, our NSIPE branch treasurer for his dedication and commitment to making the trade show a success.

The conference is an excellent educational opportunity for Chief Power Engineers, Plant Managers and Operators who are overseeing the safe operation of all registered plants in Nova Scotia.

This year's agenda included presentations

- The Practical Skills Record Book being used by 4th and 3rd Class Power Engineers enrolled in Apprenticeship programs
- The need for awareness of provincially registered contractors and their approved Quality Control (QC) manuals for B&PE work
- An update on the national risk based formula for plant registration
- An update on educational material being offered by Pan Global Training Systems
- A review of Power Engineering exam statistics on a national (SOPEEC/IPECC) and provincial level
- A review of the status of the Power Engineering Technology program by NSCC
- The Chief Engineer's responsibilities when a rental boiler becomes part of your plant equipment
- The provincial licensing and permitting system for all contractors working on B&PE
- A presentation from NSP on their current recruitment and retention program for Power Engineers
- An update on the requirements of installing compressed natural gas and the systems required to receive truck transported natural gas
- A presentation on the Process Operator Course at the NSCC Marconi Campus
- A presentation from Efficiency NS on their programs and the benefits of those programs at Capital Health boiler plants in Halifax
- An update on provincial B&PE Inspector incidents and findings as well as current hot topics on their radar

The organizing committee extends a big thank you to our presenters for making this year's conference a success.

The Institute of Power Engineers, the conference organizing committee and conference attendees recognized Jeremy Beaton, NSP and Lee Hiltz, Tandus Flooring for their hard work and commitment on achieving their 1st Class certification.

On behalf of Ernie Clarke, conference chairperson, the conference organizing committee and the NSIPE executive I would like to thank all that attended as it is your support that ensures the continued success of this conference.

Yours truly,

David Horne, PE
Organizing Committee Member & NSIPE Branch Secretary



We would like to thank our Conference sponsors



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Greg Sweet

Vice President Eastern Canada and Partner

30 Oland Court, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada B3B 1V2

Greg.Sweet@bluewaveenergy.ca

Telephone 902.481.6220 Cell 902.483.7799 Fax 902.468.2246

www.bluewaveenergy.ca

N.S.I.P.E. GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

Date: November 18th, 2014 Burnside Snooker Club, Dartmouth
Present were 11 members (student and full)

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 1925 hours.

Treasurer's Report: Balance is approximately \$2,000.00.

Newsletter: Our next issue is due in December/January. *It will contain a student update section from our student rep.*

Web Page Committee: Nothing to report.

Legislative Committee: Nothing to report. There are changes coming to the plant registration system. A national rating system is being implemented which considers plant ratings as well as risk based factors. Implementation may be as late as 2017/18. Based on our current understanding of the changes Ontario and Western Canada will be most affected.

Chief's Conference: The 2014 Chiefs' Conference was a success with 65 paid registrants. A conference report will be published in our newsletter as well as our national newsletter.

Election of Officers: *Our 2015 NS Branch executive is as follows:*

President – Jude Rankin
Past President – Earl McMullin
1st Vice President – Ernie Clarke
2nd Vice President – Angela Hiriart
Treasurer – Mark Boudreau
Secretary – David Horne
Area Representatives – Blair Saulnier, Jim Reid
Alternate Area Representative – Clayton White
Warden – Clayton White

New Business:

- i) A big thank you to Neil Oldreive and Greg Sutcliffe for their years of service on the branch executive.
- ii) A special thank you to Pat Dollimore, Ashland Canada, for his sponsorship of tonight's meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2000 hours.

Students of Akerley

As the semester comes to an end the students are face first into their studies. Finishing up the final tests and assignments so they may prepare for their Department of Labor Exam(s). The first year students are still unaware what to expect on their first DOL. The second year students seem more comfortable and prepared for what to expect on the examinations (but are not looking forward to studying over the Christmas break for the A2, but understand it will be beneficial!).

The tour of the Oland Breweries Ltd. was well received by the many interested students that made it. We had our general meeting and annual elections at the Snooker Pool Club in Burnside, inviting all members. Due to the timing of the event, the turnout of students was only a fraction compared to the Oland Breweries tour, but we still had pizza, a few casual drinks and enjoyed some pool! The Students are interested in where we will be touring next, as many would like to see the inner workings of various style plants.

An inquiry made by a few students sparked my interest. They asked if 'Potential Employers' handpicked students when they graduate. In most programs of higher learning, the students have the potential to be offered positions of employment, for doing well in their assigned program. So why not Power Engineers? The answer I could come up with is that the rate of employment in Nova Scotia is much lower than the provinces further west. Also, most plants in Nova Scotia hire (or want to hire) 2nd Class Power Engineers. So, is fighting for good marks really worth it? Yes, because you understand the material better, but what if you only did enough to get by and pass your DOL? Is this fair for a competent Power Engineer to compete with an inferior one? I believe Nova Scotia should have more of a system so that students putting in the effort are rewarded with at least the opportunity to be hired by potential employers based on academic achievement and operating skills. This subject still remains open for discussion.

The students of Akerley are looking forward to our next tour and casual meeting to network with experienced Power Engineers.

By: Clayton White