



## **Business Manager's message:**

### **Local 488 Dispatch Hall**

Members,

I decided to post this message to explain the Dispatch Hall situation regarding questions that have been arising with myself and our agents. The decision to limit access to the Dispatch Hall was made due to the pandemic precautions. As I've said in the past, our member's health and well-being are our number one priority. That is why when the decision was made, we switched quickly to online dispatch to accommodate the members. This way, you can continue bidding for jobs and avoid the crowding in our building. Having members drive down to the Dispatch Hall for something that can be done online from a safe distance, at this point, is unnecessary.

According to the guidelines for indoor gatherings, we could only have a specific number of people in the hall each time. Having members waiting outside the door to enter the building will cause problems with the dispatch as our mornings are considered peak hours, with members coming and going at regular intervals. Applying measures like taking temperatures at the entrance, ensuring the number of members in the building are appropriate according to guidelines, or going through screening questions, does not fit how we want to operate and provide services.

In the last few weeks, the Government has reported an increase in Covid-19 cases in Alberta. This is another reason to limit our gatherings to only essential people. Working or receiving education is essential; signing the out of work board and/or paying dues in person is not. I invite all members who need assistance with any matter, to call an Agent or a Rep. Our team members will provide you with guidance and answer all your questions in a timely and appropriate manner.

As Management, it is our responsibility to make sure we are minimizing the risks of spreading the virus between our membership and ensuring the same level of service is provided through other channels. As a Business Manager, I trust our agents and reps to do so, and I trust that you, our members, will reach out to us for any concerns that this pandemic has caused.

Stay safe.

Fraternally Yours,

Rod McKay,  
Business Manager  
Financial Secretary

