



**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS
FRATERNITÉ INTERNATIONALE DES OUVRIERS EN ÉLECTRICITÉ**



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February 7, 2014

TO ALL IBEW FIRST DISTRICT LOCAL UNIONS

RE: Private Members Bill C-201 *“Travel and Accommodation deductions for tradespersons”*

Greetings,

I would like to thank our Local Unions, Political Action Committee’s, and members, for their support and efforts made towards getting this important piece of legislation passed in the House of Commons.

Private Members Bill C-201 was an attempt to amend the Income Tax Act to allow tradespersons and apprentices in the construction industry to deduct travel and accommodation expenses should they have to travel more than 80km from their personal residence to obtain work.

Unfortunately this Bill was defeated last night after second reading. The results of the vote were 149 against to 126 in favour. **All Conservative MP’s including Prime Minister Stephen Harper voted against the Bill.** Meanwhile all NDP, Liberal, and Green Party members voted in favour of sending the Bill to Committee to be further studied.

Although this Bill was defeated we feel that we were able to bring a positive debate about this important issue to the table that the governing party cannot ignore. As such there is some hope that the Conservatives will take ownership for similar legislation that could be included in either the upcoming 2014 Budget or in Government legislation later on in the spring session.

I would encourage all members to contact their MP’s and thank those who voted in favour of this legislation. For those members with a Conservative MP who did not support Bill C-201 please follow up with them and find out why they voted against the Bill, and what would be required for them to support similar legislation in the future. Please share that information with this office as it could play a key role in creating a successful campaign in the future around similar legislation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

In solidarity,

Bill Daniels
International Vice President

BD/tf

cc: 1st District Representatives
System Council #11
CCO