



Christian Labour Association of Canada

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Deputation to City of Hamilton Committee of the Whole

- Construction Workers Local 6 is a Hamilton-based local which has existed for almost 50 years.
- CLAC, an all Canadian national union with which Local 6 is affiliated, was founded in 1952. We represent all employees, and all trades, with 10,000 in Ontario and over 40,000 nationally. 100 Locals and over 500 Collective Bargaining Agreements.
- We represent several hundred construction workers in our local including carpenters, and several hundred more belong to our sister locals. Local 52 and Local 150 members and their employers also perform work for the City of Hamilton.
- Contractors signatory to our locals regularly perform work for the City of Hamilton and have done so since the 1950s.
- Members of our locals and the contractors they work for live in Hamilton, work in Hamilton and pay taxes in Hamilton.
- Any amount of work that is accessible to the Carpenter's Union members only, is closed to over 80% of Hamilton's carpenters who do not belong to that union.
- Our signatory contractors are important contributors to Hamilton's infrastructure, performing multi-million dollar jobs over the years, and up to about \$10 million in a year.
- Our general contractors include Aim Environmental, Demik Construction, GS Wark Construction, Rankin Construction, Maple-Reinders Construction, STF Construction, North American Construction and Harm Schilthuis & Sons. Many of them have been doing City work for decades and have been signatory to the union for decades.
- Besides these general contractors, our sub-trade contractors are also affected. Some do work in the jurisdiction that the Carpenters union claims, such as interior systems (drywall boarding, steel stud walls, exterior sheathing, acoustic ceilings, etc.) concrete forming, and scaffolding.
- Additionally, there are other sub-trades (e.g. plumbers, HVAC, mechanics, electricians, and many more) who traditionally perform work for our general contractors and non-union contractors. Access to work for these members is also affected at the outset when CLAC signatory general contractors are not permitted to bid. The restriction goes beyond this when typical Building and Construction Trades Council sub-trade-unions-only clauses become part of a Collective Agreement. It is not unusual that one of these unions asks an employer to agree only to permit their fellow Washington-based international brotherhoods to perform sub-trade work for that employer to the exclusion of alternate union and non-union workers.

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You may recall some of the projects completed by CLAC-affiliated contractors and our union's members, including our carpenters:

- Career Development Centre on Main St. (2005)
- Sackville Hill Fieldhouse (nearing completion)
- Sackville Hill Seniors Centre (1991)
- Walker Pool Renovation (2004)
- Pier IV Project, Park, Playground (2000)
- Desjardin Canal Floating Bridge (2000)
- Limeridge Road six story building for Housing Authority (1980s)
- Cityview on Walnut St. for Housing Authority (2003)
- Arenas and pools built, renovations, additions including Mountain Park Arena, Glanbrook, Rockton, Spring Valley, Saltfleet, Coronation Park, Inch Park and others
- Concession Street Library (1993)
- City Places (2000)
- Various fire stations, including Nos. 4, 6, 7, 10, Dundas Fire Hall, West Mountain Fire Station (Garth & Mohawk), Simulation Fire and Rescue Complex (Stonechurch Rd.)
- Public Works garages, including Chedoke, Bay Street Central Garage, Dundas Physical Services building
- Dundas Centre for the Performing Arts (1980s)
- Redhill Day Care Centre Renovation (1970s)
- various escarpment access stairs, including Dundurn, East Hamilton, Chedoke, Princess Point
- SWARU fly ash facility
- City of Hamilton Composting facility

For these reasons, we contend that the City of Hamilton should do all in its power to prevent the tendering restrictions as proposed due to the Carpenters collective bargaining situation. Many workers have participated in building this City. We should continue to allow all Hamilton's tax-paying carpenters, and all other qualified construction workers, to continue to perform work let for tender by the City.

We thank you for the opportunity to hear our viewpoint on this important matter and hope that our presentation helps shed light on the gravity of this matter for many citizens.

Should you have any further questions or desire more information from us, do not hesitate to contact us:

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