



May 31, 2011

## **Joint project seeks trades and maintenance workers' expertise**

The multi-union Facilities Bargaining Association is working with the Lower Mainland Facilities Management to gather the expertise and knowledge of Lower Mainland trades and maintenance workers in an upcoming survey.

This survey is the first step in the work of the new Trades and Maintenance Committee Pilot Project, a new collaborative committee between union members and Facilities Management. Together, we will engage workers on how to lower costs, increase productivity, and expand opportunities for union members.

We are confident that together we can find better deals on parts, tools, supplies and services; identify products that are of high quality in order to reduce life cycle costs and increase reliability, maintainability and customer service; and find ways that facilities management can be more environmentally sustainable.

The unions and the employer will meet to discuss the survey results and how to move forward on the best suggestions.

This survey is being circulated by supervisors in your workplace. If you are a trades and maintenance worker in the Facilities Bargaining Association and working in the Lower Mainland, please complete and return this anonymous survey to your supervisor by June 21, 2011. We value your input!

The survey is just the beginning. Over the next year the Trades and Maintenance Committee Pilot Project will look jointly at projects currently performed by outside contractors where it could make sense to do the work in-house, multi-site float crews, and other ideas to save money, to increase customer services, and to increase opportunities for workers.

If you have any questions about the Trades and Maintenance Committee Pilot Project please contact Chris Kinkaid, FBA/HEU Research & Policy Director, [ckinkaid@heu.org](mailto:ckinkaid@heu.org) and/or Mitch Weimer, Fraser Health [Mitch.Weimer@fraserhealth.ca](mailto:Mitch.Weimer@fraserhealth.ca)