

Society Newscast 2004:07

This is the Society Newscast for Friday, October 8, 2004



Müller: Society changes the "right moves"

The changes the Society implemented over the past two years have paid off, says Society President **Andrew Müller**.

In his opening address to Society Council on Monday, September 20th, Müller said he's convinced that the Society is better positioned to deal with all on its plate. "It was a tough move," he said, "and a lot of people didn't appreciate the need for changes, but it's clear now we did the right thing."

The Society negotiated ten renewal collective agreements in one year, he noted, giving the Society locals the credit. "We couldn't have done it with the old structure; I'm very pleased with the results."

He also pointed to the Society's new relationship with the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers. The IFPTE hired Shirley Dufour and Tom Galivan to organize in Canada; they've introduced the Society to very important experts in the field; and IFPTE President Gregory Junemann and staffers Brian Lawson, Andy Banks, and Matt Biggs have been crucial to the Society's campaign around Bill 100. "They were crucial in our being able to put together yesterday's International Symposium on electricity restructuring," he said. "Ninety *per cent* of the publicity we got came from their effort."

"We have had a very successful year," said Müller, "but the fight is not over." The pressure must be kept on the Government, he said, and all the work that's gone into forging alliances with the IFPTE and many other groups will continue.



On September 12th, Lambton GS held an open house. Here, Dale Lane (l), a leader in the community's fight to keep Lambton from being closed, staffs the Society display.

Council passes electricity, bargaining, strike policies

The first meeting of the new Society Council spent a day setting a trio of new directions for the Society.

Council adopted a policy on the electricity industry that strongly favours public ownership of industry assets, with a provision for private participation in certain circumstances. The policy itself was formulated over the last year, said Executive Vice President **Leslie Forge**. The Society consulted extensively among experts in the membership, and the policy owes a great deal to their expertise, she added. Key to the policy is the Society's view of electricity as key to Ontario's economy, and some of our most

Our collective economic dependence on reliable and safe electricity at reasonable and stable prices requires that the electricity industry be publicly owned and directed to serve the public interest of all Ontarians. The electricity industry must remain in public control to be used as an instrument of economic growth for Ontario and its workers.

Council members from Bruce Power suggested the new electricity policy be modified somewhat to reflect the Society's policy passed in 2001, which set out a place for private participation. The following addition was approved by Council: "Private equity and private operations of the public assets will be supported when it is in the best interests of our members and/or the viability of the employer."

Council also endorsed policy "backgrounders" on hydroelectric power, fossil power, and conservation.

Bargaining: Council adopted a document that sets out the Society's policies for Locals when they bargain. They include:

- ◆ Locals will support each other, and not bargain agreements that undermine other locals
- ◆ Board approval is needed before a Local can reach agreement in certain situations
- ◆ Locals will negotiate compensation structures that do not disadvantage future members
- ◆ Locals shall maximize the creation of regular Society-represented positions, and minimize contracting out/purchased services
- ◆ A key Society bargaining objective is to maintain the 35 hour work or reduce the current work week for Society represented employees

Strike Policy: A policy on strikes was passed containing the following elements:

- ◆ Locals must request approval from the Society Board to consider conducting a strike
- ◆ Picket lines will be lifted and members will return to work following the successful ratification of a new collective agreement.

- ◆ Local bylaws should be revised to include requirements that members fulfill their obligations following a duly constituted strike vote
- ◆ The Local VP is the chief point of contact with the employer and with members

Council members also voted to set strike pay at \$250 per week for every week a strike is conducted. This is a change from standard union practice, which usually requires a two-week period with no strike pay.

The electricity policy and backgrounders have been posted to the web-site. The bargaining and strike policies will be posted when Council's amendments are incorporated.

Society launches "Amend Bill 100" web-site

A web-site is now available for members to track Society efforts to amend the Liberal government's *Electricity Restructuring Act*.

Launching today, the "Amend Bill 100" campaign website can be found at <http://www.bill100.ca>.

On this site, surfers can watch a video presentation on the Society's efforts to change Bill 100; browse a wealth of resources to keep abreast of the issues; read the Society's own plan for the electricity system; and send comments to the Society. Coming in the next few days will be pages of news on the campaign.

The Society encourages members to let colleagues, family, friends, neighbours, and their MPPs know about this site.

Müller acclaimed; elections for Vice Presidents

While Andrew Müller has been acclaimed to the position of Society President for the 2005-7 period, the two open Vice President positions are being contested.

Bill Jones (Kinectrics), currently serving as Acting VP Finance, is being challenged by Adam Habayeb (Pickering NGS). Meanwhile, long-serving Principal Officer Leslie Forge (Hydro One) is being challenged by Keith Rattai (also Hydro One). Here are brief profiles of the candidates:



Keith Rattai (l) and Leslie Forge, candidates for Vice President, Policy

Bill Jones (l) and Adam Habayeb, candidates for Vice President, Finance

Executive Vice President Finance:

Adam Habayeb: A cost and schedule analyst at Pickering NGS, Adam has been a Society member since 1981. He was a member of the Executive At-Large Committee from 1986-1990, and has served since 1998 as a unit director in two different units. He has served as a Society representative on several joint management-Society committees at OPGN, on the Society's negotiations team in OPGN, and on the Society's Audit Committee.

He has, he says, a "unique blend of educational qualifications," a PhD in chemistry and an MBA. His work experience covers "diverse assignments in business planning, project controls, project management, technology marketing, business positioning, quality systems auditing," and program coordination. The Society, he says, is more diverse now, ranging from smaller locals whose employers want take-backs, to locals that don't have access to mediation/arbitration, and larger locals about to enter negotiations in tough economic times. All need financial support.

Adam believes members should not encounter difficulties in obtaining financial information from the Society, so long as their requests "do not violate the Society Constitution, any applicable regulations, or individual privacy." He will work with the Board, he says, "to develop guidelines that will enable our members to obtain financial reports/information upon submission of a written request subject to the above constraints."

Bill Jones: Bill replaced the previous VP Finance, **Chris Cragg**, in June, upon the latter's retirement. Building on the accomplishments of Mr. Cragg, Bill has improved financial reporting, and helped to update the Management Control Framework (which sets out the financial processes and accountabilities

the Society follows in administering its budget) to fit with the new Society structure. He drafted a policy on strike pay, and promises to lead discussion on dealing with future equity payments from Bruce Power.

Bill says though VP Finance isn't a "glamour portfolio," he enjoys assisting the locals in understanding Society finances. Though the organizing portfolio has been moved to the Executive VP Membership Services, Bill promises to do what's necessary to "grow the membership in our existing Locals and contribute to organizing/affiliating other groups."

Bill first became a delegate in 1984, and has remained active ever since. He served as Unit Director in Ontario Hydro Technologies and Kinectrics in 1996-7 and 2000-2004, served on the Audit Committee from 2001-2004, including two years as Chair, and on the Society Pension Committee.

Executive Vice President Policy:

Leslie Forge: The incumbent in this position, Leslie has been a Vice President of the Society since 1995. She became a delegate in 1981, was first elected to an executive position in 1982 and has been steadily active since then as delegate, Unit Director, and/or Vice President. She has been the Chair of many Society committees, including Pension, Benefits, Employment Equity, Career Development, External Relations, and Grievance Coordinating. She has been a member of many joint Society/Management teams and bargaining teams, including the Society central negotiating team in the late 1990s, the team for the IMO and ESA locals, and the Toronto Hydro team. She holds an MBA from York University.

In addition to leadership experience, Leslie says the EVP Policy must have "specialized skills, training and experience to do the job." Her experience, she says, covers a number of critical areas, including bargaining objectives, negotiations support, pensions and benefits, external relations policy and internal support. "I've developed this area over many years such that I'm now the readily acknowledged expert."

She will use all her knowledge and experience, she says, "to improve Society negotiations, including solid bargaining objectives, bargaining support, reduced number of contractors, enhanced employment and pension security and benefits, and effective representation in 'spun off' units. I'll work hard to encourage our Society to become better at pulling together for the common good."

Keith Rattai: Keith is the Vice President of the Hydro One Local. He has been employed by Ontario Hydro and Hydro One since 1982, becoming a First Line Manager—and Society represented—in 1999. The Society is the fourth union he's been a member of, and he's been active in all four, including the Communications Workers of Canada, the Teamsters, and the Power Workers Union.

In his five years with the Society, he's been on the Board of Directors/Executive Board for three years, has served on several Society Committees—including Membership, Grievance Coordinating, Bruce Equity Policy, Communications, and Strategic Planning. He's been on several Society bargaining teams, including Hydro One, Vertex, and Inergi. He's also the Society representative on the Board of Directors of the Electrical & Utility Safety Association.

There are three major leadership qualities Keith believes important to the EVP role: commitment, with a strong work ethic; two-way communications; and informed decision-making. He says the Society needs "leaders to be hard working and dependable, with energy, enthusiasm and experience to take the Society into the future." Keith believes he has these qualities.

Ballots for these elections were mailed on October 1st. They must be returned to the Society office October 29th, or be post-marked before noon of that date.

Links to the e-mail addresses of the individual candidates are attached to their names above, should individual members have questions to ask.

Hydro One: the second invasion of Florida

Hydro One crews have been in Florida again, repairing hurricane damage.

Three days after Hydro One's first group of crews returned home from Florida (see *Newscast* 2004:06), Hurricane Jeanne ploughed through the state, taking up where Hurricane Frances left off. Apparently impressed by the capabilities of the first wave of Canadian crews, Florida Light & Power called for help again. On September 27th, 220 Hydro One employees crossed the border at Windsor, Fort Erie, and Gananoque and headed south.

On Thursday, they reached Stuart, Florida, and parked at the same airport that had served as headquarters after Hurricane Frances. **Kim Hummel**, a Lines FLM out of Nipissing, was among them. He says Jeanne followed almost the same path as Frances, though it was not quite as strong, and wrecked some of the work that had been done. "To me, though I'll have to say I haven't seen everything, it wasn't as devastating looking as the ice storm (of 1998), but there was a lot of small damage everywhere."

Unlike the first wave of crews, however, the second wave couldn't spend their nights in the Stuart area. "We couldn't get motel rooms. A lot of them have been wrecked. I hear the Holiday Inn's going to be closed for a year," he said. Instead, they had to stay in Fort Lauderdale, an hour's commute each way.

But the locals are just as happy to see them, he said, maybe happier. "Some of them were down 14 days after the first storm, and then another seven after this one. They come out and hug us when they see us."

At time of writing, Kim says the crews are mostly doing clean-up, going back over the areas where power had been restored, and fixing things that had been passed over. "The others have been sent home, and the Hydro One crews are still here. The FP&L people told us, 'You get your work, you go and do it, you work safely, you follow our rules, you don't gripe, and you get things done.'" So FP&L keeps them as long as they can.

Kim and the rest will be on their way home by the time this *Newscast* is distributed.

Meanwhile, 11 men and six trucks from Hydro One Brampton are on their way to Freeport, on Grand Bahama. They'll be helping to rebuild the system in the Bahamas, some of whose customers have been without power since September 4th. The crews are expected to spend three weeks there.

Hydro One has placed a gallery of pictures, thank you notes, and press releases on its web site.



Society protects NSS bargaining unit

In resolving a pair of nagging problems left over from the spin-off from OPG, the Society and Nuclear Safety Solutions management may have paved the way to a more positive relationship.

Since the transfer in 2002 of staff to NSS, Society representatives have been questioning a number of "section manager" positions—whose duties appeared to be supervisory, and within the Society's "jurisdiction"—which came over from OPG outside the Society bargaining unit. Since there was no apparent reason why they should *not* have been Society-represented, the matter was questioned.

Also, NSS inherited a purchased-service contractor from OPG for which there was no record of Society agreement. In discussion of the matter, the Society agreed to extend the position to no later than the end of 2003. When it was discovered in February, 2004 that the contractor was still working, the Society questioned the matter, and, when no solution was arrived at, both matters were grieved.

On the eve of arbitration, the Society and NSS managed to settle the jurisdictional matter. Five of the disputed positions were brought into the Society bargaining unit, while three will remain outside.

In the grievance over the purchased service, Arbitrator William Kaplan awarded in favour of the Society, ruling that NSS had breached the agreement. The contractor will not work for NSS later than December 1st of this year, unless he is hired into a Society position.

In both cases, the Society was awarded an amount of money in recognition of wrongly forgone dues.

Society President Andrew Müller congratulated those involved in the cases: Local Vice President **Camber Muir**, Unit Director **Duncan Barber**, and Society Staff Officer **Sharona Freudmann**. "It's a very positive step," he said. "We protect the integrity of the Local, and we hope we've set our relations with NSS management in a more professional direction."

Safety always first in IMO-administered markets

By Rick Coates, IMO Local Vice President

(Re: Charges laid in Barret Chute tragedy, Society Newscast 2004:04)

There has been some confusion over how generation is lined up under the rules of the IMO-administered markets. It's important to remember that Society-represented staff are involved in all aspects of the market and would never support an unsafe process.

Most generators in Ontario receive dispatch instructions from the IMO indicating the required output from the generator. These instructions are sent in five-minute intervals, but are only sent when there is a requirement to move from the current operating point.

There are two key points to these instructions when it comes to safety. The first is that they are based on information provided by the owner of the generator. The generator offers to produce a certain amount of energy at certain price. For instance, if a generator wants to be sure to be asked to produce at least 50 MW, they could offer the first 50 MW of output into the market at a negative price. They would still get paid the going price in the market but would be virtually ensured they can generate at least 50 MW. Similarly, if the owner of the generator would rather not go beyond 50 MW, they could offer the remaining energy at the highest possible price, virtually ensuring the unit will not go beyond 50 MW output. The owner can also identify any maintenance activities that may limit the output of the generator from the normal rating.

The second and most important point is that the owner of the generator does not have to follow the dispatch instruction if it would be unsafe to do so. The IMO does not control the generator equipment. The instruction requesting an output is sent to the facility for acceptance by the owner. The market rules have been very clear from the day the market opened that the owner does not have to follow an unsafe instruction. Market Rule 7.5.3 posted on the IMO website clearly states the owner does not have to follow any instruction which "would endanger the safety of any person, damage equipment, or violate any applicable law. A market participant that departs from dispatch instructions for any such reason shall so notify the IMO". There is no penalty for refusing an instruction the owner deems to be unsafe.

The Independent Electricity Market Operator is staffed with 265 Society-represented professionals who, like all Society professionals, always put safety first. Regardless of our diversity of opinions on the role of markets in our industry, the professionalism that exists in all the members of our union would never allow us to put unsafe rules in place.



Rick Coates, IMO Local Vice President

ABB in Guelph saved from closure: IFPTE credited

ABB's Guelph plant will not close its doors after all.

Last July, after a particularly difficult round of negotiations with its production workers, ABB announced the permanent closure of its plant in Guelph, which manufactures and repairs transformers for customers in the electricity industry all over North America. Not only would the production workers lose their jobs, but about 50 engineers and designers, members of IFPTE Local 164, would as well.

IFPTE 164 quickly set up a campaign committee of 12 volunteers to pressure the company into reconsidering. The local MP and MPP—Brenda Chamberlain and Liz Sandals—were contacted, as well as politicians from the surrounding area. Guelph Mayor Kate Quarrie and Minister of Energy Dwight Duncan were contacted. ABB suppliers were encouraged to contact ABB and express their concern, as were purchasers, such as OPG and Hydro One in Ontario.

Were ABB to close, said Local 164, Guelph would lose 380 highly skilled jobs, \$20 million in annual payroll, and \$1 million in municipal tax revenue. There would also be a "ripple" effect on other communities. The ABB facility is unique in North America, as it is the only one with the facilities to repair large transformers for OPG and Hydro One.

Soon after ABB began to receive letters from Local 164 target contacts, ABB announced it would reconsider. After it became clear that productivity was improving and orders were on the increase, ABB announced that the facility would remain in production while management and the unions involved looked for ways to improve the business.

"There were other factors involved in this victory, and it's not over yet," says Local 164 president Bill Duncan, "but we're pretty pleased with the results of our campaign. Many of our members here have young families, and want to have a future in Guelph."

Duncan says Local 164 will continue to work with ABB, politicians, suppliers, and purchasers to make the Guelph facility as efficient and productive as possible. "There's been very little investment in the industry since Enron and the other collapses, and our industry has really suffered," he says. "But we think that will change, and we want to still be in business when it does."

IBEW campaigns for Point Lepreau refurbishment

Employees at New Brunswick Power have launched a campaign to encourage the provincial government to approve the refurbishment of Point Lepreau NGS.

"The last poll showed 70 *per cent* of the people of New Brunswick want Point Lepreau to be refurbished," says Ross Galbraith, Assistant Business Manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 37. "The poll also showed some people would like to know more about safety and Point Lepreau's impact on the environment, so those are two areas we focused our campaign on."

The IBEW represents 2,100 employees of NB Power, including around 300 professional employees.

As demand continues to increase, and Point Lepreau nears the end of its planned life, New Brunswick faces an energy shortage in just a few years. Recently, IBEW leaders were alarmed to read in a Maine newspaper that Bill Thompson, New Brunswick's Deputy Energy Minister, was planning to rely on imports. "My world sees more power coming from the south," he said. "You have it available."

To build public support for refurbishing Point Lepreau, the IBEW ran advertisements in the dailies during August and September, launched a web-site, have written letters to editors, and have encouraged

IBEW members to do the same. A campaign of lobbying their MLAs is in the works as well.

Point Lepreau was the first CANDU-6 generating station commissioned in Canada. With 640MW of output, it has provided 30 *per cent* of New Brunswick's electricity since it began operations in 1983. Built to run for 30 years, NB Power currently plans to refurbish the station beginning in 2008, giving it 25 to 30 more years of production. In 2002, a plan to partner with AECL to refurbish the station in 2006 was scuttled by New Brunswick's Public Utilities Board. Some worry that further delays for Point Lepreau will put it in ruinous competition with all the other CANDUs that need refurbishment after 2010.

NB Power is operating in a state of limbo right now. Earlier this year, the provincial government passed legislation opening up the wholesale market, but only for large customers and three municipalities. Sometime this month, the government plans to break up NB Power into a holding company, and four subsidiaries: generation, nuclear generation, transmission, and distribution.

In the meantime, Energy Minister Bruce Fitch has received "a number" of unsolicited proposals from private firms interested in an equity position in Point Lepreau. The new legislation won't allow Point Lepreau to be sold, but it will allow it to be leased.

"If [the government] can get someone else to pay for it, they'd just love it," says Galbraith. "We'd rather it be publicly funded, but if private's the only way to do it I guess we'd have to live with it."

ESA celebrates fifth anniversary

The Electrical Safety Authority celebrated its fifth anniversary at its Annual General Meeting on September 16th.

Held in Mississauga, more than 200 employees, retirees, and participants in the electricity industry joined the ESA leadership for speeches, nosh, and a tour of the dozen or so displays regarding different aspects of the ESA's business.

Unfortunately, ESA Chair Dane MacCarthy was unable to attend, having been hospitalized the previous weekend. Director Bob McGavin welcomed participants on Mr. MacCarthy's behalf. CEO Robert Stelzer outlined the ESA's accomplishments over the last fiscal year, including:

- ◆ The Authority had "accelerated its brand" and increased awareness of electrical safety issues, most notably through a partnership with Home Depot, convincing more consumers to contact qualified electrical contractors

- ◆ A video on electrical safety had been produced for elementary schools
- ◆ An on-line Q&A was developed for the Ontario Electrical Safety Code
- ◆ Customer satisfaction was "appreciably raised"
- ◆ The Authority carried out more electrical inspections, and increased and updated training for its inspectors

According to ESA Communications Director **Cathy Chernysh**, "We tried to attract a larger number of contractors and others in the industry this year." It must have worked. The event was astonishingly well attended.



Speaking of celebrations, on September 30th, the Society and Society Staff Union threw a shindig to honour the recently-retired Chris Cragg, a central figure in the last 20 years of Society history. Another ex-President, Colin Throop, MEd. Chris was accompanied by wife Louise (r), daughter Sheryl, and mother Carol (neither pictured).

PWU breaks with Liberals

PWU President Don MacKinnon has told Premier McGuinty the Power Workers have given up cooperating with the Provincial Government.

The PWU made their decision known in a letter to the Premier. Despite Energy Minister Dwight Duncan's assurances that no jobs will be lost in the industry, MacKinnon said, Ministry staff have "made it perfectly clear that your government has no intention of mitigating in any way the impending job loss and disruption..." Based on this rejection of Power Worker solutions, he said, "We cannot in good conscience... continue on a cooperative path or deny our membership the knowledge that their jobs are at risk."

President MacKinnon assured the Premier that while the PWU would always be ready to "discuss positive relations based on cooperative decision-making," the impetus for that would have to come from the government.

Brighton Beach Power online

(reprinted, slightly edited, from Hydro One News)

Brighton Beach Power is now connected to the grid.

A joint venture of ATCO and Ontario Power Generation, the gas-fired combined cycle generating station occupies part of the site of the former J.C. Keith Generating Station in Windsor.

The Brighton Beach station consists of two 199MW gas-fired combustion turbine generators and one 225MW steam turbine generator. As with most combined cycle plants, the hot exhaust from the combustion turbine generators is routed through two heat recovery steam boilers that provide steam for the turbine generator. This greatly increases the efficiency of the plant, as the same natural gas fuels two separate generators.

The new plant has more than twice the capacity of the old Keith plant, so to connect it to Hydro One's transmission system cost \$13.5 million—most of it paid by Brighton Beach Power.

Bruce Power prepares for new fuel demonstration

(reprinted, slightly edited, from Hydro One News)

Bruce Power is preparing a trial of new nuclear fuel to begin later this year.

The four nuclear reactors in the Bruce B nuclear generating station are presently required by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission to operate at 90 *per cent* of full capacity. This limitation was put in place because a safety analysis showed that if a severe accident took place in the reactor, fuel channel damage could take place before the safety systems could shut down the reactor. Limiting the reactors to 90 *per cent* eliminates this possibility.

The new fuel is slightly enriched. It contains one *per cent* fissile uranium-235, as compared to natural uranium, which contains 0.71 *per cent*. Each fuel bundle also has a central fuel element that contains a neutron absorbing substance. The extra uranium-235 in the new fuel increases its reactivity while the neutron absorbing substance in the central element decreases it. The result is a fuel that is approximately the same reactivity as the current nuclear fuel.

However, the new fuel is specifically designed to produce a lower power surge during a nuclear accident. This gives the safety systems more time to shut down the reactor should an accident occur, eliminating the need to limit reactor power to 90 *per cent* of capacity.

New fuel bundles will be loaded into two fuel channels of one of the Bruce B Reactors during normal fuelling operations beginning late this year. The trial will be complete in late 2005.

Should all necessary permits be granted, Bruce Power would begin normal refuelling operations with the new fuel in late 2006, and the new fuel will be in all four reactors by mid-2008. At that time, each Bruce B reactor will be producing approximately 100MW more power than it does today.

CLC to formulate new industrial policy

The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) has begun the process of formulating a new industrial policy for the organization.

CLC President Ken Georgetti was the keynote speaker at a conference held to kick off the process, which will result in a policy to be presented to delegates for approval at an upcoming CLC Convention. The current policy was formulated in the 1980s.

Georgetti outlined the following elements he would like to see in the policy:

- ◆ Canada needs a highly-productive private sector to create and support well-paid jobs.
- ◆ A strong public sector is a necessary complement to a vigorous private sector-wealth creation and higher living standards for workers depend on both
- ◆ The government must actively—not passively—support to shape the business sector, and the job creation that goes along with it.

"I cannot stress too strongly that when we talk about the need for an industrial policy, we are not saying that only the private sector creates wealth," he said. "What we are saying is that we need to sustain and create good private sector jobs, and that a strong industrial sector should be an important goal of our overall economic policies."

He said it's very important for labour to push the debates on industrial policy and the role of government policy makers. He pointed out that the free trade agreement had caused a drastic reduction in the quantity and quality of jobs in Canada, but that it is important to move on and push forward.

Other speakers at the conference included David Crane of the *Toronto Star*, Jim Stanford and Buzz Hargrove from the Canadian Auto Workers; Jane Stinson of the Canadian Union of Public Employees; and Ursula Huws, a visiting professor from the U.K. They spoke on the importance of manufacturing in the Canadian economy, the need for more training, development, and early childhood education, what can be done and needs to be changed in trade agreements, the role of the public sector in building

industrial strategies, issues arising from economic restructuring in the global economy (including virtual work), and the role of Sector Councils.

It was agreed that Canadians need a stronger manufacturing sector. The importance of energy—specifically electricity—was also clear in the speeches, as well as access to high quality education.

Representing the Society at the conference were Executive Vice President Leslie Forge, Staff Manager **Dan Kellar**, and Staff Officer **Michelle Duncan**. "It was a great opportunity to hear from excellent speakers," said Forge, "and to participate in the development of recommended strategies for an industrial policy for Canada."

NDP researcher Gloger dies

The Society was saddened last week to learn of the untimely death of the Ontario NDP caucus's energy researcher, Fred Gloger.

"The Society dealt with Fred on many occasions," said President Andrew Müller. "He was very knowledgeable, highly intelligent, and very easygoing. I'm sure the NDP caucus will find him very hard to replace.

NDP MPP Marilyn Churley announced Gloger's death on September 15th in a meeting of the Legislature's Committee on Social Policy.

He was an incredibly bright, quirky, funny, smart man who will be very sadly missed by our caucus. We're just reeling from the loss at the moment. I just wanted everybody to know that as I make my points here today in this committee, Fred Gloger's thinking is responsible for most of those thoughts.

Gloger was 43.

And that is the Society Newscast for Friday, October 8, 2004.

Members can hear the current Newscast by calling (416) 979-2709 x.2035.

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