



May 22, 2014

**LOCAL 555 – SASKATCHEWAN, MANITOBA**  
**AND NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO**  
**NOTICE OF APPRENTICESHIP RATIOS**

BCA of Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Contractor:

The BCA would like to remind all contractors of their obligations under Article 27.01 of the Collective Agreement to employ apprentices in the agreed to ratio of one (1) apprentice to four (4) journeymen, including welders, if the apprentice is so qualified.

IBB Local 555 has advised the BCA that they will be dispatching apprentices, when available, in the agreed to ratios in the Collective Agreement, regardless of whether the contractor has requested an apprentice or not. The BCA encourages all contractors to comply with the terms of Article 27.01 as referenced above.

It is recognized that there may be situations in which the above ratio would be impractical, at which time you must consult with the Business Manager (Emile Gareau) and reach a mutually agreeable solution.

The IBB Local 555 has spent significant time in establishing a top-notch welding apprenticeship program and the BCA fully supports their efforts to ensure the program is actively utilized.

The employment of apprentices in the agreed to ratios is **extremely important** to our industry in order to develop and maintain a highly skilled labour pool for the future. Technical and on-the-job training will benefit all those involved by ensuring the development of safety-conscious skilled workers capable of high levels of both productivity and quality.

Apprenticeship programs continue to be an essential means of ensuring our member contractors will be able to meet their workforce planning needs in the short and long-term as the Canadian economy continues to grow and the journeyman labour pool ages.

*Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the BCA Western Canada office at 780-450-8885 or the BCA Main office at 905-684-2244.*