



# INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF BOILERMAKERS

Arnie Stadnick, International Vice President

[boilermaker.ca](http://boilermaker.ca)

## April 28<sup>th</sup>, National Day of Mourning

Every April 28<sup>th</sup>, we observe a moment of silence for those workers who were injured or killed in the workplace. We also renew our commitment to preventing future work-related deaths, injuries, and illnesses. While we can't hold in-person gatherings this year, the enduring message of Day of Mourning – to **mourn for the dead and fight for the living** – is more critical than ever.

The numbers are staggering. In 2018, 1,027 workplace deaths were recorded in Canada. Another 264,438 were injured or became ill. And we know many more work-related deaths and illnesses are not reflected in the official workers' compensation system – this is simply unacceptable.

This year, the global COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we live and work. While everyone is affected by the crisis, we owe a special debt of gratitude to the front line and essential workers who are helping to keep our families and communities healthy and safe.

This year, more than ever before, it is imperative we defend the fundamental rights of every worker to healthy and safe workplaces.

Wherever you find yourself on April 28<sup>th</sup>, please take a moment to stop, observe a moment of silence and remember our fallen brothers and sisters. Together, let us renew our commitment to each other, to health and safety, and to ensuring we all return home safe and healthy at the end of the workday.

## **STOP THE PANDEMIC: SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK CAN SAVE LIVES.**

### History:

The National Day of Mourning, held annually on April 28, was officially recognized by the federal government in 1991, eight years after the day of remembrance was launched by the Canadian Labour Congress. The Day of Mourning has since spread to more than 100 countries around the world and has been adopted by the AFL-CIO, International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the International Free Trade Unions (ITUC).

