



August 1, 2023

TO: All First District Local Union Business Managers

RE: Electronic Petition for Ukraine Refugees

Greetings:

IBEW Local 424 has been working diligently with the Ukrainian community in Alberta, helping families displaced by the invasion of their country in any way they can. Over the last year, IBEW Local 424 has taken several Ukrainians into their apprenticeship system and helping them to overcome some of the barriers they are facing along the way.

One of recent challenges they have found is for Ukrainians who have come in through the Canada-Ukraine authorization for emergency travel (CUAET) program. This program offers Ukrainians and their family members free, extended temporary status and allows them to work, study and stay in Canada until it is safe for them to return home. However, the challenge is anyone coming in through the CUAET Visa that is working through an apprenticeship program cannot apply for permanent residency.

IBEW Local 424 member and Assistant Business Manager, Scott Crichton, has put together an electronic petition that has been sponsored by the Member of Parliament for Edmonton-Strathcona, Heather McPherson. I am encouraging each and every IBEW Local Union to visit the House of Commons e-petition [HERE](#) and share this widely with your members and their families. The petition closes for signatures on Saturday September 16th, 2023. You can also scan the QR Code below with your smart phone for a direct link to the website.



In Solidarity,



Russ Shewchuk
International Vice President
First District, CANADA

cc: International Representative
IBEW CCO
System Council #11