



Federal Government Dockyard Trades & Labour Council (West)



BULLETIN

November 16, 2020

To All Members

It seems like only yesterday we were all nervously watching this pandemic take hold around the world and wondering how it was going to affect us here in Canada. The world has changed immensely since March 2020, as have all our personal lives and the way we must work together. Trying to manage safety protocols in an establishment such as the FMF Cape Breton, and especially in the Production Department where the members must be physically in place, has proven to be an incredibly difficult and ever evolving challenge. Especially now, as the Covid-19 numbers rise again across the country, in BC, and unfortunately on our Island, all members are encouraged to speak up if they see anything that can be improved or adjusted to ensure the utmost security for all members of the defence team in the workplace. Please raise any issues that you feel have gone unaddressed to our office.

Ship Repair West Collective Agreements (Blue Books)

The new booklets have been delivered, and are to be distributed to the membership through the individual shops. Please contact the Council office if you have not received one.

PSAC Tentative Collective Agreement

As most members are now aware, the Public Service Alliance of Canada has reached tentative collective agreements (some if not all now ratified) with the employer. We applaud our Sisters and Brothers on the PSAC bargaining teams for their diligent and hard work on behalf of their members.

It has been reported that the PSAC bargaining groups have been offered a higher compensation package regarding Phoenix damages. The Phoenix Damages Agreement that we are part of (signed June 2019 by all other Bargaining Agents with the exception of the PSAC) had a clause included that stated if any other party not signatory to that agreement reached a higher Phoenix damages compensation agreement with the employer, the signatory Unions to the original agreement would be compensated to the higher level. The National Joint Council Bargaining Agents

Side committee will be involved with Treasury Board to determine if there is an entitlement to additional compensation for our members. We will report back asap on the outcome of those meetings.

699 Leave with Pay

The employer Treasury Board of Canada has issued new guidance to the departments and down to our local management regarding the ongoing use of 699 Paid Leave for Covid related absence. All national bargaining agents are opposed to the restrictions for use under this new language, and will be opposing it through various avenues. Local management has been informed of this, and is treating each request for 699 Paid Leave on a case by case basis with consultation from Labour Relations. Please contact the Council office for assistance or guidance if this affects you.

National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign

The annual campaign is currently underway, and it is no surprise during this year that the requests for assistance are greater than ever. We urge all who can to consider a donation this year. Donations are being done through ePledge – the link is on the Marpac Splash Screen. Payroll deduction deadline is Nov. 20, 2020.

Council Office Access

As most members will know, the Council Office is a very small, confined area with extremely limited ability to practise physical distancing within. As such, in-person access to the office is very limited. To book an appointment or to speak to a Council Officer, please call us in the office at 250-383-7622, or reach us via email at councilwest@shaw.ca

All visitors to the office must wear face coverings at all times.

*****Please do not arrange an in-person meeting if you are experiencing any signs of illness. Stay home and follow the appropriate protocols. *****

Stay safe, practise good social distancing, and take care of yourselves and your families. I reiterate please do not hesitate to bring any issues to us that we can assist with.

In Solidarity,

Des Rogers
President
FGDTLC (W)