

# 2023 Forest Industry Bargaining

## USW LOCAL 1-417 UPDATE

Update #9 – September 27, 2023

### IFLRA Refuses to Provide Wage Offer

The USW BC Interior Bargaining Committee met with the Interior Forest Labour Relations Association (IFLRA) in Kelowna on September 25.

Although the Employer was fully aware of the USW bargaining committees need for a monetary proposal to continue bargaining in good faith, they tabled a new proposal which, once again, did not include monetary. The Employer suggests they will not table monetary until the USW agrees to their concessions.

Still outstanding from the employer:

- Alternate Shift language being less restrictive and easier to change working hours.
- Increasing the 88 days Relief/Temporary Supervisors are able to play boss to 132 days/year
- Deletion of the Floater
- Deletion of SAFER
- Further restrictions on health and welfare benefits with few improvements

The employer will not address our key proposals:

- Addition of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to stat holiday list
- Vision Care to \$600/24 months
- Shift Differential to \$0.60/hour
- Addition of five paid sick days to agreement
- Addition of a boot allowance
- Pension increase
- Wage increase

The Bargaining Committee has penned an official letter demanding the employer get serious about concluding a collective agreement including tabling a wage offer for our members.

The USW Bargaining Committee is scheduled to return to the North to continue bargaining with West Fraser independents: 100-Mile Lumber; Williams Lake Plywood; Quesnel Plywood and Fraser Lake Sawmill.

The USW Bargaining Committee is working with legal counsel to determine whether or not the employer actions represent bargaining in bad faith.

**We would like to thank all of our members for your continued support**

**MARTY GIBBONS CRSP, CEBS, CRM, PRESIDENT, 250-319-2844**

**JORDAN LAWRENCE, FINANCIAL SECRETARY, 250-318-7668**

**JOIN THE LOCAL TEXT BLAST LIST SEND AN EMAIL OR CALL:**

**[steel1417@telus.net](mailto:steel1417@telus.net) Office: (250) 554-3167**

