



British Columbia Maritime Employers Association

Serving the ports of British Columbia

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Sent: July 23, 2010 10:33 AM

Subject: Re: ILWU Canada (Longshore) and Longshore Foremen Local 514 - Bargaining Update

All Members:

As previously stated, Mediators Hughes and Rooney continue to prepare a report for submission to the Federal Minister of Labour by July 30, 2010.

As information please see the terms of reference below as provided by the Minister of Labour when she appointed the co-mediators and faxed to the BCMEA, ILWU Canada (Longshore) and Longshore Foremen Local 514 on March 5, 2010:

- " to assist them in negotiating a settlement of their differences for the purpose of renewing or revising the collective agreement, which, in the interests of labour stability and the ports' success, should be for the longest possible term agreeable to both parties;"

- " if there are matters that cannot be resolved through negotiations, to assist the parties in developing and agreeing to a dispute-resolution protocol under which all outstanding differences would be submitted to a person or body for final and binding determination"; and

- "if the parties cannot resolve their differences through negotiations nor agree to a dispute-resolution protocol, to submit a report to the Minister of Labour within ten days of the conclusion of the mediators' appointment".

The Port of Montreal - Update:

In an effort to clarify the situation in the Port of Montreal, please find a brief summary of events below:

After months of protracted discussions between the Montreal Employers Association (the "MEA") and the Canadian Union of Public Employees ("CUPE") Local 375 which represents longshore workers at the Port of Montreal - discussions have failed to yield a renewed collective agreement between the parties.

Pre Conciliation Period

Prior to the appointment of two Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services Conciliators the MEA and CUPE Local 375 have reached two tentative deals – subject to ratification.

Both tentative deals were rejected by the Union's membership and the Union Executive who negotiated and recommended both deals were impeached and replaced by the Union's membership.

Conciliation Period

Two more tentative deals were reached during the conciliation period. The third deal was reached on April 28, 2010 and was rejected by the CUPE membership. A fourth tentative agreement was reached on June 09 – which again was rejected by the CUPE membership.

While discussions continued beyond June 09th they were not fruitful culminating into the Union engaging in rotating slowdowns which was responsible for a marked decrease in terminal production. This prompted the MEA to lockout 850 longshore workers in Port of Montreal at 8am on July 19, 2010.

Recently posted on the MEA Website

Thursday, 22 July 2010 20:24

As planned, MEA and union representatives met today with the mediator. Essentially the discussions focused on ending the lock-out and on agreeing on a back to work protocol. After close to 10 hours of discussions, the parties reached an agreement to reopen the Port of Montreal as of 8:00 am Saturday, July 24th. Therefore the MEA and the union agreed to end respective pressure tactics and return to the negotiation table for a period ending mid-October.

This agreement is subject to the approval by the union members at a meeting scheduled for 10:00 am Friday, July 23rd.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding the aforementioned, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned. Further up-dates will be communicated weekly or as significant events unfold.

Regards,

Greg Vurdela
BCMEA

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