



Bargaining Update April 9th 2007

This General Construction Sector Bargaining Update is intended for the private information of employers, affiliated employers' organizations, construction purchasers, and other interested parties who have requested regular receipt of the Update. Recipients of this Update are asked to refrain from further distribution of this document or the information herein without the permission of the Association.

Overview

We have seen the first three settlements of the round:

- The Masonry Contractors Association and the Bricklayers' Locals 1 and 2 achieved a memorandum during the third week of March (since ratified).
- The Granite, Marble, Tile and Terrazzo Union Contractors Assoc. of Alberta has achieved a memorandum with the Tile, Terrazzo, Marble, Granite and Mozaic Workers of the Bricklayers Local 4. This settlement was ratified on April 5th.
- The Glass Employers Association and Painters and Allied Trades Local 177 reached a memorandum of settlement, that was ratified on April 4th.

The talks have been very slow to develop at most other tables. There has been some progress in the sense that the agendas have been abbreviated, and tentative agreement has been achieved on some of the substantive issues.

The Boilermakers applied for mediation, and dismissed the mediator after an afternoon meeting. Other trades that have applied for or are in mediation are the Plumbers & Pipefitters, Electricians, Refrigeration Mechanics, and Millwrights, all in Group 1.

[**Bold** indicates settled. ***Bold Italics*** indicates settled and ratified.]

Group 1:

Boilermakers

Elevator Constructors

Millwrights

Plumbers / Pipefitters

Sheet Metal

Group 2:

Bricklayers-Refractory

Insulators

Painters

Sheeters / Cladders

Electricians

Ironworkers- Structural

Operating Engineers

Refrigeration Mechanics

Sprinkler Fitters

Glassworkers

Lathers / ISM

Plasterers

Tile Setters

Group 3:

Bricklayers-General

Cement Masons

Labourers

Teamsters

Carpenters

Ironworkers-Rebar

Roofers

Settlements

Bricklayers – General: The parties achieved a memorandum of settlement during the week of March 19th. The memorandum featured increases of 5% in each of two years, with the balance of the collective agreement remaining unchanged. This memorandum was ratified on the weekend of March 24th. It is the first trade table in the sector to achieve a settlement.

Glassworkers: The parties reached a memorandum of settlement, which was ratified on April 4th. The new two year agreement will feature increases to the gross journeyman rate of \$5.00 per hour in the first year, and \$2.00 in the second. The rates for first and second year apprentices will increase from 60% to 65%, and 70% to 75%, respectively.

Tilesetters: The parties reached a memorandum of settlement on March 22nd. The settlement will bring into effect a four year agreement, with increases of 5%, 5%, 3.5%, and 3.5%. There will be adjustments in the rates for starter and experienced helpers. This settlement has been ratified.

Trade Tables

The following are trade tables for which we have some information. We will add information on other bargaining in future updates as we receive it.

Boilermakers: The Union applied for mediation. The parties met with the mediator for an afternoon on March 20th, following which the Union asked the mediator to “write out”. The mediator has done so.

Bricklayers – Refractory: The parties have had several meetings, most recently on April 5th. They will reconvene on April 12th.

Carpenters: Through four meetings, there has been little progress on any substantive issues. More meetings are scheduled for April.

Cement Masons: There have been three meetings, and three more are scheduled later in April.

Electricians: The parties have had several meetings. The Union had applied for mediation, and the parties have met with the mediator. They will reconvene on April 13th with the mediator still present. The discussions have afforded some progress.

Elevator Constructors: The parties have had four meetings, and will reconvene on April 26th. There are few proposals remaining on the table.

Insulators: The parties have had three meetings, and are scheduled to meet again on April 12th and 19th.

Interior Systems Mechanics – Lathers: Notice has been served. No meetings have yet been convened.

Ironworkers – Reinforcing: The parties have had an initial meeting, and will reconvene on April 11th.

Ironworkers – Structural: The parties have met twice. Further meetings are being discussed, as the parties monitor developments at some other tables.

Labourers: The parties have met twice, and will meet next on April 11th. They are grappling with some difficult issues in respect to commercial work.

Millwrights: The parties have had several meetings, will continue on April 10th. The union has applied for mediation, and the mediator will attend with the parties when they reconvene this week.

Operating Engineers - General: The parties have met on five occasions, and will reconvene on April 19th.

Operating Engineers – Crane Rental (Specialty Sector): There have been four meetings, and discussions will continue on April 16th.

Painters: The parties have had an initial meeting, and will be reconvening this week.

Plasterers: The parties have exchanged proposals, and will commence negotiations on April 11th.

Plumbers & Pipefitters: Through eight meetings, including two with a mediator, there has been some recent progress. Negotiations, with the assistance of the mediator, will continue on April 10th.

Refrigeration Mechanics: There have been three meetings. The union has applied for mediation in respect to the construction negotiations. The parties will reconvene, with the mediator, on April 19th and 26th.

Roofers: Notice has been served, but no meetings have yet taken place or been requested. The employees of two of the four larger contractors, organized by the Carpenters, have applied for and been successful in decertification, leaving relatively little unionized activity in this market.

Sheet Metal Workers: The parties have had four meetings, and will continue on April 18th. There have been healthy discussions. Terms for commercial work have been the focus of much of the talks.

Sheeters, Deckers and Cladders: The parties have met twice, and will continue on April 17th.

Sprinkler Fitters: The parties have had an initial meeting, and are scheduled to negotiate during the last week of April.

Teamsters: Notice to bargain has been served. We are not aware of any meetings that have yet been scheduled.

Please call either Association office for any clarification or further information, or with information to be included in the next Update. All staff can also be contacted by direct e-mail, or with links through our Internet web site..