

Bargaining Update June 29, 2007

Ratifications

1. Both Sheet Metal and Sheeteters, Deckers and Cladders ratified their memorandum of agreement by a strong majority, bringing the amount of settled trades to ten (10) of twenty-five (25);
2. Ratifications are pending in respect to Ironworkers-Structural, Ironworkers-Reinforcing, Operating Engineers Crane Owners, Refractory Bricklayers, Insulators, and Teamsters. Ratification votes are expected to be counted in respect to the above between now and mid July.

Supervised strike votes

As the result of Labour Relations Board proceedings on June 28th, supervised strike votes will proceed on July 4th in respect to the Boilermakers, Electricians, Plumbers and Pipefitters, Millwrights, and Refrigeration Mechanics. Voting will be conducted between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. at the Blackfoot Inn in Calgary, Mayfield Inn in Edmonton, and Stonebridge Hotel in Fort McMurray. Despite recommendations to afford more opportunity for workers to participate in the vote the unions will proceed with this plan.

Concerns have been raised in respect to the eligibility of certain persons to participate in the vote. Ballots cast by persons for whom there is not agreed eligibility will either be segregated or sealed in accordance with the following. Ballots in respect to those engaged in work on the Horizon Oil Sands Project will be segregated. Ballots submitted by workers engaged in maintenance, manufacturing and in other non construction endeavours, and ballots cast by persons who are not on the voters lists supplied to the Labour Relations Board, will be sealed and not counted until the eligibility of each of those individuals is confirmed.

The Labour Relations Board will be issuing a determination as to whether the ballots should be counted following the completion of the voting in each trade jurisdiction, or not counted until the all the voting is concluded in the consolidated group. In any event, the consolidated vote will not be completed until strike votes have been supervised in respect to all unsettled trades in the consolidated group.

A comprehensive update will be issued in the coming week, in the interim please call either CLR office with any questions or concerns.

Submitted by Sam Kemble on behalf of Neil Tidsbury