



# **2019 Forest Industry Bargaining**

## **USW LOCAL 1-1937 UPDATE**

**2019 BARGAINING UPDATE #9 – June 28, 2019**

### **Coast Bargaining Committee - News Release**

#### **USW TAKES STRIKE ACTION AGAINST ALL USW-WFP LOGGING AND USW-WFP MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS**

The USW Local 1-1937 membership across the Coast of BC has been engaged in casting strike votes since June 10, 2019. As of June 28, 2019, voting has been completed and ballots counted.

**Members working for Western Forest Products (WFP) voted overwhelmingly (98.8% percent) in favour of taking strike action.**

**Members working for other Coastal Licensees, Contractors that Me-Too the USW/WFP Collective agreement, Contractors that Me-Too the USW/FIR collective agreement and Independent Companies, also voted overwhelmingly in favour of taking strike action.**

#### **Western Forest Products**

Due to the fact that Western Forest Products has not seriously addressed the Local Unions proposals and because WFP continues to keep massive concessions on the bargaining table that threaten our members, the Local Union issued Western Forest Products Inc., seventy-two (72) hours notice of strike action at 3:45 pm on Friday June 28, 2019.

#### **FIR and Lemare**

The Union has also served seventy-two (72) hours notice of strike action on Forest Industrial Relations (FIR) accredited companies (including Dyer Logging Company Ltd, Holbrook Dyson Logging Ltd, Nootka Sound Timber Co. Ltd, Olympic Forest Products Ltd. -Stillwater) and Lemare Lake Logging Ltd and Lemare Lake Logging Ltd – Falling Contractors all of which contract to Western Forest Products Inc.

#### **WFP Me-Too and FIR Me-Too Companies contracting to WFP**

All USW/WFP and USW/FIR Me-Too contractors contracting to WFP are also served seventy-two (72) hours notice of strike action as per our Me-Too Agreements where the parties agree when WFP is served strike notice it means it is also served on them.

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**Therefore, all USW members working directly for WFP and USW members who work for a USW certified companies that contract to WFP will be on strike as of 4 pm on Monday July 1, 2019. A list of those companies we are taking strike action against will be posted on our website after 4:30 pm.**

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**Companies that have not been served 72 hours strike notice**

All members working for companies that have not been served 72 hour strike notice are asked to report to work as you would on any other day.

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**A list of those companies not affected by the strike will be posted on our website after 4:30 pm.**

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To support those members who are taking strike action the Local Union will be instituting a financial assessment of \$20 for each day. These funds when submitted with your monthly dues will be used to increase the strike assistance to those members who are taking strike action, in order to ensure a good collective agreement is reached for all members, including those continuing to work. This strategy is solidarity at work which we feel will achieve the best outcome for all members.

This action was not taken lightly and was strategically made in order to apply maximum pressure on WFP, in order to send the strongest possible message, in the clearest possible terms, that WFP must seriously address the membership's proposals, remove all of their concessions entirely, as well as rescind all of their cancellation letters regarding local agreements and practices.

The Union is available to bargain with WFP once the seventy-two (72) hour notice period has expired and the strike begins at WFP operations. We believe an agreement can be reached quickly once talks resume.

**Please check for updates on our website at [www.usw1-1937.ca](http://www.usw1-1937.ca) as well as on our Facebook page and via Email and Text Message in the coming days.**

**NOTE: For those members taking strike action you will be called by either a Local Union Representative, your Plant/Camp Committee Representative or an assigned Picket Captain in order to schedule picket line duty in your operation.**

If you would like to receive updates and you have not already given your email address or cell phone number to the Local Union please do so by calling any Local Union Office.

**UNITED WE WILL ACHIEVE A GOOD COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT AND PROTECT WORKERS RIGHTS THAT HAVE BEEN FOUGHT FOR OVER MANY DECADES BY THOSE UNION MEMBERS WHO CAME BEFORE US.  
IN SOLIDARITY THE USW LOCAL 1-1937 BARGAINING COMMITTEE**

