



2019 Forest Industry Bargaining

USW LOCAL 1-1937 UPDATE

2019 BARGAINING UPDATE #15 – August 7, 2019

Coast Bargaining Committee - News Release

PARTIES AGREE TO “EXPLORATORY TALKS” WITH VINCE READY

Recently, the Local Union notified its members that the BC Labour Relations Board requested that USW Local 1-1937 and Western Forest Products provide a list of three mediator names each in order of preference for the LRB to determine if the parties had a mediator in common.

Both parties gave their lists to the LRB and the LRB notified the parties that they had a mediator in common. It was a complete surprise to the Union that the mediator we had in common was Vince Ready. Members will recall that WFP previously rejected meeting with Vince Ready very early on in this labour dispute, when the Local Union notified WFP that he was available and willing to meet on the weekend of July 13 and 14.

Mr. Ready has advised the parties that before he accepted the role of mediator he wanted to meet the parties for exploratory talks, so that he can determine if he thinks mediation could be successful. The Local Union’s Bargaining Committee met with Vince Ready on July 31st and we believe WFP is meeting with him on August 9th. Mr. Ready advised the Union that he will notify us if he will accept the role of mediator, once he has met with both parties.

It is promising news that WFP has now agreed to have Mr. Ready meet with the parties, as it is clear to the Union that WFP needs the assistance of a mediator. What is unfortunate is that Mr. Ready was ready to have such meetings almost four weeks ago!



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