



# 2019 Forest Industry Bargaining

## USW LOCAL 1-1937 UPDATE

2019 BARGAINING UPDATE #8 – June 14, 2019

### Coast Bargaining Committee - News Release

#### WHY SHOULD I VOTE “YES” IN A STRIKE VOTE?

##### Here's Why and the Facts:

- Taking a strike vote does not mean there will be a strike, it simply means you, as a member, support the Union and its proposals and are against the employer's concession demands. It also means you support your co-workers as well.
- The higher percentage a “Yes” vote is, the more power it gives to your bargaining committee to send a message to the employer that Union Members are united and are serious about getting a good contract and will not accept concessions proposed by the employer.
- It is the threat a strike may take place that forces employers to withdraw their concessions and deal with the worker's issues.
- A “No” vote, on the other hand, will most likely force a strike, as management will not take our issues seriously and make them think our members are okay with their numerous concessions.
- The Union and its members don't want to strike but they won't accept small wage increases and sit idly by while the employer tries to strip years of progress and benefits through concessions from our agreement that generations of workers fought to put in place for us today.
- Remember that the companies do not want a strike, they don't want to lose market share, consumer confidence and the very real possibility that skilled workers will go elsewhere and not come back with the solid job market and low unemployment we have today.
- Also, remember we are not in a recession. WFP and the Coastal Forest Industry are doing very well financially, markets are steady and growing and all members deserve to share in the wealth we create with our labour.

##### Strike Assistance Facts

- ✓ The USW's International Strike Assistance Fund has over \$500 million dollars in assets
- ✓ Strike Assistance is not intended to replace a members' regular pay, it is assistance to get by on the basics while fighting to protect your rights and achieve a good agreement
- ✓ Strike assistance (**which is tax-free**) for those picketing is \$225 per week, per member, but when a member finds work elsewhere during a strike, the assistance they would otherwise receive is shared with those doing picket duty.

**REMEMBER: A YES VOTE IS A VOTE TO SUPPORT YOUR BARGAINING COMMITTEE & ENSURE NO CONCESSIONS**

**VOTE “YES”**