



## BC COURT OF APPEAL RULES IN FAVOUR OF USW MEMBERS CERTIFICATION AT RED CHRIS

April 27, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

You and your Union received great news on April 15, 2021, when the BC Court of Appeal finally made its ruling on the Union's appeal of the decision to set aside our certification in December 2019. **The USW won the appeal and Local 1-1937's certification has been reinstated.** This should be the final word on legal matters, allowing the Local Union to get to work on negotiating your rights in a collective agreement after the long delay.

Having the right to negotiate with your employer is the single best way to ensure your rights are not only protected now, but to also make sure you can collectively bargain to improve those rights in the future.

We are confident that you will find your Union, the United Steelworkers Local 1-1937, as the best Union to negotiate a collective agreement that works for you.

The Union is now hard at work in speaking with your employer to set dates for collective bargaining. This involves you directly. When we were first certified in 2019, we elected four representatives from the employees at Red Chris to join the Union's Bargaining Committee. Two of the representatives are no longer working at Red Chris, so we now only have two representatives from the crew, both from Maintenance. We are looking for two more members to be nominated from other departments in order to have a strong group to represent the crew on the Union Bargaining Committee.

**The following pages outline the bargaining committee nomination process we will follow and also describes the next steps that will be taken in reaching the best possible collective agreement that we are able to negotiate.**

Congratulations on achieving the right to collectively bargain. We are confident you will benefit from having that right, now and in the future. Welcome to our Union.

In Solidarity,

Brian Butler  
President  
USW Local 1-1937

# NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF TWO MORE BARGAINING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

## PROCESS:

The Red Chris crew in 2019 elected Brothers **Matt Bergson** and **Devin Everall** and two other members to the USW Local 1-1937 Bargaining Committee. Two of those members are no longer at Red Chris, so with the legal challenges now behind us we would like to add two more crew representatives from other departments to ensure good representation from the operation.

The bargaining committee nomination form is attached below. If you wish to nominate someone from your department, use the following process. All Nominees must have a nominator:

1. Print the nomination Form
2. Print & Sign your name as the Nominator
3. Fill in your Nominees name and Department
4. Have your Nominee sign the form accepting or declining the nomination, if elected
5. Scan and email the form to the Local Union at [redchris@usw1-1937.ca](mailto:redchris@usw1-1937.ca)

**\*Deadline for receiving nominations at the Local Union Office will be May 31, 2021.**

If more than one member is nominated from a department, a vote will be held electronically to determine who will be on the bargaining committee.

## BARGAINING COMMITTEE REPRESENTING USW MEMBERS AT RED CHRIS

There will be three USW Local 1-1937 Union Officers, two other USW representatives and four members of the Red Chris crew that will make up the bargaining committee. With two more Red Chris crew members still to be elected the current make up of the bargaining committee is as follows:

**Brian Butler**, President, USW Local 1-1937 (spokesperson)

**Richard Arnason**, 2nd Vice-President, USW Local 1-1937

**Dusty Palmer**, Business Agent, USW Local 1-1937

**Jeff Bromley**, USW Wood Council Chair

**Scott Lunny**, USW Representative

**Matt Bergson**, Red Chris Crew Representative

**Devin Everall**, Red Chris Crew Representative

## **NEXT STEPS**

USW Local 1-1937 has already communicated with representatives at Newcrest in order to prepare for bargaining. To date, we have requested current employee lists and contact information as it is certain that some members will no longer be working on site and many new employees are likely employed at Red Chris, since the organizing drive and initial certification in 2019.

This update letter however is initially being sent to the 2019 contact information we have for members at Red Chris. It will undoubtedly not reach all Red Chris employees until we have an updated contact list from Newcrest which we hope to have in the next 10 days. We have also requested information on wages, benefits and other terms and conditions of work that are necessary for the bargaining committee to have a full understanding of, in order to negotiate the best collective agreement possible. To date, Newcrest has been quite responsive to our requests for information, and we will have our first meeting with their team in May (date yet confirmed), which will be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions.

## **PREPARING FOR BARGAINING**

We will be sending all Red Chris USW members an extensive Member Survey in order to determine the issues that are most important to the Red Chris USW crew for Collective Bargaining. This was previously done in 2019 but we would like up-to-date feedback from the membership, especially considering the pandemic.

## **COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

We will discuss with Newcrest at our first meeting a timeline for our first opportunity to access the site to meet with crews, but due to the current travel restrictions put in place by the Provincial Health Officer, we unfortunately will not be able to hold crew meetings or see crew members in person as of this date. We certainly hope circumstances change as summer approaches and more people are vaccinated.

## **QUESTIONS? – PLEASE CONTACT THE LOCAL UNION**

For any questions you may have prior to having Red Chris USW members elected to an onsite USW represented shop (camp) committee please forward all questions to USW Local 1-1937 via email at [redchris@usw1-1937.ca](mailto:redchris@usw1-1937.ca) or by calling 1-800-663-5594 where we will respond to you as quickly as possible.

**THE OVER 6000 MEMBERS OF USW LOCAL 1-1937 WELCOME  
OUR NEW BROTHERS AND SISTERS FROM  
NEWCREST RED CHRIS MINE**



**NEWCREST RED CHRIS MINE**

**USW LOCAL 1-1937 NOMINATIONS FOR TWO (2) BARGAINING COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

**Deadline for completed Nominations to be returned: May 31, 2021**

PRINT & SIGN NOMINATOR NAME	PRINT NOMINEE NAME & DEPARTMENT	NOMINEE ACCEPTANCE SIGNATURE	NOMINEE DECLINED SIGNATURE	DATE

**Process to Nominate a Co-Worker to the USW Local 1-1937 Bargaining Committee**

1. Print the nomination Form
2. Print & Sign your name as the Nominator
3. Fill in your Nominees name and Department
4. Have your Nominee sign the form accepting or declining the nomination if elected
5. Scan and email the form to the Local Union at [redchris@usw1-1937.ca](mailto:redchris@usw1-1937.ca)

**Note:** Where more than two members accept nomination there will be an online election held to elect two members