



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **USW LOCAL 1-1937 MEMBERS OF STRATHCONA GARDENS RECREATION COMPLEX TAKE STRIKE ACTION TODAY**

Today, (November 01, 2021) the USW Local 1-1937 Union members employed by The Strathcona Regional District, at the Strathcona Gardens Recreational Facility in Campbell River, are out on strike and on the picket line.

After the Tentative Agreement was voted down, the Union brought the areas of concern back to the SRD Bargaining Team, and conveyed to them that some areas of concern were some deletions to important shifting language and the continued rising cost of living.

Shelley Siemens, the Business Agent for the USW members said, *"With the current cost of living continually rising, some of our members have indicated that they are working two jobs to stay afloat, some employees are making ends meet by renting rooms out in their homes"*.

Siemens went on to say, *"There is no reason for this, the finances of Strathcona Regional District (available on their website) were healthy enough for the Management staff to award themselves with wage increases far above the cost of living. Our members just want one good job that pays enough so that they can spend time with their families and keep up to the rising costs of living too"*.

The Union members will be engaging in rotational job action, and will be back to work on their regular shifts for Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, however, there is a possibility of future job action dates that will be occurring and/or becoming more permanent until a fair and equitable contract is ratified by the members.

The USW Bargaining Committee has extended an open invitation for the SRD Bargaining Team to come back to the table to discuss options on how they can bridge the wage gap for the Recreational Complex employees. The USW has not heard back from the employer on any future meeting dates.

For further information please contact:

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