



NEGOTIATE 2008! BARGAINING UPDATE

April 11, 2008

The Table Committee met for a series of meetings over two sets of dates (March 31 to April 2 and April 8 to 11). Over these last two rounds of negotiations the committee has exhausted hours discussing proposals with management.

After these deliberations, the employer agreed to commit to allowing female employees the ability to wear maternity clothing at work.

Employees who work in cold conditions will now have the parka coats kept in reasonable condition and they will be laundered as needed.

The employer agreed to provide anti-fatigue mats and maintain the existing number of lockers in suitable condition.

A very contentious issue was the employer's ability to dictate the amount of paid time you need to tend to the funeral arrangements for your parents, spouse or children. They did offer to increase the leave to five days of paid time but were unwilling to relinquish the control of which days you choose.

For hours, the union tried to convince the company that time during a death in the family to grieve should not be at the employer's discretion. This matter is still outstanding.

The last two days of bargaining brought out some heated discussion when the employer requested concessions in the areas of availability; quite the opposite of what the union is proposing for the members.

Negotiations are to continue April 22 to 26, 2008.

Please do not hesitate to contact the union with any questions you may have.

Please Note: If you wish to receive these updates by email, please forward your email information to ufcw@ufcw1400.ca

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