National Office 205 Placer Court Toronto, ON M2H 3H9



Bureau national 205 Placer Court Toronto, Ontario M2H3H9

Jerry Dias National President Président National **Renaud Gagné** *Quebec Director Directeur Québécois* **Peter Kennedy** National Secretary-Treasurer Secrétaire-trésorier national

January 6, 2016

TO ALL UNIFOR LOCAL 523 RETIREES OF STELPIPE AND WELLAND PIPE

On December 17, 2015 the Ontario government announced the establishment of a \$3 million Transition Fund to assist retirees whose benefits were terminated by U.S. Steel (USSC). You may have already received information about this Transition Fund from Koskie Minsky, the legal firm representing former Stelpipe and Welland Pipe retirees. This is to summarize the details:

The Transition Fund is available as of January 1, 2016. It consists of two parts:

<u>PART ONE</u> – Prescription Drug Coverage for Drugs Not Covered Under Government Plans

Part One consists of \$2.5 million to pay for prescription drugs which are not covered under the Ontario Drug Benefit Plan (ODB) or Trillium Drug Program. There is a maximum limit of 30 day's supply for each prescription. This fund will be available until the \$2.5 M is exhausted or by no later than March 31, 2016.

If you take a prescription drug that is not covered under the ODB or Trillium Drug Program, we urge you to fill this prescription immediately before the \$2.5 million fund runs out!

You can submit your drug claim directly to Green Shield using the enclosed General Claim Submission Form or in the same manner as you did prior to your benefits being terminated.

<u>PART TWO</u> – Dental Coverage and Other Health Services

Part Two is a fund of \$500,000 to help cover costs for urgently required dental and other health services not covered under any government plan and for which it would cause you economic hardship to pay for yourself.

You must request approval prior to being eligible to use this fund. To request approval, complete the enclosed application form (Tranche 2 Application Form) and Certification form along with the applicable Green Shield Dental or General Claim Submission Form. Send all completed forms to Ernst and Yonge Inc. (address and fax information available at bottom of Certification form).

Should you require assistance or have any questions, please contact Rick Alakas, Unifor President Local 523 at 905-735-5340.

Kindest regards and in solidarity,

Rick Alakas Unifor President Local 523