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Ontario Northland Bargaining Update

Local 103 Bargaining Committees met with Ontario Northland on November 27, 28 and Dec 1 and 2 in North Bay, Ontario where we presented in detail our non-economic proposals for Agreement #1 (Clerical), Agreement #4 (CMC-CSU, Stores – Express), Agreement #5 (On Board Services) and Agreement #9 (Cochrane Station Inn).

The proposals generated a great deal of healthy and constructive discussions in regards to each individual agreement's work rules. While we achieved agreement on some work rule changes, many others are slated for further discussion at our next sessions. It is our intention to conclude all non-economic items for all Unifor agreements prior to beginning any negotiations on the economic issues.

"This first run through our proposals generated thoughtful yet challenging discussions. We have consistently stated to the corporation and the Minister of Northern Development and Mines that the first step to achieving a tentative agreement, following years of uncertainty, is to re-establish a positive labour relationship. These first bargaining sessions were a step in the right direction. We can only hope that the constructive tone of our discussions will continue throughout bargaining" said Local 103 President Brian Kelly.

We have tentatively set dates later this month to begin Agreement #12 non-economic discussions and are also looking at scheduling bargaining dates in January. We will report those dates once they have been confirmed.

We want to thank the membership for their ongoing support and ask that they do not listen to rumours involving negotiations. We will continue to provide reports to the membership throughout the bargaining process

In solidarity,

Local 103 Master Bargaining Committee:

Brian Kelly – Local President and Chair #9
Andrew Mitchell – Local Vice President
Debbie Graham – Chair Agreement #1
Brian Stevens – National Rail Director
Bob Orr – Assistant to National President

Valerie Kennedy – Chair Agreement #5
Tina Chapman – Chair Agreement #4
Mike Lavergne – Chair Agreement #12
Andrew Chapman – Northern Rep
Paul VanSchaayk – North Bay Rep

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