

## **SHEET METAL STRIKE AND BARGAINING UPDATE**

**May 29, 2019**

### **THE LINE IN THE SAND**

Mississauga - Your Negotiation Team met with the Sheet Metal Contractors' Association again on Monday May 27 and Tuesday May 28. We have made significant progress on most of the outstanding issues. However all of this progress has been accomplished by your Negotiation Team in the face of significant obstruction by some members of the Contractors' Association. In some cases members of the Contractors' Association have repeatedly tried to sabotage local area discussions. In one instance a member of the Contractor's Association did not even have the courtesy of preparing a proposal in writing for your Negotiation Team to consider. Finally the Contractors' Association continue to refuse to abandon their demands for concessions. These demands still include the following:

- 1. Working more hours per week without qualifying for overtime pay;**
- 2. Company control of our hiring halls;**
- 3. Control over hiring so that they can move employees across the province without the need to hire local members.**

The Contractors' Association is trying to break our union. They want to roll back the clock. They do not believe our membership is willing or able to withstand this attack. The Contractors believe our membership is weak and divided. Today they want to go after our hiring hall and pay us less for more work. Next time they will go after your vacation pay and cut your wages. We cannot let them get away with this.

The wages and benefits we earn today are based in large part on the sacrifices of our parents and grandparents who fought on the job sites, in the union halls and the picket lines so that our children and our grandchildren could have the opportunity at a decent future.

This strike is the **LINE IN THE SAND**. We must stand together and stop the Contractors' from undermining all that our unions have built. This strike is not just about the never ending demand for concessions. It is to honour the sacrifices of the past and protect our children and grandchildren in the future.

Your Negotiation Team remains ready willing and able to finish negotiating a reasonable settlement that will maintain existing hours of work and a democratic local hiring hall all at a fair wage.

Once again we extend our thanks to our members and their families for their support on the picket line, at the union meetings and in our communities.

Please check with your local unions for ongoing developments.