

Membership Update – June 20, 2014

As was discussed at the membership update meeting on June 19th, the bumping is about to begin very soon. From the group of members whose lay off was to take effect July 31st, (plus one other member who was previously laid off), thirteen (13) members have chosen to remain and exercise their rights under Article 34 of the Collective Agreement. This is a very fluid process with information changing regularly and being updated sometimes on a daily basis but, the goal continues to remain the same, reduce the negative impact on our membership where possible.

My recent meetings with the Manager of Labour Relations have focused on where the 13 members who have chosen to stay will be moving to and how do we communicate that to them and the rest of the impacted individuals. As of the afternoon of June 19th, we planned to lay out what the bumping looks like according to the information we had at the time and we did so, only to have two new pieces of information come to light as of Friday. Our intention is to be able to communicate to affected members by June 27th where they will be going if a position was available, or if they were to be placed on the recall list, we still expect to be able to meet that target.

The communication plan is not fully laid out but, it is clear that laid off members will be meeting with the Union and the University this week to discuss their options and we hope to be able to communicate the outcome to other affected members shortly thereafter. As I mentioned in the meeting on Thursday, members presented with a position to bump too can choose to not bump and go on the recall list and that will cause a reshuffling of the plan we have put in place to this point. I expect this week to be full of meetings with members and the University to try and finalize the plans we put in place from last Thursday in accordance with Article 34, Layoff and Recall. As we move through the week things will change daily and, if time permits, I will conduct another membership update meeting but, it will be announced on short notice.

As requested, I will do my best to get out a Frequently Asked Questions document out by the end of the day tomorrow.

I will endeavor to continue to provide as much information as possible as I receive it and as I am able to share it. Your Executive can be reached via our contact information posted on our web site at www.d35-brock.osstf.ca. You will also find the most current Seniority List, (June 1, 2014) and a copy of our Collective Agreement on our web site. Please feel free to contact me directly at norm.westbury@gmail.com with any questions you may have.

Let us not take thought for our separate interests but let us help one another.

In solidarity,

Norm Westbury
President
OSSTF D 35