



ONTARIO BELL BARGAINING REPORT_{14/01/2008}

As you may have heard we have stalled in our bargaining with our employer. The company claims we are fixated on administrative items and unwilling to discuss substantive issues such as employee flexibility to better serve customers. The administrative items the company is referring to is our grievance procedure and security interviews. We do not consider our ability to defend ourselves with grievances an administrative item. We have already agreed to all items concerning security interviews last Wednesday. If the company wishes to move on to substantive issues they can do this very simply by dropping their demand on article 14. Your bargaining committee is willing to keep the status quo on this article and move on. It is the company that is bogging us down by refusing to move on their demands on article 14. They claim this is only an administrative item yet they have refused several proposals from your committee to clear this hurdle. The company has shown no interest in our proposals up until now and like a child has become irritable when we refuse to follow their agenda. We did not come here to bargain concessions. We are here to perpetuate a collective agreement that protects and serves our members and allows our employer a level playing field in competition. We are not going to allow concessions to our members because senior management has not shown the mental flexibility to run this company in a manner that keeps it healthy. We will not be the scapegoats for poor management!

Your committee would like to compliment the excellent job the Quebec bargaining committee has been doing and we relish the relationship we have forged with our brothers to the East. We all desire to conclude bargaining as quickly as possible and get home to our families but all of us are committed to returning with a collective that reflects the proposals you mandated us to get. We stand united in our strategies and position of no concessions. We appreciate the support you have given us and promise to do our best to negotiate in good faith a deal that reflects the work we do that keeps this company afloat in spite of poor management.

In Solidarity,

Mike Smith, Kevin Richmond, Mike Douse

