

LOCAL 25 BARGAINING UPDATE

The year leading up to the expiry of our collective agreement has been as difficult as any but it is critical we begin to orient ourselves in preparation for November 30th. Unifor has begun to organize our bargaining plans for 2020 and we will know more by the end of this month the details moving forward.

Bargaining proposals must be submitted if you want an issue to be discussed by the bargaining committee and caucus. The documents are available on unifor25.com and while we will advise when a deadline is established, we urge everyone to submit their proposals to bargaining@unifor25.com as soon as possible. If you wish to ask questions please do not hesitate to call Justin Connolly 647-546-7737.

Furthermore, it is time to openly talk about our contributions to the company and society. We have made major concessions to the executives this entire century so now it is the workers turn to demand support. While the world was locking down, our workers were out on the front lines. When businesses were shutting down, our workers shifted workplaces from offices to our homes and it was our Bell technicians taking the risks to keep the company moving.

Now is the time for the executives to make concessions but the long standing obsession to outsource all our jobs will not be broken without membership resolve. The service we provide to our clients has been declared critical and it is time to treat us as critical members of the company. Talk openly about bargaining with your colleagues, tell your manager the time as come for the company to help its workforce, that we need job security in an insecure time and it is well within the company's ability to deliver.

Workers will need to support each other, start off by submitting your bargaining proposals and talk to your colleagues about doing the same. In addition, while it is very difficult to do so, setting aside money in case of a lockout or a strike is critical.

Finally, talk with your families. Our already lean contract expires at the end of November, being prepared, not afraid of what may come, will help you make difficult choices when a contract offer is eventually presented. The company has a war chest so they can fuel the outsourcing obsession and there is no job too important for them not to look at putting your money into a contractors pocket or ship it to low wage workers overseas.

These are small but vital actions that you can take today to help our bargaining position. Every moment the individual worker takes to help will build us up tenfold.

The company receives significant government support, operates in a protected market and the executives are not struggling while the company financial position is stable, whereas the same cannot be said about our families and that is unacceptable.

Stay connected, take time to directly call a member of your local, sign up for email updates and when Local 25 has more details we will post on our website or send out via the email subscription service.