



## PRESIDENT'S WEEK IN REVIEW January 6, 2019 – January 20, 2019

Hello all,

The last two weeks were wrapped in discussions regarding internal planning, an executive meeting, and our final court date for our Right to Strike Case at the BC Supreme Court.

Over the past couple weeks, our Union has been diving into the issue of abuse and violence toward front line workers. Through those discussions, we've gotten little movement. From what we can tell, there is a desire for clear and strict messaging to the public from BC Ferries' Safety Department, but it seems the concerns from the Marketing Department about the Company's brand image are overriding.

While signage has become a touchstone for this issue for many of our members, our Union is exploring other measures, like increased supervisory authority, better workplace tracking of problem individuals, and publicizing of incidents that delay the sailing and lead to travel bans. Additionally, the Union is also exploring its own public facing campaign to raise awareness of incidents of violence toward front line workers, similar to the Nurses' "[Violence. Not Part of the Job](#)" or Steel Workers' "[Hang Up On Abuse](#)" campaigns.

Last week was the Provincial Executive meeting, where we discussed the issues above and many more. A couple of major issues discussed were a retainer with Point Blank Creative to help with the above mentioned campaign, and ongoing issues with crewing shortages.

On Friday, I attended the Judicial Review for our Right to Strike Case. Our legal counsel answered several questions from the bench about the significance of that Charter Protected right, and presented our case fairly and ably. We expect a judgement to be handed down within 3-6 months, but possibly longer.

*Next Week: catching up on email, researching the Canada Shipping Act and Police Act, talking about Seetime Accrual, an Executive Training Session, and a review of submissions to Transport Canada for the Marine Personnel Regulations amendments.*

Thanks for reading, and I hope to see you soon!

In Solidarity,

**BC FERRY & MARINE WORKERS' UNION**

Brother Graeme Johnston  
Provincial President