



## **PRESIDENT'S WEEK IN REVIEW**

### **December 3 – December 16, 2018**

Hello all,

Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> was the Operational Safety meeting. At this meeting, we raised ongoing concerns about violence toward front line workers. We made the Company aware that we will be looking to run a campaign to help address this issue.

The next three days were Provincial Executive Officers' and Provincial Executive meetings. I'd like to thank Local 11 President Bill Brett for scheduling an hour for the Provincial Executive to discuss different strategies around Local co-ordination and administration.

On the Friday of that week, we had a meeting with Point Blank Communications to discuss what our options look like for running a campaign on the issue of violence against front line ferry workers. We are now engaged in preliminary talks on budgeting this campaign, and are hopeful we can strike a deal to move forward on this.

On Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup> there was a meeting on an outstanding grievance around bumping rights, red circling, and Northern differential. This meeting was contentious, but there was good exchange of ideas. After some time to reflect on the matter, there is a good chance all three issues will be resolved without going to arbitration.

December 12<sup>th</sup>, a group of Ferry Workers, including SOC President Kimmerly Engineering Representative Spencer and I, went up to the BCGEU picket line at the Comox Seniors Village. The members on strike at that facility were facing a management offer of 1.5% over three years (0.5% a year) wage increase and initial discussions on starting a pension. The core issue for the members was getting wage and benefits that would allow for better hiring and retention, which in turn would create a safer and more stable work environment. As of writing, this group has accepted a tentative offer. No details provided yet.

Thursday and Friday had quite a bit of time spent on reviewing proposed changes to the Minimum Safe Manning requirements on the Queen of Capilano. SOC Deck Representative Sigurgeirson did a fine job of observing the Transport Canada Evaluation drill, while Brother Kimmerly and I drafted a letter of concern to Transport Canada regarding this proposed reduction.

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

In Solidarity,

**BC FERRY & MARINE WORKERS' UNION**

Brother Graeme Johnston  
Provincial President