



## PRESIDENT'S WEEKS IN REVIEW October 14 - November 3, 2019

Hello Everyone,

I've been remiss in my week in review, which is just a result of usual busyness. Because of the time span I'm covering, I'm going to quickly touch on a few events from the last few weeks:

- A Duty to Accommodate Course with members of both Executives and facilitated by retired labour lawyer Conni Kilfoil. The course was higher level and purposely directed to our Local Presidents so they may better negotiate more straight forward cases of workplace accommodation.
- SOC President Kimmerly and I met with former EVP for Human Resources and 2020 BCFS Bargaining Lead Glen Schwartz to discuss our upcoming round of negotiations and the general status of our relationship with the Employer. Dan and I raised the prospect of engaging in without precedent or prejudice discussions in advance of bargaining to identify and flesh out issues of mutual interest between the parties and reiterated our desire for a freely negotiated agreement.
- The October Provincial Executive meeting had a lighter agenda than usual but had some very interesting discussions regarding Regular Part Time work, Casuals, and how those things work (or don't work) together.
- SOC President Kimmerly and I made our way to the Cascade Region Labour Leaders Initiative in Tacoma, joining Secretary-Treasurer Brian Lalli and many other Labour and Community leaders from the West Coast. The most interesting discussion there for me was how US Unions have faced the post Janus Right to Work landscape and the successes (and failures) they've had as a result. I think there are significant lessons for our Union and Canadian Unions in this space.
- Last week SOC President Kimmerly and I met with Transport Minister Trevena and discussed a host of issues. One item that was top of mind for us was how government could play a more active role in promoting a green maritime technology cluster in BC generally and helping BC Ferries make a just transition to a greener future more specifically.

During this period of time there were three incidents of severe abuse of Ferry Workers:

An attempted vehicular assault, a threatened shooting, and a sexual assault. Our Union responded to these incidents both internally and in the press to raise public dialogue about abuse of workers, prompt BC Ferries to publicize and enforce zero-tolerance for all forms of abuse, and encourage reporting of abuse from both the public and workers. For your part, please remember that abuse should never be part of the job and report all instances of abuse of workers.

*Next Week: On to Ottawa with SOC President Kimmerly, Deck Rep Sigurgeirson, Engineering Rep Spencer, and LRO Hall for the ITF Canada Coordinating Committee; Canadian Marine Advisory Council; Canadian Labour Congress Transportation Working Group.*

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

**BC FERRY & MARINE WORKERS' UNION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BM Johnston".

Brother Graeme Johnston  
Provincial President