



PRESIDENT'S WEEK IN REVIEW



August 31 - September 7, 2020

Hello all,

Last week was largely spent with our Bargaining Committee, evaluating the Company's bargaining package next to ours, and looking at areas that might lead to a negotiated Agreement. Our internal discussions were often spirited and constructive, and we are all excited to negotiate face to face next week.

If you want to keep tabs on how things are going during Bargaining, we'll be sending out updates from the Bargaining Committee by email. If you're not signed up for the Union mailing list, email mailroom@bcfmwu.com with your name, employee number, and preferred email address. We will not be posting any updates on social media, so this is the best way to stay on top of things.

Last week also saw our final submissions go across to Arbitrator Hall for our Article 12 and Section 54 grievance. I am satisfied with the submission by our counsel, and believe we're well placed to see a positive outcome. That said, given the complexities of the issues, and the busy schedule of the Arbitrator, we now expect that the earliest we will see a decision is October. In any event, we'll keep you posted for any news.

On the regulatory front, we engaged in consultations with Transport Canada for their new Safety Management System consultations. In what is likely a surprise to no one, this consultation was vague, and the Transport Canada bureaucrats were evasive with their answers.

We will be making written submissions for these regulations on October 1st. In other regulatory news, we became aware Transport Canada intends to end the relaxation of their "no passengers on enclosed decks" regulation at the end of September. We are deeply concerned about the risk this change may pose to our members, especially when winter weather makes social distancing that much more difficult. We are considering how to best approach this issue, and will advocate for alternative solutions.

Next week: *Bargaining*.

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

In Solidarity,

BC FERRY & MARINE WORKERS' UNION

Brother Graeme Johnston
Provincial President