



## PRESIDENT'S WEEKS IN REVIEW FEBRUARY 3 – 9, 2020

Hello all,

On Monday, I chatted with friend of the Ferry Workers, Labour Lawyer Adrienne Smith about what may be some human rights issues for women at BC Ferries. I asked Adrienne to look into it and get back to me. More on this as it develops.

Tuesday was mostly internal stuff, like our upcoming Bargaining Conference, and preparing for a call on Wednesday.

The conference call on Wednesday was with various Maritime Labour Organisations and Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) regarding temporary foreign workers in the Maritime Sector. During this call, the unions voiced their support for a letter of concurrence process, but expressed concern that the current structure of that process gives an inside edge to one union, and potentially at the expense of the others. The call was productive, and lead ESDC to commit further discussions about the process with the group as a whole prior to finalizing any policy. What is a letter of concurrence, you might ask? For the Maritime Sector, ESDC requires a process where employers seeking a Temporary Foreign Worker must get concurrence (agreement) from Canadian Maritime Labour Organisations that they are unable to supply available workers.

Thursday and Friday were mostly used to deal with matters internal to the Union including Conference prep, Human Resources, and Constitutional processes. Sunday had me driving up to Harrison Hot Springs for a two-day BC Fed Executive Council and Ranking Officers meeting.

*Next Week: A conference call with ESDC, Immigration and Refugees Services Canada, Ship Owners, and Maritime Labour Organizations, BC Fed Ranking Officers Meeting, drafting a protocol agreement for Bargaining, discussions about the bargaining interest arbitration panel, and an update on the Employer's grievance against the Union regarding our anti-abuse campaign.*

Thanks for reading and I hope to see you soon!

In Solidarity,

**BC FERRY & MARINE WORKERS' UNION**

Brother Graeme Johnston  
Provincial President