



PRESIDENT'S WEEK IN REVIEW MARCH 2 - 8, 2020

Hi all,

After a brief hiatus while preparing for our Bargaining Conference and all of the other things, I've found a bit of breathing room to get back to my week in reviews.

Monday and Tuesday of last week was the BCFMWU 2020 Bargaining Conference in Victoria. I want to thank all of the 150+ delegates, Bargaining Resolutions Committee, Trustees, Returning Officers, Sergeant at Arms, and staff who helped make this event a success. For those who are curious, and without getting into detail, ensuring the best possible wage increases for our members was foremost among the priorities established at Conference. I was also impressed by our members' commitment to resolve inequities within the Collective Agreement. In all, our Conference delivered strong and clear direction to our Bargaining Committee. Special shout out to the Bargaining Resolutions Committee Panel, Samuel Adair, Christie-Anna Meers, and Bobby Sangara.

On the Wednesday, SOC President Kimmerly, SOC Engineering Representative Spencer, SOC Deck Representative Sigurgeirson, LRO Hall and I attended the Pacific Region Canadian Marine Advisory Council. The highlight of this meeting was a review of regulations that Transport Canada hopes will be in Gazette Part 1 in Spring 2021, including the draft MPRs.

Much of the rest of the week was spent reviewing COVID-19 spread and BC Ferries response plan. Our estimation of the situation last week remains the same as now: the risk in BC is currently low, but the situation is fluid. That said, please refer to BCFMWU Bulletin #7.

The most important thing for our members right now is to ensure good hygiene, which means staying home if you're sick and regularly washing your hands. Also, if you or a dependent have any underlying health concerns that may put you at increased risk from a COVID-19 infection, please let human resources know ASAP so you may be accommodated away from higher risk areas.

In Solidarity,

BC FERRY & MARINE WORKERS' UNION

Brother Graeme Johnston
Provincial President