

2018 Forestry Industry Bargaining

USW LOCAL 1-417 UPDATE

2018 Forestry

Bargaining Update #19

November 21, 2018

USW Job Action

On Wednesday, November 21 at 8AM Pacific (9AM Mountain), over 2600 USW members from the Cranbrook, Kamloops and Kelowna Locals are now in a legal strike position. USW Local 1-417 officers have scheduled Bargaining/Job Action Update meetings to ensure members are fully informed and allow members an opportunity to provide input on what job action will be applied.

Bargaining has reached a crossroads. The gap between the two parties is significant but not insurmountable if the employer would address our membership's key issues.

2000 USW members in the North have been in strike position since October 6 and have conducted an overtime ban along with rotating strikes at Canfor PG (twice); Tolko Lakeland – Williams Lake; Tolko – Soda Creek and West Fraser Planer – Williams Lake, since that time.

It's time for USW members across BC to stand together and give the employer a direct message – **our members deserve a fair collective agreement.**

The employer in the North strategically left out three Canfor mills (Polar, Chetwynd, and Plateau) along with four West Fraser mills (100 Mile House Lumber, Williams Lake Plywood, Quesnel Plywood, Fraser Lake Sawmill) with over 1000 members—from the bargaining association of CONIFER. Strike Votes are being taken at the three Canfor mills and while the West Fraser mills bargain individually, they will be asked to the table. It is the Bargaining Committee's intention to bargain with those mills to attempt to set a pattern agreement.

The employer continues to de-value your labour that produces the profits. It's time a stronger message was sent.

Please see the attached comparison between the IFLRA and USW positions

UNITED WE STAND—DIVIDED WE BEG

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