

BC COAST USW WOOD COUNCIL 2010



BARGAINING BULLETIN #1

May 6 2010

USW & WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS EXCHANGE PROPOSALS TO BEGIN BC COAST NEGOTIATIONS

The United Steelworkers BC Coast Bargaining Committee met with Western Forest Products in Vancouver on May 5th to exchange bargaining proposals.

The exchange of proposals by both the United Steelworkers and Western Forest Products marks the initial stages of a collective bargaining process that will replace the current coast master agreement.

The BC Coast Bargaining Committee submitted a proposal that is based on the members resolutions that were debated at the coast local union's wage and contract conference as well as some issues that were agreed upon in the Canfor agreement in the north.

The union's list of demands reflect the priorities that conference delegates determined to be of significant importance to the membership—EHB Pay-Direct Card not subject to PharmaCare formulary, general wage and trades rate adjustment, language improvements to permanent partial plant closures and severance pay provisions, improvements to language on seniority retention, and tough union security language—are only some of the key demands in the proposal.

The BC Coast Bargaining Committee will meet with Western Forest Products on May 12th in Nanaimo.

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