

BC COAST USW WOOD COUNCIL 2010



BARGAINING BULLETIN #2

May 13 2010

USW & WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS WILL CONTINUE BARGAINING IN NANAIMO

The United Steelworkers BC Coast Bargaining Committee met with Western Forest Products in Nanaimo on May 12th to clarify bargaining proposals exchanged the previous week.

The bargaining proposals that were first viewed in Vancouver last week raised a number of questions and both Parties sat down across from each other in Nanaimo to clarify their positions. Western Forest Products requested that the USW BC Coast Bargaining Committee review a number of the union demands more completely and the Committee expanded the scope of the dialogue to provide details on the member's significant issues. And while Western Forest Products demands are excessive and unreasonable now that the forest industry has rebounded, the BC Coast Bargaining Committee will work through the bargaining process to achieve a progressive agreement.

The United Steelworkers are bargaining a new collective agreement for about 2000 members employed by Western Forest Products in BC Coast forestland operations at Alberni, Andy's Bay, Burleith Arm, Englewood, Gold River, Holberg, Jeune Landing, Jordan River, Nanaimo, Nootka Sound, Port McNeill, Quatsino Sound, Haida Gwaii, and Stillwater; and in Vancouver Island lumber manufacturing operations at Port Alberni, Chemainus, Cowichan Bay, Duke Point, Nanaimo, and Ladysmith.

The BC Coast Bargaining Committee will continue bargaining with Western Forest Products on May 31st in Nanaimo.

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iwacouncil@usw.ca