

# BC COAST

## USW WOOD COUNCIL 2010



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### ***STEELWORKERS RATIFY COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT WITH WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS***

United Steelworkers members employed by Western Forest Products have ratified a four-year collective agreement with Western Forest Products. The agreement, retroactive to June 15, 2010, covers some 2,400 Local 1-1937 and 1-85 members at sawmilling and woodlands operations on Vancouver Island, the Mainland Coast and the Haida Gwaii.

The agreement provides wage increases of 2 per cent in the third and fourth years and new job security provisions in the event of permanent partial closures. All unionized WFP and unionized contractors operations will remain in the USW and the company will grant the union access to non-union worksites for the purposes of organizing.

USW Wood Council Bob Matters says that “now that we have a collective agreement, we are optimistic that WFP will be able to find new long-term commitments in the global marketplace which will help get our members back to work in both manufacturing and logging.”

The agreement includes increases to life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment coverage and stabilizes the long-term disability plan with additional contributions. Preferential hiring provisions have been maintained in the agreement.

The agreement with WFP will also apply to “me-too” employers on the Coast of BC.

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