

TWO'S NEWS

MARCH 2022

PPWC
Public and Private Workers of Canada

Editor: Duane Gale

USE TWOS NEWS - let's hear your opinions, likes, dislikes, rants, random musings etc., and send them via email to: twosnews@shaw.ca - Duane Gale - Twos News editor
PLEASE NOTE THAT COMMENTS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN MAY NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF PPWC LOCAL 2

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Mar 8 - International Women's Day
Mar 17 - St. Patrick's Day
Mar 13 - Daylight Saving Time Starts
Mar 20 - 1st day of Spring

CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS STATEMENT

"The world is watching with horror as Russia launches an unjustified attack on Ukraine and its people. Canada's unions condemn this unprovoked act of aggression and stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine who now face violence, hardship and an uncertain future.

"We call on Canada's government to open our country's doors to those fleeing the conflict, including through visa-free access for Ukrainians, and provide substantial humanitarian aid to these victims of Russian hostility.

"We further urge our government to work with like-minded multilateral organizations to press Russia to end hostilities, adhere to international human rights obligations and return to the path of dialogue and diplomacy. The international community must stand united in the cause of peace for a free and sovereign Ukraine."

"Canada's unions also reach out in solidarity to our nation's proud Ukrainian-Canadian community, who fear today for the safety of family and friends tragically caught up in Russia's armed confrontation.

Bea Bruske, President of the Canadian Labour Congress





THE PRESIDENTS PAGE



Certification of Menzies,

WestJet ground and ticket agents is going well, we expect in the group will be voting soon. We were hoping to have the vote done sooner but being a federal certification, it's slow. This is a very interesting/frustrating process, I've been included in several meetings with the labour board regarding a firing and a suspension at the Menzies site. This leads to the Union submitting an unfair labour practice to the labour board as we feel that the company "Menzies" is trying to influence the Vote certification which they are not allowed to do. The union has asked council to pressure to labour board to expedite the process for the vote and we can deal with the unfair labour practice later .

Keeping with certifications, we have been approached by a group from within the Crofton mill to certify and become a part of PPWC local 2. As of right now I have cards signed and waiting to be submitted to the labour board. I am waiting for the go ahead from the group and will not act until the group has requested me too. This could mean a potential of an extra 15 to 20 new members. They are the least paid in the industry & more duties than any other mill site.

Meetings,

Mike (1st VP M) and I had attended Capital investment meeting this past month with Allen S & Richard D. The company is looking for a \$280 million investment into the Crofton site with help from the government. This is an OCC plant that will recycle cardboard and extract the fibre through the process plant(OCC) and alleviate some of the fibre short falls at our site. The bi product (unbleached pulp) already has potential customers like McDonalds brown bags (has to be 40% recycled product). The company expressed that the mill needs to run and run well and to do that it needs the Unions help. I explained that for the union to be able to help they need to hire more people do more preventive Maintenance, make safety the actual priority, fixing our pay and the elephant in the room to bring our pay up to parity with industry standard .

I was asked to attend the Crofton Transformation meeting in attendance was the government, energy

& Forestry sector as well as the company and PPWC Local 2, Unifor didn't attend. We the company and Local 2 were asking for the Black liquor subsidy (approx. 19 million) to come back to the Crofton site. Looking at ways to reduce the carbon footprint of the site (Clean BC Investment for hog dryers, atmospheric washers, Evaps upgrades & weak black filters) the focus is on burning less natural gas and what's needed to get there.

The government was very excited about how the OCC project checks all the boxes for this type of funding and government involvement as it is a BC manufacturing , BC Selling, this project deals with the issue of urban forest (cardboard) and it lessens the burden on fibre on the coast. As well its keeping coastal Mills open (Crofton & Port). We are hoping to get the green light for the project July 2022, we will see as there are to more levels of government to speak with. I have been asked to take part in the next meeting with them as well. The government do not want to see any of the coastal mills close. If we are successful in getting the OCC plant at the Crofton site, it will be the only plant in BC with the potential to service the province .

On February 8th/22 I was to have an arbitration (scheduled 4 days) with the company on the Extended Health Benefits for Retirees. This case took a lot of time to compile as there was not much evidence in the file. Our council and I started with interviewing Lynn L (president that started the arbitration and in 92 signed the agreement) along with Fred Oud (Union President in 92) and Ian Walmsley (head of HR for the company in 92) .

As we were compiling the information it became more & more evident that this was not a strong case as the intent was never to give the increases to the retirees at the point or renewal of every negotiated contract since 92, and it wasn't even talked about according to Fred & Ian. We couldn't find anywhere in past contracts or negotiations that any increases were done for the retirees. As we got closer to the start date, I decided to ask the lawyer where the original opinion to move forward was, he informed me that it was never

requested from Lynn. Immediately I ask him for a legal opinion before we move forward, I received the opinion several days later explaining that the case had a very low chance of winning and we would be wasting our money after reviewing the case by 2 lawyers in the firm.

I emailed the opinion to the executive and asked for direction whether to peruse or drop it. The executive decided to drop the case/save the money(\$40/\$50K) and pay the \$2000. penalty. In my opinion we should never move on to arbitration without a lawyers opinion first. The Lawyers opinion is at the hall for anyone to review .

Mike, Keith, & I attended 2 RTW meetings 1 medical accommodation and the other coming off of suspension, we are happy to see both are back working and wish them well.

The month of February, the company has hired 9 new employees and I was told another 7 next month, we have asked that the company needs to hire more than 7/9 a month, we should be double this, I've spent several weekends calling trying to help get coverage for some departments as they are so short with no success as our members are already logging way more hrs. and are tired.

The company failed to notify the union they were going to bring in a retired staff the run the panel in TMP, the company did try to call our members in with no luck but still they have to inform the local and failed to do so. I called Richard ASAP and asked why the company would do this behind our backs as we are supposed to be working together to secure a future for Crofton mill site. I explained this is hard to do when the company goes behind the unions back like this. Richard said he had no idea this happened and wanted to look into this. He was quick to get back to me said Steve Bird acted on his own and it was wrong and wanting to know how this could be fixed without a grievance . I spoke with Mike and we came up with giving a donation to the Crofton Old School Society in PPWC 2's name . Richard agreed.

I've also found out the company has not been reimbursing the local for retirees when they go over the \$30,000 max over the last couple of years. This is the locals money to the tune of \$8,000 dollars and we want it back.

The local has had a termination this past month, the local has already presented the 4th step response to the company and waiting for the company to get back to us. In the meantime, myself, Mike & Keith will work to compile any and all evidence to present to the lawyer for an opinion whether we move forward with an arbitration at which time the memberships will make that decision.

At this time, I would like to thank a couple of committees:

1st, the Construction committee (contracting out) thanks for you continued efforts on keeping the company accountable where it hurts them most - in the pocketbook. Every month we just keep raking money in from the company's failure to follow the agreement. After this next round I think we are around the \$140,000 thousand mark.

2nd, the unity committee, I know it was a very late night for myself, Mike & Troy but we worked the process as we should and came to a resolve before it got of hand and in front of HR. We ask all members to please use the executive and the Unity Chair before going to the company because it can't be taken back once it's there .

Union Hall upgrades

With the money left over from the \$3000. Budget for the Media equipment (\$1000.) We decided to buy new blinds for the hall so people can't see into the hall and want to take the new media equipment. We had to buy some new lighting and the tree in front of the hall had to be cut down as it was growing into the building. This money was approved by the executive board from the Holding society as we are responsible for the upkeep of the building. Next, we hope to replace the Hot water tanks as they are 13yrs past do and if they fail and destroy union property we will not be covered by insurance.

Upcoming for me:

February 28th/March 1st local 2 is putting off a 2day shop Stewart course. The class is already full if you would like to attend another please contact the hall, when we have enough, we will do another class.

Feb 28th I will be present for Submissions for the arbitrator from the company and the Union on the PGI arbitration. Please make sure everyone has filled out the questionnaire and has done an impact statement.

By filling these out it strengthens or use for general damages.

March I'm attending CCU convention 4 days in Toronto as a NEB CCU member. The CCU is very important to PPWC as its our only real labour school training to help us in our efforts of levelling the playing field with our company. I will provide a report upon my return.

March 31st, 2022, the company is required to have the full reconciliation of the 2021 for all employees completed. General damages will be scheduling expedited hearing dates in the spring of 2022. If the parties cannot come to an agreement.

April 3rd / 8th I'm attending the PPWC/NEB & Convention in Nanaimo. This convention is being held at the Cost hotel and put off by local 8.

April 8th Presidents Council Meeting for myself , Mike & Keith.

April 26th & 28th I'll be doing a Job evaluation in PG for the recoveries in operation. I ask the membership to remember when I'm doing National work etc.: Job evaluation or Union Drives is paid for by national.

May, we are looking for members to do a 2-day Shop Stewart training session.

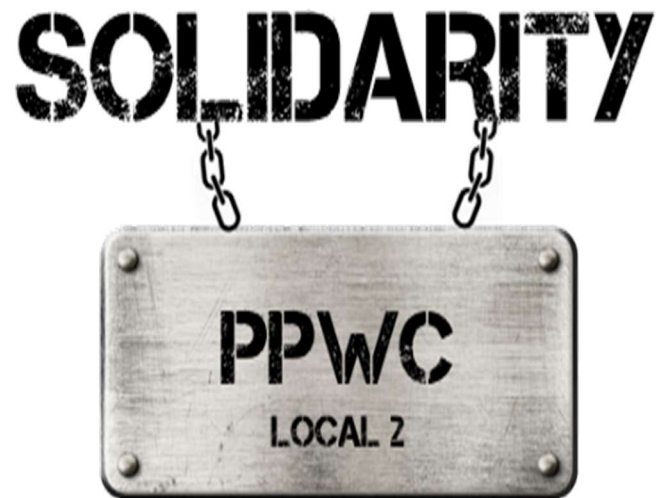
June 6th, 7th, 8th has been confirmed for the Contracting out Arbitration. We have asked the arbitrator that if any dates prior to June 5th the Union would like to use them. This is a very big case and requires constant work as the company continues to ignore the Collective Agreement.

June, I'm attending CCU convention 4 days in Toronto as a NEB CCU member. The CCU is very important to PPWC as its our only real labour school training to help us in our efforts of levelling the playing field with our company. I will provide a report upon my return.

Somewhere in there we will also need to have our own bargaining of bull session items and signing of Main wage. As well, I'm hoping we can get Westjet (Menzies) certified and move to other sites all at the same time as Nanaimo, Comox, Abbotsford , & Kamloops .

I'd like to thank the membership for filling out the questionnaires for council with regard to the upcoming Arbitration on Crofton payroll or lack of. Tomorrow is the cut off and it's important we get theses completed as well as any impact statements .

In Solidarity,
Geoff Dawe
PPWC 2 President



ALLISON'S HEALTH & WELFARE REPORT FEB 2022

I would like to thank the executive and the membership for allowing me to participate in the PPWC National Health and Welfare training, coordinated by Barry Touzin, our PPWC National Occupational Health and Safety officer, by zoom on February 7,8 and 9th .

There was a two-day presentation and workshop by Margret Tubbatt Senior Trainer from the Canadian Mental Health Association on Mental Health at Work – Awareness and Resiliency and Improving Psychological Health and Safety in our Workplaces – Making it Real.

The Canadian Standards Association has developed a voluntary standard which is a framework to improve the Psychological Health of our workplaces. "A PSYCHOLOGICALLY SAFE AND HEALTHY WORKPLACE IS DEFINED AS... A WORKPLACE THAT PROMOTES WORKERS PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING AND ACTIVELY WORKS TO PREVENT HARM TO WORKERS PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH.

We were involved in several 'breakout exercises and groups' to discuss using and implementing this standard. Throughout the convention we heard the various local reports on health and welfare issues.

Most locals have all the same struggles with lack of manning, covid pandemic issues and lack of management involvement in the health and safety process. Don Pearson wrote and presented local 2s report and did a stand-up job, as usual.

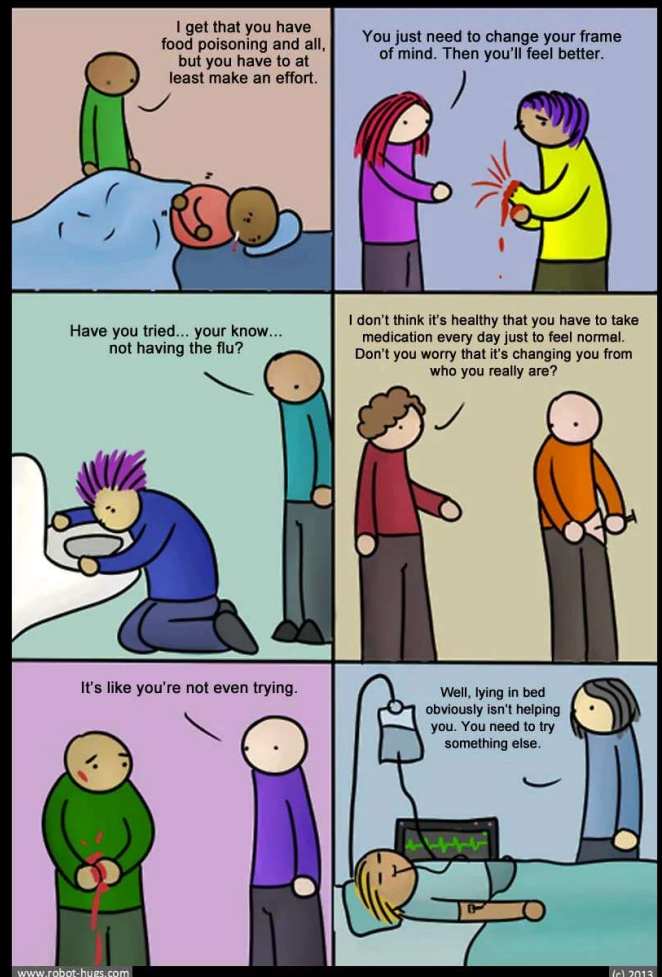
On the last day of convention, we heard a presentation from our weekly indemnity provider Desjardins Insurance going over the claim procedure and answered our questions. Questions were asked regarding covid claims and it was stated that it is being treated as a regular illness and requires a three-day waiting period which was not what we were led to believe from the trust. Desjardins is encouraging all of us to use their web-based upload site for all documents as it ensures more privacy with your Documents instead of going to HR to fax. It's quick and easy. Desjardins reviewed some programs which they offer such as ...Internet Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Health is cool – 360, Health PACT : your personal health coach and a new innovative Pharmacogenetic testing (which is only available to

their extended benefit clients,) which genetically matches what medications will be right or work best for a certain individual. Information on these programs is on their website. The convention was an incredible learning opportunity.

The workshop topic Mental Health in the workplace was extremely timely and fitting. I believe that we as individuals and as a union need to support each other's mental wellness. We need to give each other a hand up and support through these trying times and when you don't think you can do that...maybe just a smile or a nod! 😊 ...at the end of the day...we'll all realize that we're in this together...that's the union way!

In solidarity.... Allison Pirie Health and Welfare committee.

If physical diseases were treated like mental illness...



HISTORY of the PPWC - CHAPTER 19

LRB GIVES NO HELP TO ORGANIZING EFFORTS

A recap here is of some benefit to the reader. It's mid-1968. The PPWC consists of Locals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, and 16. The missing Locals 6, 7, 10, and 12 are Port Mellon, Campbell River, Kamloops, and Island Paper, respectively. Local 6, Port Mellon, did not apply in 1966 when Locals 7, 8, and 9 did. They had indecision as to enough support to apply at that time. They did have a majority sign up, but the percentage was small. In July of '66, the decision was made to apply. The LRB ruled that the PPWC did not have the majority needed; thus, the vote was not held. The battle for the minds of the workers did not end with the turn down, however. In 1971, a desire to be PPWC still lived in many international members. Again, application before the Board was made. A vote was ordered. The PPWC lost by two votes. Writing about it, Reg Ginn laments on the closeness of the vote but goes on to say democracy won the day. He does point out, however, the "litany of lies" perpetuated by the International certainly hurt his cause, along with the fact that the International local had a substantial amount of money in various bank accounts. Using the Local 8 example—the \$40,000—it was obvious whatever money the local had would be returned to the International. For all those reasons, Local 6, Port Mellon, was not to be. Local 7, Campbell River, suffered the same fate as Locals 8 and 9. The Board found that the PPWC was not a union under the meaning of the Act, whatever that meant. Time slipped away. The year 1968 came and went with no further word from Local 7. Then, on June 30, 1969, Local 7 came off life support and applied for certification, again. Gordie Wickham, Vic Aquino and Reg. Young, Local 8ers, spent two months conducting a door-to-door campaign in Campbell River. The local membership showed a top of 800. When they had 434 signed up, the decision to apply was made. By now, to no one's surprise, the LRB ruled insufficient numbers. It claimed a membership far exceeding 800. Local 7 applied under the LRB clause that had allowed re-votes to occur in Skookumchuck and Gold River. The clause, paraphrased here, stated that if the Board is in doubt as to whether or not a trade union applying has sufficient membership, it will order a representative vote. It looked good on paper, but the Board turned it down anyway, to be sure. The Early History of Pulp, Paper and Woodworkers of Canada 49 no plumbs would be given to the PPWC. The International would receive the benefit of the doubt every time. Time marches on. In February 1971,

application is made for Local 7, again. Claiming no less than 60 per cent membership, there is, however, a spoiler in the works. A decision, perhaps of expedience, is made. The cards from the past sign-up are re-entered, not without being verified, mind you, but, nonetheless, re-entered. There have been 12 new hires in the period since the last application was made. The membership has not varied much, taking terminations into consideration.

The Board found that the PPWC was not a union under the meaning of the Act

Well, all that makes sense to the layman doesn't cut it with the Labour Relations Board. Again, the application is turned down. The Board cites the numbers not proven, again. An appeal does not succeed. Local 7 hangs in the balance. The question that comes to mind easily is: was a mistake made here? Taking Y2K into consideration, sure, in the eyes of the law, last year's cards are like one-night romances: cold and dead in the water. However, and there is a however here, the law in 1970 did not forbid pre-signed cards. The PPWC was in deep at the time: several organizing drives on, IWA and International raiding happening, to say nothing of a new and somewhat convoluted set of negotiations happening. Monday-morning quarterbacks always angle the ball so it tips just over the defender's head into the waiting hands of the split end. In the real world, it isn't quite that way. It's said the LRB received new material from the International showing impropriety with the PPWC application. There is much said about this adventure in the annals of PPWC folklore. However, those sayings are but sleeping dogs to this writer and will remain asleep. Bottom line is: Local 7 in Campbell River did not happen. Local 10, Kamloops, is another matter. A long, protracted war occurred there, with the forces of good and evil battling long into the desert night. Len Snow's warriors versus the rattlesnakes took a while, but it bore fruit. More to come later. Local 12, Island Paper Mills in Vancouver, was UPIU (United Papermakers International Union). The drive here stalled, with no papermakers in the PPWC, Local 12 deemed to be the first one. In the end, the numbers for a vote did not materialize. Thus, application was not filed. A further Local 12 application was made for the supervision staff at the Tahsis, Gold River pulp mill. The LRB met in a formal hearing on the issue. The decision reached was in favor of the PPWC application, in principle. However, the sign-up did not achieve the required number, again. Local 12 failed a second time.

Canadian statistics

Broadly, workplace fatalities have increased over the last few years

According to the Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of Canada (AWCBC), there were 1,027 fatalities in 2018. This number increased between 2016 and 2018 – in 2016 the number of workplace fatalities in Canada was 904 (and in 2017, 951). Which occupations accrued the most fatalities?

Top five most dangerous occupations according to workplace fatalities:

- Skilled sales and service occupations (113 fatalities)
- Trades and skilled transport and equipment operators (327 fatalities)
- Intermediate occupations in transport, equipment operation, installation and maintenance (143 fatalities)
- Trades helpers, construction labourer and related occupations (62 fatalities)
- Labourer's in processing, manufacturing and utilities (60 fatalities)



10 MOST IN-DEMAND JOBS IN CANADA

IN 2021

1. Customer service representative
2. Driver
3. Registered nurse
4. General labourer
- 5 Tech sector
6. Software developer
7. Financial advisor
8. Accountant
9. HR manager
10. Electrical engineer



**WE NEED
YOUR HELP
BECOME A
UNION
STEWARD**

**THOSE WHO THINK THEY KNOW
EVERYTHING WILL LEARN NOTHING**

Roger McDonald

VANCOUVER ISLAND COUNSELLING

Compassion, Respect, Integrity

Duncan: 250-746-6900

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Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday

8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Closed from 12 Noon to 1 pm for lunch.

FOLLOW **PPWC** Local 2 ON FACEBOOK

OPINION



Are we ever gonna see a full compliment of workers?

We have numerous jobs throughout the mill that simply are not covered. The company at some point just arbitrarily decided to just not fill certain positions. Maintenance Filterman and Machine Room DEO to name a few. Not sure how - contractually speaking - they can do this. No compensation for job elimination was ever paid, which tells me the job is still there and that means it has to be filled. I have never seen contract language that allows for de-staffing like this, if someone knows something then please enlighten us.

Duane Gale – Editor, B Crew, local 6328

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MARCH 2022 EMOJI AWARD



And the winner is

A certain scheduler and a payroll clerk.

Numerous issues still exist, especially concerning time off accruals. Very difficult to reach by phone. Sometimes you just have to reach out and actually talk to someone – was nearly impossible on most days. Multitude of frustration and complaints on these two.

Want to nominate someone? Drop a line to the TWONEWS with who and why.

PAPER EXCELLENCE RECEIVES \$8.6 MILLION IN PROVINCIAL FUNDING FROM THE CLEANBC INDUSTRY FUND

CleanBC Industry Fund, a provincial government program, invests some portion of government's carbon tax revenues into businesses that are working on emission reduction projects. The total funding amount being provided is over \$70 million.

"This funding is being invested at four of our B.C. mills into projects that will reduce the mills' greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and improve efficiency," said Graham Kissack, vice-president of environment, health and safety, and corporate communications. "Programs like the CleanBC Industry Fund are helping industry achieve British Columbia's ambition for a low carbon future."

With this round of funding, the program expects a reduction of emissions of 4.6 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent over the next decade.

The four Paper Excellence mills in B.C. where the funding will be used are Catalyst Crofton, Catalyst Port Alberni, Howe Sound Pulp and Paper and Skookumchuck Pulp. They employ over 1,500 people and economically contribute \$2.25 billion annually.

"Separate from the economic impact these mills have in their local communities, our products are spearheading carbon reduction every day," said Kissack. "Our paper and pulp products are made from a renewable resource that often displace existing plastic products."

LABOR SHORTS

Worker dies after being struck by lightning.

Farm employees continued working in field despite a storm threat, concludes safety auditor.

A storm appeared above the field, workers continued working despite the rain and the sound and sight of lightning. The sound indicated that the lightning was around 4.5 kilometres away from the farm. A few minutes later, a worker was struck by lightning. Emergency services were called to scene and the worker was taken to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

B.C. expands vaccine mandate for healthcare workers.

Long list now includes dentists, pharmacists, chiropractors, midwives and opticians

As of March 24, 2022, all regulated healthcare professionals in British Columbia must be vaccinated against COVID-19 if they want to continue to work.

The move follows a similar mandate rolled out in October 2021 for healthcare staff working in long-term care, acute care and community health settings.

B.C. expected to have more than 1 million job openings in the next decade.

Science and technology jobs will also be in high demand, as will openings in skilled trades ranging from cooks and mechanics to construction workers and hairstylists. The latest labour market outlook for British Columbia shows nearly 80 per cent of job openings over the next decade will require some level of post-secondary education, reflecting the changing nature of the economy.

ALS LAST SAFETY MEETING



PHOTO BY D PEARSON

UNION STRONG UNION PROUD

Vancouver Island Regional Library workers serve strike notice on Feb 28th

The contract between the library system and the B.C. General Employees Union expired at the end of December 2020. Job action could begin Thursday in the Vancouver Island Regional Library system after 72-hour strike notice was served Monday by the union representing some of its workers. The contract between the library system and the B.C. General Employees Union expired at the end of December 2020. Bargaining began a year later, library spokesman David Carson said Monday. Last week, the union notified the library system that members had voted 95 per cent in favor of a strike mandate, he said.

THANK YOU!



**Canadian Mental
Health Association**
Cowichan Valley
Mental health for all

#201-5878 York Rd, Duncan, BC, V9L 3S4

Phone: (250) 597-1372

Fax: (250) 746-0844

www.cmhacowichanvalley.com

Jan 17, 2022

Public and Private Workers of Canada Local 2
Box 370 – 1616 Chaplin St.
Crofton, BC V0R1R0

Re: Donation to CMHA-Cowichan Valley

Thank you for your kind donation of \$100.00 to the Canadian Mental Health Association – Cowichan Valley Branch. This money will go a long way in helping people in our community.

CMHA – Cowichan Valley has a long history of providing community-based services for persons living with mental health issues. Through donation such as yours, we are able to maintain and increase these services through innovative programming, client support, public awareness campaigns and policy improvement.

If at any time you would like more information or details about any of our programs or volunteer opportunities, please give us a call.

Sincerely,

Lise Haddock
Executive Director

REPRINTED BY REQUEST

OVERTIME MYTHS

MYTH Members won't give up overtime.

FACT our members will give up overtime to create more jobs.

MYTH If I don't work OT, there will be more contractors at the mill.

FACT While OT has increased dramatically, so has contracting out. Companies use OT and contracting out for the same end – smaller mill crews. OT is not a solution to contracting out.

MYTH Members need the additional money from overtime.

FACT Only 17% of our members say they work overtime because they need the money. Most work OT for the banked time or because co-workers need time off.

MYTH if we cut OT, management will push harder on flex.

FACT Management will push the flex agenda regardless of OT rates. Flex and OT are also about the same end – less jobs.

MYTH OT is necessary to deal with emergencies and to keep the mill running.

FACT Most OT is not due to emergencies, but for relief to cover earned time off.

MYTH People have always worked OT because that's what mill towns are about. You earn as much as you can, as fast as you can, and then move on.

FACT if that was true in the 1960s, it isn't today. The average mill worker has a lot of seniority. Most of us have lived in our town for years and we aren't going anywhere.

MYTH The mill can't run without OT.

FACT Mills used to run with much less overtime and a few still do operate with lower levels of OT. OT has doubled over the past 15 years. Fewer regular workers means more OT.

MYTH if we don't work OT, we won't get our days off when we need them. That's how the system works.

FACT that's exactly how the system works, and why we have to change it. When the company hires more full-time relief workers, it will be possible to get our earned time off without working OT.

MYTH OT is cheaper. Cutting OT will increase labour costs and make the mill less competitive.

FACT hiring new workers is cheaper than OT. When all costs are included, OT costs double time. Managers prefer OT because it results in fewer workers, not because it's cheaper.

MYTH Cutting OT won't create jobs.

Management won't hire more workers, no matter what we do.

FACT Jobs have been created at BC mills by reducing OT. The key is to negotiate clear provisions to create jobs when OT is reduced.



Monday, Mar. 21



THANKS TO DAVE B

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW

- Hot water will turn into ice faster than cold water.
- The Mona Lisa has no eyebrows.
- The sentence, "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter in the English language.
- The strongest muscle in the body is the tongue.
- Ant's take rest for around 8 Minutes in 12-hour period.
- "I Am" is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.
- Coca-Cola was originally green.
- The most common name in the world is Mohammed.
- When the moon is directly overhead, you will weigh slightly less.
- The name of all the continents end with the same letter that they start with

MONTHLY HUMOUR

After a night out at the pub with his buddies, Ralph came home rather drunk. He slid into bed, kissed his wife on the cheek and fell into a deep sleep.

He awoke before the Pearly Gates. St. Peter said, "You died in your sleep, Ralph."

Ralph was stunned. "I'm dead? No, I can't be! I've got too much to live for. Send me back!"

St. Peter said, "Hmm, perhaps that could be arranged. It does involve a lot of paperwork... but sure. You've got two alternatives: you can come back as a fish or as a chicken."

Ralph never liked swimming and thought that perhaps being a Chicken wouldn't be that bad after all. Walking around pecking at the ground, no stress, and if the local rooster was nice then perhaps it could be a comfortable existence.

Ralph replied, "Okay, then I choose to be a chicken."

The next thing he knew, he was covered with feathers, clucking, and pecking the ground. A rooster strolled past.

"So, you're the new hen, eh? How's your first day here?"

"Not bad," replied Ralph the hen, "but I have this strange feeling inside. Like I'm gonna explode!"

"You're ovulating," explained the rooster. "Don't tell me you've never laid an egg before?"

"Never," said Ralph.

"Well, just cluck twice and then push."

Ralph clucked twice and pushed, and voila, out popped an egg!

Ralph was overcome with emotion as he experienced motherhood for the first time. He then clucked twice, pushed, and out came another egg! His joy was overwhelming.

As he was about to lay his third egg, when felt a smack on the back of his head, and heard his wife shout, "Dammit, Ralph! Wake up. You're shitting the bed!!!"

PPWC

Public and Private Workers of Canada

