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to defend our public services



SKILLED WORKERS BARGAINING UPDATE FEBRUARY 16, 2015

SKILLED WORKERS WORK RESUMES

Faced with the impasse in the follow-up work related to the 2010 Letter of Agreement on skilled workers, the Common Front has reiterated its desire to settle this dossier. When we tabled our bargaining proposals at the central bargaining table at the end of October 2014, we asked that the preceding work be resumed concurrently with the negotiations that were getting started to renew our collective agreements in the public sector. The Government responded to us that it was prepared to continue these discussions.

Work on this important issue has thus resumed. An initial meeting between the Common Front and the Treasury Board took place in Quebec City, last January 29. This meeting was an opportunity for both parties to review task force reports, which had been tabled in September 2013. The Interunion coalition reiterated its position regarding the necessity to make adjustments to the remuneration of skilled workers in the public sector, and this, in order to reduce the problems of workforce attraction and retention in the health care and education systems. The Treasury Board said that it wished to proceed with the work of identifying the job categories affected by the problems raised, before engaging in discussions about recommendations or solutions.

Although a lot remains to be done before we can envision reaching an agreement, we should positively welcome the resumption of work in this dossier. And especially, not abandon our mobilization! We'll keep you up to date on the progress of the work we're doing in our upcoming bargaining updates.

COMMON FRONT PROPOSAL PRESENTED ON OCTOBER 30, 2014

Pursuant to the publication of the Task Force Report that arose from the renewal of the collective agreements covering skilled workers on September 20, 2013, that the parties agree to immediately undertake discussions on the Report's recommendations and to reach an agreement on the applicable solutions, no later than April 1, 2015.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE PRESENTED ON DECEMBER 15, 2014

It was proposed to resume discussions on the basis of the parties' reports in order to establish between now and April 30, 2015, a shared and common understanding of the problem and its scope, as well as to identify the appropriate level, if applicable, of the correctional measures to which preference should be given.

PLEASE HELP US DOCUMENT THE SITUATION!

Are there skilled worker positions in your establishment that are vacant? Has your local employer tried to recruit skilled workers without having any success? Is there work being done in your workplace by private companies, because the in-house workforce is insufficient? This kind of information can be very valuable to us. So, please don't hesitate to tell us about any and all kinds of situations that illustrate the difficulties of

attracting and retaining skilled workers in the public sector and please contact us with your examples.

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