



C.E.P. Ontario Bargaining Report 10/24/2007

A communication has been put out by the Bell Canada bargaining group under the subject: Bargaining Status. Bell has in typical fashion spun a story to try and break the solidarity of our bargaining unit.

Allow us to set some facts straight about this communication from the company that has unilaterally taken away your PAPP, PRB'S and sold themselves to the highest bidder to fatten their executives already fat wallets.

The company is claiming a need to conclude bargaining before the expiry of the collective agreement in a manner that meets the needs of our customers, our employee's and the company. Whether we sign a new collective on November 30th, December 30th or a later date how will that impact the needs of our customers? We are still available to service our customers needs during bargaining as was shown in 2003 when it took us 9 months to agree to new collective agreement. If you read between the lines of this doublespeak are their new masters want a new and quick collective agreement.

We have learned in bargaining if you rush you make mistakes. We have all experienced what happened to B.T.S. and Expertech and the huge concessions forced on them. We did not come to the table to negotiate CONCESSIONS.

In that theme all we have asked for is the same accommodations That has always been provided for your bargaining team.

The Company told us they could not afford to provide the same accommodations as last time. Bell cannot afford a hotel in downtown Montreal, apparently they can afford box seats for their executives at Hockey games but not a hotel.

To facilitate getting to bargaining which is the desire of your bargaining committee we offered our C.E.P. conference room in Ottawa free of charge with the thought they could use the unused 14th floor in a bell building for their personal use a few minutes away. This was refused outright. We then offered to find a spot in Montreal. Bell said this might be acceptable if we met their conditions of: 2 rooms with proper dimensions: Strict adherence to their budget which they provided.

2 brothers from the C.E.P. Quebec bargaining committee committed to finding such a place and indeed within 3 business days they found a place on the outskirts of downtown Montreal. It was 1\4 of the budget Bell had agreed to pay, with bargaining rooms within the parameters demanded by Bell. We were prepared to head to Montreal and bargain. Bell refused the place and added new conditions.

The location must be a Bell client, and must not be Downtown. This company is two faced and in our opinion lacking in honour and integrity. Their communication fails to reflect the reality of the facts.

If you have read their demands then you realize that they want you to accept less to do the same job and their strategy is to intimidate your bargaining committee by trying to turn you against us and lose our focus.

If Bell is interested in bargaining a new collective agreement we suggest they do it with the elected bargaining committee in good faith. Threatening to go to the Labour board because they can't get their own way does not frighten us. We want to see the look on the labour relations officer face when Bell says

they cannot afford to bargain like they have for the past 30 years.

We ask for your continued support and trust!

We are up against a corporation that is only interested in putting us back 20 years in compensation with no compassion for our life style. They do not want you to retire in a condition that sees you comfortable and they do not want to hire any new Canadians like our kids.

Our goal as your bargaining reps is to stand up to these corporate parasites and demand that the people who have created the successes Bell has enjoyed share in them.

**In solidarity,
Mike Douse
Kevin Richmond
Mike Smith**

We strongly recommend you read the paper found on the local 25 website titled private equity