



2007 BELL BARGAINING

BULLETIN #12

January 11, 2008

To: Bell Local Officers

Sisters and Brothers:

The parties returned to the bargaining table this week with the assistance of the federal conciliator where we attempted to overcome the impasse that has prevented bargaining from moving forward.

The impasse has been caused by a demand from Bell to change the grievance procedure (Article 14) in a way that could limit the Union's ability to properly represent the membership (see bulletin # 11 for more details).

On January 10, the conciliator asked both parties to spend the appropriate time to reflect not only on the issue that has resulted in the impasse, but on how we intend to deal globally with all of the issues on the table.

He has asked the parties to return to the bargaining table on January 21 with a determination to move forward.

The Canada Labour Code

Under the Canada Labour Code, the mandate of the conciliator will expire on February 11, 2008. Following that date, the Code provides for a further 21 day period before a legal strike or lockout can commence.

A strike or lockout may then be called following a 72 hour notice to the other side. For the Union, there is also the requirement to obtain a strike mandate within the 60 day period immediately prior to taking action.

Our objective continues to be a negotiated settlement that is acceptable to the membership.

We ask members to tell managers that it's time for Bell to get serious.
We want a fair contract NOW!

Maintaining solidarity is more important now than ever before.

In Solidarity,

Richard Chaumont, National Representative
Sean Howes, National Representative

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