

04/27/23

RE: BTS Bargaining Unit Update

Brothers and Sisters,

Your Bargaining Committee has been working diligently for several weeks now, to address a number of issues across the Province. We have been very clear with the employer, that our members are frustrated, angry and confused by the lack of support, with numerous items, including the benefits rollout.

On April 14th 2023, your committee sent an open letter to BTS President Jean-Luc Riverin, expressing multiple concerns and demanding a meeting with the provincial delegates. We are happy to report that Jean-Luc has accepted this request and as such, the provincial delegates will be meeting with him and the BTS leadership team on Wednesday May 24th 2023.

Additionally, we have filed two National Policy Grievances as follows:

National Policy Grievance BTS ON 2023-001 – Re: Discriminatory Practice (Home Dispatch)

In instances where a member is on modified duties due to injury or illness, the company is revoking “home dispatch”, even in instances where driving is not a medically restricted activity. It is the position of the Union that the company is using this tactic to pressure our members into returning to full duties against medical advice.

National Policy Grievance BTS ON 2023-002 – Re: Travel Ban (Salary Employees)

The Company’s decision to implement a travel ban on salary employees has and continues to have, a negative and direct impact on LRC Meetings, as well as, the grievance process at the local level. This is a direct violation of Letter of Agreement #1 - Agreement on Labour Relations Committee (LRC). Furthermore, this is an arbitrary, discriminatory and bad faith exercise of management rights.

There has been numerous grievances filed across the province in relation to the grievances above. These individual grievances will go through the grievance process as usual, however, after second step, will be placed in abeyance behind the appropriate National Policy grievance listed above.

In regards to all other outstanding issues across the province, your committee will continue to work with the Provincial delegates to ensure all matters are properly addressed and that this Company is held accountable. We will do whatever it takes to ensure your rights and entitlements are met under the Collective Agreement, up to and including filing additional policy grievances if necessary.

In Solidarity,

Jim Fling	Local 34-O
Kevin Paddon	Local 31
Mike Snell	Local 30-O
Colum Lynn	Local 1996-O
Clayton Nunn	National Representative

CN/kw:cope.343