



The Pulp, Paper and Woodworkers of CANADA

LOCAL No. 2

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President's Update for December 22nd, 2009

I would like to wish all the best of the Seasons and a happy New Year to all the members of Local #2 as well as to all the staff of the Crofton mill whom also have the unfortunate pleasure of having to deal with the Catalyst Grinch all year long.

I wish in the New Year that the company finds the knowledge that their greatest asset is the people that they have working for them. If the company were to truly respect, trust and work with all of their employees, this company could be very profitable without having to constantly attack our collective agreement. The members of PPWC Local #2 have time and time again shown that they will deliver on the agreements they sign. Our members have been producing prime pulp since the start up in October with a much reduced work force. It is time to start the second line of Kraft and return our members to work. PPWC Local #2 members want full time jobs over the payment of severance, but where positions have been eliminated or will no longer be required severance needs to be paid so that our members may make the choice of staying or moving on.

The General Membership meeting last night approved two proposals from the company. The first one dealt with providing floaters to so called not full time regular employees. Even though the Local takes the position that when our members return to work they are once again full time this proposal will see floater entitlement returned to most of our members.

The other proposal was to allow a system to be put in place so that a member would not have to quit a full time job or leave school to return for part time work. This leave must be applied for in writing and trades off your rights to severance while you are on leave. This may or may not help you in your individual circumstances, but please take the time to consider all of the ramifications that this leave may entail.

The Local is still trying some nine months after the Kraft mill curtailment to have our most senior members working. The company has over and over again refused to recognize reasonable training times for certain jobs, jobs that were once done by students with very limited training. The battle continues.

If you would like to be part of making your Union work for you, there are still openings for some of the Committee positions, please talk to an Executive Board member about allowing your name to stand for election in January.

Once again, all the best of the Seasons!

Lynn Lindeman, President
P.P.W.C. Local #2

