

Bargaining Scheduled – but Union not Optimistic

Company officials have agreed to bargain this Wednesday, October 1st.

The Union has assembled its negotiating committee from across the province to attend. Employee representatives from Edmonton, Calgary, Fort McMurray, Grand Prairie, Lloydminster, Red Deer, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge and Camrose will be at the session to be held in Calgary.

Unfortunately, Union Representatives are not optimistic about the outcome.

“The Company has consistently bargained in bad faith.” says President Douglas O’Halloran. “Is it realistic to believe that 24 months of bad Company behavior will change? A strike vote made Safeway bargain, but I worry that Superstore could just be fundamentally unreasonable and arrogant. Most other employers will look at themselves in the mirror after a strong strike vote..... I’m not so sure about Superstore.” says O’Halloran.

It is possible that Superstores agreement to bargain is just an attempt to divert Union attention from strike preparations. This tactic is sometimes used by employers – especially when employee momentum to strike is so strong. Hundreds of employees from across the province are registering for strike duty every day.

Strike notice has been served for Edmonton commencing at 12:01am on October 6th (just past midnight October 5th). Calgary is also ready to go and employees in Fort McMurray, Grand Prairie, Lloydminster, Camrose, Red Deer, Medicine Hat and Lethbridge are pre registering for strike duty to prepare for a possible strike in those locations. The “out of town” offer could be presented to those employees very quickly and will undoubtedly result in a quick strike vote. It is no less flawed than the Edmonton and Calgary offers. Employees in those locations are on moment by moment alert, and will undoubtedly join Edmonton and Calgary in a strike if it is necessary to secure a fair contract for every employee in

the province. Disturbingly, no real mediation has yet occurred for locations outside of Edmonton and Calgary. Employees from these areas still deserve a real mediation process under Alberta Law.

Hope for the best, but expect the worst.

STAND BY FOR NOTICE OF STRIKE COMMENCEMENT!!