

## **Union Issues Strike Alert at XL Lakeside Packers in Brooks!!**

The United Food and Commercial Workers Local 401 have issued a strike alert at XL Lakeside Packers in Brooks.

### **What does this mean?**

Union negotiations are reaching a final and critical phase. UFCW Local 401 has applied for and received an appointment of a government mediator. The involvement of that mediator is soon to commence. When that involvement is completed, the Union can take a strike vote after a few short weeks. A positive strike vote can result in an actual strike on as little as 72 hours notice. XL Lakeside Union members and the community must now be on alert for the real possibility of a summer strike at XL Lakeside Packers in Brooks.

Negotiations are continuing. The good news is that talks have not broken off. In fact, the company and the Union are currently using a high profile, nationally respected mediator to facilitate negotiations. The tone and nature of the discussions is positive at this stage.

It continues to be essential for Union members to be strong and to show solidarity. When you bargain from a position of weakness, you will receive a weak contract. When you bargain from a position of strength, you will receive a strong contract.

### **Join the purple movement!!!**

Watch for the new purple stickers that employees will be wearing on their hard hats at work. They say "I'm on STRIKE ALERT!" Get yourself a purple sticker for your hard hat and send your Company a message that you are **ready to fight** if they don't give you a good contract. You have seen the Company's initial offer. It's a good starting point, but it's a bad finishing point. Employees need better health and safety and fairer line speeds. Employees need better benefits, better vacations and more rights at work. New Canadians and Temporary Foreign Workers are entitled to better protections and privileges. Better wages, improved overtime, paid breaks, guaranteed weekly hours..... These and other improvements to your compensation package are necessary.

Your Union's job is not to take the first Company offer. Your Union's job is to argue, coax, insist, lecture, rant and rave, and to just plain **fight to get the best deal possible** for the hard working employees of XL Lakeside Packers.

This is something we can all agree upon. This is something that we can all fight for!!!

Negotiations continue the first week of July...

