

## GSU Locals 1 & 2 (Viterra)



September 2, 2023

To: All Local 1 (Viterra Country Operations) and Local 2 (Viterra Head Office) members

### **UPDATE #27**

#### **August 31 Bargaining**

Yesterday your bargaining committee met with the company to continue bargaining. This is following the rejection of the tentative agreement by the Local 1 Board of Delegates on July 27 and Local 2 Executive Committee on August 3.

We discussed where the tentative agreement was lacking and made an offer to the company. Your bargaining committee has clearly heard from members that these negotiations have gone on long enough. We have all had to deal with the mess of having the 2022 STIPs withheld and we need to see real movement from the company.

The company said they needed to review the offer and get back to us. We offered to meet next week to hear their reply, but they

don't think that is enough time for them. The company has said they might be able to reply on September 11 or the following week.

Once we hear from the company next week about bargaining dates we will update members.

### **Local 1 Board of Delegates meeting**

At 6:00 p.m. yesterday, the Local 1 Board of Delegates met to receive a bargaining update. Your bargaining committee asked the Board of Delegates what the mood was in the country and what members are looking for as the next steps in bargaining to be.

We heard clearly, that members are tired of the delays and want the bargaining committee to give the company one last chance. If they don't come back with a significant offer then we are done wasting time. They said we have given the company lots of time to negotiate and now they have seen that we rejected the tentative agreement and we need them to be serious at the bargaining table.

Next week the Local 2 Executive Committee will meet to discuss what members in Head Office are saying and what they want to happen at the bargaining table.

### **What did the Viterra Canada Inc. members in Alberta and Manitoba receive in wage increases for 2023?**

In the last update, we addressed a rumour that we have heard that employees in Alberta and Manitoba received flat guaranteed increases. The company has been direct with us, that Alberta and Manitoba employees are on the same aggregate pay system that all Local 1 and 2 members are on.

We have not received any evidence that Alberta or Manitoba employees received guaranteed flat increases this year, so this appears to be just that, a rumour.

What I think all of you should do when you talk to your counterparts in Alberta and Manitoba is ask them what the aggregate increase for everyone in Alberta and Manitoba is. Because I don't think any employee knows that the aggregate increase for all employees was this year. I think employees in Alberta and Manitoba are unfortunately told they are in the aggregate pay system, they receive whatever increase they get, but they do not know how much payroll increased in their Province. They have to trust that they are paid fairly compared to their co-workers.

Local 1 and 2 members get to bargain wage increases, bargain leaves, vacations and grievance procedures. This is the union advantage. And hopefully someday soon your co-workers to the East and West recognize the advantage of collective action and

bargaining and join our ranks.

On Behalf of your Bargaining Committee,

Steve Torgerson  
GSU General Secretary

*Your GSU bargaining committee members are Local 1 - Jim Brown (Balgonie), Wilfred Harris (Carnduff), Shannon Antonenko (Lloydminster), David Barrett (Gull Lake), Dale Lysitza (Lloydminster), Broc Goodwin (Moose Jaw) and Travis Brewer (Saskatoon); Local 2 - Sheila Tran, Howard Wilson and Kaylee Kruger; assisted by GSU staff representatives Steve Torgerson and Mason Van Luven.*

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Local 1 & 2 (Viterra) members will be the first to hear about what is taking place at the bargaining table. Email updates will be issued before the information is released in our *Tuesday Members' Memo*.

Please share these updates with fellow GSU members who may not be on our bargaining update or Tuesday Members' Memo email lists, and encourage them to sign-up for updates by contacting their GSU Staff Representative or their Local representative.

## More Information



If you are looking for past bargaining updates or any information provided to members it can be found on your bargaining page at [gsu.ca](http://gsu.ca) or by clicking below.

[Past Bargaining Updates Found Here](#)

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