



UPDATE ON RIO TINTO ALCAN RESTRUCTURING

The Union/Company Labour Relations Committee met on Monday, February 16th, 2009 to further discuss the Company's plans to restructure areas of Kitimat Works. At this point in time the Company was planning on changes in six different areas of the plant (i.e. Lines 1-8, Utilities, APP, Control Group, Tool Crib and Maintenance).

They wanted to start it off with Lines 1-8 and Utilities to begin setting up the focus groups (as per 26-LU-#5) in order to scrutinize their plans. Both of these areas have been contacted for them to put out the crew representatives who they want to represent them in this process. If your crew or shift hasn't chosen a representative please do so and inform the Union hall as soon as possible. For the Utilities we need one to represent the steam plant and one to represent the conveyors. For Lines 1-8 we need one representative per shift per area (areas are 1 & 2, 3 to 5, and 7 & 8) for a total of twelve people.

If this process works properly there is no doubt it will prove there is a definite need to hire some people to provide the badly needed manpower required to not only run the plant properly but also to address the plant infrastructure. At the start of the process the Union very clearly put the Company on notice that they must provide all relevant information requested by the Union and must participate in this process in good faith.

The Union is not there to just rubber stamp the Company's plans but to make them justify any proposed restructuring in Kitimat Works. Failure for the Company to cooperate or in other words just push their own agenda, disregarding the needs and the negotiated rights of our members, would force the Union to take another approach to address the situation. The Union will continue to keep the membership updated as things progress.

Just a reminder to all the activists (Shop Stewards, OHS&E Reps and Committee members) that a special activists meeting is scheduled for tonight – Thursday, February 19th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Union hall.

"Fighting Back Makes A Difference"

