Parce que Radio-Canada, c'est nous Bargaining update | 16 June 29, 2022



The Road Travelled, the Road Ahead

Summer is upon us but there is no vacation for our bargaining team. To streamline the bargaining process on our end, we've merged the union's executive committee and bargaining team into a single entity, to draw on everyone's strengths and speak with one voice.

We remain focused on our strategic outlook: a work stoppage in the fall. We recently filed a notice of dispute, a move that has a direct impact on the atmosphere at the bargaining table. Now, the employer has the responsibility to achieve concrete and satisfactory results. And the conciliator, who was previously the mediator, is now more deeply involved in bridging the gap between the parties on the major issues.

To date, agreement has been reached on a significant number of articles. Nonetheless, after more than 45 days of bargaining, the progress falls short of the bargaining committee's expectations. Our main demands regarding regular status, work conditions and schedules, and salaries have yet to be discussed. To help move the process forward, the expanded bargaining committee has proposed a timetable for the coming weeks, with specific issues to be discussed on specific dates. However, despite our efforts, the employer has so far evaded bargaining on monetary issues, arguing among other things that summer vacations have held them back in articulating a position and that their finance department isn't ready.

In short, CBC/Radio-Canada continues to avoid the real issues for the renewal of our collective agreement.

Some 60 days remain before the August 27 deadline. As things stand—and if nothing changes—our expanded bargaining committee is expected to ask the membership to vote on a strike mandate. Making progress at the bargaining table is therefore an urgent matter. CBC/Radio-Canada holds all the keys for avoiding a labour conflict. It should use them to break the deadlock.

