



G S U

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Unit 1 (SWP) bargaining

Progress made on benefit plan issues

The Union's Operations bargaining committee met SWP management on August 14 and 15 to resume negotiations. Discussions centered on benefit plans and employee concerns about how the Company is dealing with sick leave claims.



Committee members (above, l-r), Louise Kohle, Rick Eisnor.



(Below) Brad Lindahl.

Some progress was made on benefit-plan issues, but the talks did not tackle any of the more serious issues in dispute. The Company is still holding to the range of cut backs they proposed at the beginning of bargaining. Any real progress will be difficult until Management withdraws their damaging attacks on seniority, scope, severance pay and employee rights on job elimination and agrees to deal with employee proposals on improving wages, security, and all the other important issues that need to be resolved.

these discussions with a sharp eye towards preserving and improving the wage rates.

The next bargaining for Operations will take place on October 9, 10 and 21, 22.

Management has asked for a meeting to discuss their plans to change the AAR position. Judging from Management's proposal at bargaining to cut wages in this classification, the Union will enter

Union and Company representatives met on August 25 and 26 for the first round of bargaining for employees working at the AgPro Moose Jaw Terminal.

The Union Committee is Glenn Outram, James Dolan, Kerry Hutchinson, with spokesperson Lawrence Maier from the GSU staff.

The two sides exchanged proposals and discussed a number of issues.

(AgPro Moose Jaw)

Unit 5 bargaining underway

Among its proposals, the Company wants an overtime averaging system for Terminal workers. The Union committee told management that there is no interest in a scheme that members in CSD are struggling to get out of.

The two sides are scheduled to meet again on October 14, 15, and November 4, 5.

Check GSU's web page at www.gsu.ca for updates.

Check GSU's web page!



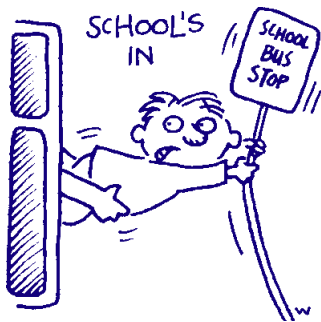
www.gsu.ca

Scholarship winners! Page 3



Upcoming Events

- ✓ **Unit 1 (SWP) bargaining:**
Office: Sept. 25 and 26.
Operations: October 9, 10, 21 and 22.
- ✓ **GSU's Joint Executive Council Meeting -**
Saskatoon - October 28.
- ✓ **SFL Convention -**
Saskatoon - October 29 to 31, 2003.
- ✓ **Unit 5 (AgPro - Moose Jaw) bargaining:**
October 14, 15, and November 4 and 5.



GSU News

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■ Our Web Page
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■ Our Request
Please notify us if you
change your address!

CALM Union
made!

Sent to press Sept. 12, 2003

Labour's world

Give us a break

The best, most productive workforce is a healthy, balanced, satisfied workforce – not one that's clocking too many hours, juggling jobs with hectic family schedules, or fearing another round of layoffs. Companies need to stay competitive, but "it's hard to be competitive if you have a stressed-out workforce," says Linda Duxbury, co-author of a new Canadian study, "Work-Life Balance in the New Millennium: Where Are We? Where Do We Need to Go?"

A similar study on work-life balance issues was done in 1991 by researchers from Carleton University and the University of Western Ontario. The two surveys show conditions over the past decade have seriously deteriorated for many Canadian workers, leaving them more stressed, more depressed, less content with their jobs – and less healthy as a result.

Women with children still face the greatest stress levels trying to balance work and home life but workers of both sexes and all ages are affected.

The new study found

- 55 per cent of workers have high levels of stress, up from 47 per cent in 1991.
- 38 per cent are experiencing a highly

depressed mood compared with 33 per cent 10 years ago.

- 45 per cent are highly satisfied with their jobs, down from 62 per cent in 1991.
- Resource Lines/WHSC/
CALM*

Wal-Mart wins by a landslide

Maquila Solidarity Network/CALM

The People's Choice Award for the company most connected with sweatshop abuses in 2002 went to Wal-Mart, the overwhelming favourite with 1,108 votes or 56 per cent of the popular vote. Disney came in second, garnering 22 per cent. Other nominees included the Hudson's Bay Company, Nike and Gap.

Wal-Mart was cited for its bad treatment of its North American employees, and its contribution to the global sweatshop problem. Wal-Mart employees charge that the company requires them to work overtime hours for free. The company has even



profited from employee deaths by taking out life insurance policies on its employees, payable to the company.

Among Canadian voters, Disney and the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) virtually tied for second place.

In 2002, HBC was caught red-handed making clothes made for its Zellers stores in three sweatshops in Lesotho, Africa. When informed of serious labour rights violations in these supply factories, the company unfortunately cut and ran from the factories, terminating orders and thereby abandoning the workers.

This is the third year that MSN has sponsored the Sweatshop Retailer Awards, and the second year that the public has been invited to vote for the People's Choice Award.



Congratulations

Trisha Hourie

**Recipient of the GSU's \$1,000
FNUC scholarship bursary.**

Trisha is a third-year student at the First Nations University of Canada College at its northern campus in Prince Albert. She is working toward her bachelor's degree in Indian Social Work.

2003-2004 GSU Scholarships awarded

The 2003/2004 scholarship recipients were selected based on extra-curricular and community activities, references, and an essay. Excerpts from the winning applicants' essays have been reprinted below with the applicant's biography.

The 2003/2004 GSU scholarship committee of Mike Raine, Glenis Stadler, and Dwight Popowich was faced with difficult decisions. Thanks to the Committee, and thanks to everyone who applied. Good luck in your studies!

Bill Gilbey Memorial



Jana Karmaznuik
Daughter of Ken & Karen Karmaznuik

"As the standard of living is rising, the world is seeing poverty escalate every year. ... it is becoming more difficult for workers to support their families as well as provide support for basic health care needs.

Those working low paying jobs are rarely covered by any sort of plan that aids in health care support. In cases like this we understand why quality public health care is so important to working people."

Jana's father, Ken, has worked for Saskatchewan Wheat Pool for the past 26 years. He is currently in Foam Lake.

Janna received her schooling in Foam Lake, She is enrolled at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon pursuing a career in Pharmacy.

Bill Gilbey Memorial Scholarship, Open to children of Union members or members in all locals.

Henry Lamontagne



Amy Mildenberger
Daughter of Lyle & Shelley Mildenberger

"If we purchase health services privately, it will bring about a two-tiered health care system. Those with money will be able to jump ahead of those who can't afford services, such as MRIs or operations.

Medicare provides equal access to health care for all. It should be available to everyone, whether they are rich or poor."

Amy's father Lyle works for Saskatchewan Wheat Pool in Indian Head.

Amy recently graduated from high school in Indian Head. She is attending the University of Saskatchewan where she is enrolled in Pre-Pharmacy in the College of Arts & Science.

Henry Lamontagne Scholarship, Open to members or children of members of Sub-Locals 1A and 1B (SWP) only.

Barry Melz Memorial



Amie Jones
Daughter of Dale & Linda Jones

"'Right to work', ironically named, does not guarantee people a right to a job. In the bigger picture, it hurts the individual's hourly wage or yearly salary because it discourages union membership and payment of union dues. Abolishing the union contract, which protects the individual's job security, makes groups or people whom are not in a union susceptible to replacement. It cuts deep into the power of a group and the security of a position."

Amie's father Dale works for Heartland Livestock Services in Yorkton.

Amie is attending the University of Brandon. She intends to complete her four-year degree program majoring in English.

Barry Melz Memorial Scholarship, Open to children of Union members or members in Units other than Sub-Locals 1A and 1B.

Labour Issues campaign enters Phase II

The Saskatchewan Federation of Labour and the Canadian Labour Congress began Phase II of the Labour Issues Campaign in June.



Campaign organizers are using radio ads, a new leaflet, and organizers/animators to put the issues of working people at the forefront in the next election.

Phase II is focused on the value of Saskatchewan's public health system, public education, and keeping our Crown corporations.

The Campaign will run until mid-October.

For more information, visit the Tapped Into Labour website at www.tappedintolabour.org, phone the CLC office at 306.525.6137 or the SFL office at 306.525.0197.

Our Crowns save us money too!

Vehicle Insurance Rates (2002): For a 22-year-old male				
	Calgary	Toronto	Vancouver	Saskatchewan
	\$3,512	\$4,492	\$1,656	\$783
Residential Telephone Rates (Jan. 2002):				
	SaskTel	BcTel (Telus)	Telus (Alberta)	MTS (Manitoba)
Rural	\$22.00	\$22.86	\$27.26	\$23.20
Urban	\$22.00	\$25.76	\$23.86	\$25.25
Residential Electricity Costs (Jan. 2002):				
	375 kW.h	675kW.h	2,000 kW.h	
Edmonton	\$48.88	\$77.59	\$204.43	
Regina	\$42.97	\$66.82	\$172.16	
Residential Natural Gas Consumption Charges (May 02): \$ per cubic meter				
	Vancouver	Winnipeg	Saskatchewan	
	\$25.60	\$23.19	\$20.14	

Camp was sweet for Curtis

Curtis Hanna was one lucky camper this summer. First he won the GSU draw to pay registration costs for a member's child to attend the SFL's summer camp for teens. Next he had a great time when he attended the camp held August 10 to 16 in Fort Qu'Appelle.



Here's what Curtis had to say about camp:

Camp this year was sweet! We learned many things like ism's and collective action. I used collective action in camp by making a petition to bring back a game that the counselors took away and it worked. Because we learned about ism's the camp was ism-free, making it a great environment where everyone is accepted. This makes a sort of utopia.

Camp is my favorite place in the world. Last year I couldn't wait for camp. It is more important to me than Christmas, my birthday and the end of the school year. I had so much fun that it was sad to leave, some people even cried because they were leaving.

Thanks for taking me to the best part of my year.

Curtis is the son of GSU member Wayne Hanna. Wayne works for SWP in the Regina office.

On August 27, a tentative agreement was reached for Unit 8 members at Advance Blueprint in Regina. If accepted by the members, the agreement will provide increases of 2 per cent effective Jan. 1, 2003, 3 per cent Jan. 1, 2004 and 3 per cent Jan. 1, 2005. The agreement expires December 31, 2005. Improvements were also made to the leave of absence provisions in the agreement. A full report will be available after members have voted on the new agreement.