

From: **ILWU Canada** communicate@ilwu.ca  
Subject: ILWU Can News, Vol 3 6-14  
Date: June 10, 2014 at 6:07 PM  
To: communicate@ilwu.ca



June 6, 2014

## ILWU Local 400

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday June 4, 2014

Union for tugboat crews urges Seaspan to resume bargaining without threat to "unilaterally impose" 46 changes to expired collective agreement; thanks Labour Minister Kellie Leitch for involvement and BC Federation of Labour for support

VANCOUVER - The union for tugboat crew members is urging Seaspan to return to bargaining and dropping its plan to "unilaterally impose" 46 changes to their collective agreement.

Terry Engler, President of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 400 at Seaspan's tug boat operations, says the union thanks federal Labour Minister Kellie Leitch for flying to Vancouver and getting involved in the impasse.

As a result, ILWU Local 400 will not serve 72-hour strike notice while a negotiated contract with Seaspan remains possible with Leitch's assistance but Engler warned that the union will not allow the employer to impose terms and conditions.

"We want to negotiate a fair collective agreement and with good will and some help from Minister Leitch, that is possible but we had a unanimous vote from our members to take job action if necessary," Engler said.

Engler also thanked the BC Federation of Labour for its support in a productive meeting held earlier Wednesday.

**This release went out to all media outlets on Wednesday, June 4.**

## Negotiations for a New Longshore and Clerks Contract Start in San Francisco



The ILWU's 16-member Longshore & Clerks Contract Negotiating Committee who sat down with their employer counterparts from the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) on May 12 to negotiate a new pact [Read More](#)  
Story reprinted from May 2014 Dispatcher

## Northern Report

Vice President Rob Ashton

Well I am just heading home from a weeklong trip to Prince Rupert for a visit with Locals [505 and 523](#) and a series of meetings with the employers.



[Local 505](#) has jurisdiction over Maher Terminals, MetroPorts (the new wood pellet terminal), log jobs, grain vessel loading at Prince Rupert Grain, and any other vessel work that comes into the harbour. This trip has had me getting immersed in the work of the Planners at Maher Terminals, so that ILWU Canada can get an idea of the job that these workers perform. The pace of this office is quite fast and the way our Brothers and Sisters work in this environment, as a team is impressive. Unfortunately for the crew of planners stuck on the 0800 shift they got to show me a little of what they do...I think they are still cursing me out.

I will attempt to give you a very rough and quick run down on the positions in the office (the duties that are listed are not all the work they do on a daily basis just an easy summary):

- Customer Service: this desk deals with any and all problems that a container may experience while traveling through the terminal, as well as dealing with the terminal's customers on any issues or concerns they may have with the containers they are moving through the terminal,
- Rail Planner: this desk sets up the rail movements for the terminal (it sounds easier than it is), the Sister at the desk needs to be able to co-ordinate with the vessel as well as the customer service desk to make sure this happens quickly and efficiently,
- Vessel Planner: all I can say is wow...when I was there the Brother that was working the desk was monitoring 5 radios plus a phone and making sure the vessel loading was going along smoothly, not to mention that he had to plan the vessel (even after the vessel was successfully planned...the ship's captain can scrap the loading plan and welcome back to square one again),
- Vessel Prep: this I would equate to the crystal ball position, the Sister that showed me how this lovely task is performed had to repeat it 3 or 4 times (not due to my lack of understanding) but due to customer changes, and changes that pop up due to weights of containers, late information, and any other reason that may change the loading of the vessel

I would like to thank the Brothers and Sisters that helped me out and put up with my many questions, during my crash course as a planner. You are all assets to Local 505 as well as the ILWU as a whole.

The planned expansion of Maher Terminals is looking like it is still a go; ILWU Canada is excited for [Local 505](#) and the foremen of [Local 514](#) on her continued growth.

Local 523 is our Local that works at Ridley Terminal, the only coal terminal on the north coast of BC. The work force operates all the equipment on the site, as well as performs all the maintenance duties at RTI. I would like to start off by thanking the Officers of the Local as well as the membership for allowing me to take part in many of their Union meetings as well as meetings with RTI management.



[Local 523](#) has recently been seen a lot of growth in the Local as well at the site. The terminal is in the process of expanding its coal stockpile and they have a new Stacker/Reclaimer up and running. Meanwhile they are in the process of upgrading the second Stacker/Reclaimer, with the third to follow. Unfortunately since the downturn in the coal market the second coal dumper will be postponed to a future date.

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Over the last couple of years I've been able to watch the Officers of this Local stand up to the Government of Canada (who owns Ridley Terminals) on a daily basis. They are constantly fighting the good fight on behalf of the membership, not only of Local 523, but for the ILWU as a whole! Contract negotiations will be coming up in about a year between Local 523 and RTI, so we must be ever vigilant of the employer trying to drive a wedge between the Rank and File members. Remember our motto, An Injury To One Is An Injury To All!

Thanks again to all of you who took time out of their day to help me learn more about OUR Union.

## BC Federation of Labour General Mail

June 5, 2014

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Affiliate correspondence in the attached PDF file:

[Message of Solidarity with BC's Teachers May 26, 2014](#)

[BC Injured Workers' Forum News Release June 2, 2014](#)

[Public Health Care Forum June 10, 2014](#)

[BC Federation of Labour Health & Safety Centre 2014 Public Course Schedule](#)

[BC Forum Advocate Vol 17 No 3](#)

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Current Disputes: <http://bcfed.ca/current-disputes/>

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Reprinted from BC Federation of Labour General Mail

## The Pacific Northwest Grain Dispute Continues

The ILWU is still locked out on the two grain terminals on the Columbia River, one in Vancouver Washington with [Local 4](#) and across the river at Portland Oregon with [Local 8](#). There is no change in the situation since our last mailing, but we want all members in Canada to keep this situation in mind. While we believed this can never happen in Canada, what is happening with Seaspan imposing Collective Agreement terms on Local 400 and the Canadian Merchant Service Guild is not really any different.



Some of the grain companies involved also operate here in Canada. With the [ITE](#) we have instituted a program here in BC to let the ships that have loaded behind picket lines know that we support our Brothers and Sisters that have been locked out.

Some of your Officers have visited there several times and are planning to go back soon. You can read about some of the other Locals and how they are supporting [them here](#).

## Our Vocational and Career Technical Scholarships

## Deadline Is September 30 Of The Current Year For All ILWU Canada Scholarships

The following ILWU Canada scholarships are administered through the ILWU Canada office. They are offered to Active Members, dependents, sons and daughters of Active Members in good standing, with the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Canada.

[Read the Annual Scholarship Bulletin here.](#)

The [application form is available for download here](#) and is also available in all ILWU offices.

Three (3) Vocational/Career Technical scholarship awards of \$1,300 each, and Seven (7) scholarship awards of \$1,300 to honour the following:

Don Garcia, our late President  
Bill Kemp, our late First Vice President  
Frank Kennedy, our late Secretary Treasurer  
Craig Pritchett, our late founding President  
Roy Smith, our late founding Vice President and President  
Doug Sigurdson, President Emeritus of Local 514  
Arthur Quissy, a late Local 502 Member

Read more about [Be More Than A Bystander](#)



# a bystander

**An injury to one is an injury to us all.**  
Together, we can **break the silence** on violence against women

Proud supporters of the BC Lions and EVA BC  
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to break the silence surrounding violence against women and girls



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