

Saskatchewan Government And General Employees' Union

COMMUNICATION

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation Bargaining Unit

September 2006

With the expiration of our contract, a new bargaining committee for SCIC was elected in June. The new committee consists of: **Jeff Adrian**, Melville Head Office; **Alan Evans**, Prince Albert CSO; **Greg Gurney**, Moose Jaw CSO; and **Brad Maurer**, Melville Head Office. We would like to thank the outgoing bargaining committee for their work and for volunteering to assist us during this time of transition.

The Bargaining Committee met on September 14 in Regina to draw up plans for the upcoming round of bargaining. We conferred with the former committee about our plans and met with the Agreement Administration Advisor (AAA) assigned to SCIC, Doug Taylor. Doug was our AAA from 1990 - 2000.

The following items were reviewed by the committee:

1. Roles and responsibilities of the committee

We reviewed our bargaining guidelines to better understand our roles and bargaining procedures. Some minor changes to the guidelines are recommended and will be presented at the Proposals Conference planned for mid-January.

2. SGEU bargaining budget

We must submit a budget to SGEU with an estimate of the costs for our upcoming round of bargaining. We are preparing the budget and will submit it by the October 31st deadline.

3. Stewards

We reviewed our steward structure to identify the number of stewards we should have in place for each office. We plan to contact those offices without a steward to encourage them to hold an election. Stewards play an important role in representing the members in the workplace and in determining our final proposals package.

4. Educational conference

We are scheduling an educational conference for stewards and elected committee members for Monday, November 27 and Tuesday, November 28 in Saskatoon. **ALL** stewards and elected committee members should plan to attend this conference and should set the time aside in their calendars. Details about the conference will be distributed at a later date. ...2

5. Proposals Conference

We tentatively plan to hold a Proposals Conference in Saskatoon on Monday, January 15, 2007. A Proposals Conference is a meeting of all stewards and elected committee members to discuss “proposals” or suggested changes to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), submitted by the members. The elected representatives vote on the proposals and a “proposals package” is then submitted to the membership for ratification. The representatives also discuss and vote on changes to the bargaining guidelines.

6. COLA clause

The cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) clause in the CBA comes into effect on October 1, 2006, providing a 2.6% general wage increase to most members.

Next Bargaining Committee meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for October 12th at which time we will review the details for the November Educational Conference. The consultant for our Extended Health and Dental Benefit Plan will be in attendance to help us ascertain if we can enhance our benefits package.

Call for Proposals

In keeping with our bargaining guidelines, we are now calling for your proposals or suggestions for changes to the CBA. It is important for members to consider how we can make the CBA better and to provide proposals for change to the Bargaining Committee. This is your opportunity for input into the collective agreement. Please take the time to identify problems in your workplace that can be addressed through the CBA. As noted above, your proposals will be reviewed at the January Proposals Conference and a proposals package will then be presented for your approval.

We have enclosed a “Proposals Form” to help you identify problems and assist us in understanding what the issues are. **Please use this form and submit your proposed changes to any member of the Bargaining Committee by November 15, 2006.**

Please contact any member of your Bargaining Committee if you have any questions.

In solidarity

Jeff Adrian	(306) 728-7536 (w)
Greg Gurney	(306) 759-2132 (h)
Brad Maurer	(306) 728-7251 (w)
Alan Evans	(306) 749-2917 (h)



**Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation
Proposal Form**

Name: _____

Worksite: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Articles of the Collective Agreement which the proposal deals with (if known):

Proposal:

Rationale/argument to support the proposed change:

Forward the "Proposal Form" to any member of the SCIC Bargaining Committee by November 15, 2006.