

A first genuine bargaining session

Your bargaining committee met with the employer on October 26, 27 and 28, 2010. This bargaining session has helped us determine what will be the real challenges and issues in this upcoming round of negotiations.

We were also able to identify the divergences that separate us on certain subjects. The union and the employer have vastly different points of view when it comes to work schedules and the exact value of one day, to mention only these two examples.

Generally speaking, the tone was positive and we had some interesting exchanges. After going over the union's proposals, we explored a number of key subjects and then discussed three specific subjects in more detail:

- The disciplinary process and disciplinary inquiries;
- Time off for union business during mediation;
- The management of annual vacation leaves by the employee.

We expect the employer to get back to us on these subjects at our next bargaining session, scheduled for December 8, 9 and 10, 2010.

We're upbeat, but we must remain vigilant. It's imperative that each and every one of you support what we're trying to achieve at the bargaining table.