

From the Desk of Xstrata Nickel Unit Chair Guy Desloges

Mine Mill Local 598/CAW

June 17th, 2009

Brothers and Sisters:

Your Union has been talking to the Company on many issues.

1. The Company has indicated to us that there will be Xstrata information meetings presented to all workers by Management. We must be focused on safety at the workplaces during these difficult times.
2. The Mediation/Arbitration is complete over benefits for the re-called laid-off workers. We are waiting for the ruling. The parameters will be set by the arbitration.
3. Discipline is a constant issue at Nickel Rim South. Workers are being disciplined over many issues, so try and make sure you are within your rights.
4. Contractors are being replaced by our members at Nickel Rim South. It's a slow process until we reach 60% production. If you have any issues, please contact the Union Offices at 673-3661.
5. Also in the near future, there will be shaft work at Fraser Mine. We are negotiating the terms with the Company so we can present this to the members. The Smelter and Nickel Rim South will be voting on this issue at the Union Hall on June 19th, 2009.
6. The Company has identified maintenance and repair work in the Fraser shaft area. This is a large project requiring approximately 28 workers for six months. The Company is willing to recall employees to do this work. Tom Dattilo, Richard Paquin, the Chief Stewards and I have had some in-depth talks with management about the Union's and the Company's concerns. We have come to an understanding on how this can be accomplished with the most effectiveness for Fraser.

The details for the recall of laid-off employees and the collective agreement will be explained at a meeting on Friday, June 19th at the Union Offices at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. All members have the right to vote on this capital work project.

Remember, you are the Union.

In Solidarity,
Guy Desloges,
Xstrata Nickel Unit Chair.