



TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION No. 31

AFFILIATED WITH TEAMSTERS CANADA AND THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
#1 GROSVENOR SQUARE, DELTA, BC V3M 5S1

Workers at Quickload Logistics in Prince Rupert Join Teamsters Local 31

In June 2022, a resounding 99% of the employees at Quickload Logistics in Prince Rupert, BC, voted to be represented by Teamsters, Local Union No. 31. The new certification is the second bargaining unit that the Teamsters now represent, the first being at nearby Quickload CBSA Container Examination Warehouse on Ridley Island, Prince Rupert, BC.

The 43 new Teamster members at Quickload perform cross-docking services from within a 22 bay door warehouse, operate shunt trucks used to move trailers back into and out of the warehouse, and transload lumber from inbound flat deck trucks into sea containers destined to the Port of Prince Rupert.

On June 13, 2022, the BC Labour Relations Board issued the Union a certification certificate giving the Teamsters the green light to commence collective bargaining with the Company. Immediately, President Stan Hennessy sent the Company notification that the Union assigned Business Agent Anthony Kirk to negotiate the collective agreement with the assistance of the Director of Union Organizing, Ben Hennessy. The letter also stated that the Company was to provide bargaining dates.

On Sunday, June 19, Business Agent Anthony Kirk held a well-attended Proposal Meeting in Prince Rupert at the Highliner Plaza Hotel. The first order of business saw the new Union members unanimously elect Yard Operator Shaun Bryson to the Bargaining Committee. Afterwards, the Union attentively listened to the membership's workplace concerns and contract proposals.

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Like most first agreements, the process does not always run straight ahead, and the Union sometimes needs to drag the Company to the bargaining table. In this case, the Union communicated several times with the Employer, who failed to fulfill the bare minimum according to the Labour Code to provide bargaining dates within 10 days of notification. On July 7, the Union filed charges against the Company for failure to bargain in good faith at the Labour Board.

After a brief period of legal submissions between legal counsels, the Union secured several bargaining dates from the Employer beginning in late-July 2022. Since the parties resolved the bargaining date issues, the parties have met several times in collective bargaining, and negotiations have been respectful. Hopefully, by the Fall, the parties can reach an agreement, and our new Quickload Teamsters will have their first contract.

* the Teamsters vote at Quickload Logistics was the final representation vote taken by the BC Labour Relations Board since the introduction of single-step certification into the Labour Code. Local 31 is proud of the fact that it left a positive labour legacy in the history books at the BC Labour Relations Board.

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