

TFEU President's Monthly Report, July 2011

By Peter Valbonesi, pvalbonesi@bctf.ca

Hi Everyone,

I plan to send out a monthly newsletter identifying work in hand, progress, upcoming items and general information. Input and feedback is very welcome – if you need specific help or information please send me the requirement. I genuinely believe that my function is to facilitate and assist and mediate or intervene when required.

This first month has been very different from what I envisaged. The priorities have been to mediate successful solutions (there have been many), intervene to create solutions and generally open lines of communication and support. Many cases have been resolved and there are a few larger ones that will take more time to bring to conclusion.

SHOP STEWARDS MANUAL

The Shop Stewards' manual is essentially ready for printing. We will be using this for the training program later this year.

TRAINING

We will be opening the Shop Steward training to TFEU staff who plan to become Shop Stewards as well as current ones and other interested Committee and Executive members. We are looking at having two half-day sessions in September. Stay tuned for details.

JOB POSTINGS

Please remember to look at Job Descriptions to ensure that you have the specific qualifications required. Quite often a posting will state that "less than minimum qualifications" are not accepted; these postings give us less room to negotiate.

BCTF PROPERTY

Just a general reminder that your computer and desk belong to BCTF. Always take care what you leave on either.

SUMMER HOURS

I will be here all summer and Christine Choinski is back on August 2nd. I am generally in the Union office at lunchtimes and mid-morning on Tuesdays and of course available at any time.. Jean Rands is in the office each Tuesday.

SUPPLEMENTAL EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT PLAN

There have been a number of queries regarding SEIB top-up. Article 28 of the Collective Agreement describes this in detail. In essence, the top-up does not take into account special bonusing or other extra allowances. It is based on regular pay.

I hope you are enjoying the summer. Thank you,
Peter