

June 8, 2010

TO: Locals - DOE
National Executive
National and Regional E.O. Representatives

RE: **DOE MSC LMCC – Meeting of May 27, 2010**

The Union of Environment Workers attended a meeting with Environment Canada's Meteorological Services of Canada Sector on May 27, 2010. Brother Daryl Hoelke, Executive Assistant, and Sister Manon Desormeaux, Service Officer, attended. Below is a summary of the discussions that took place during this meeting.

Change of Management

The Department provided an overview of the townhall meetings that captured issues and concerns provided by its employees. The Department stated that in general, employees were concerned about the future of the organization and how their role would change. The Department advised that jobs will change as technology changes.

UEW reminded the Department that UEW members had communicated with Mr. David Grimes, Assistant Deputy Minister, MSC, last year and raised their concerns about the Outreach Program. Although some questions might have been addressed at the townhall sessions, the members are still waiting for a response concerning specific questions with respect to career advancement. The Department recalled the letter and indicated that a response will be provided to the members.

MSC People Plan 2010-2013

The Department created a new MSC People Plan to align with the Environment Canada Plan to ensure it is responsive to the concerns outlined by the PSES. The focus will be on building the organization for the future and enhancing performance.

The priorities of the Department are on learning and career development, empowering managers and enabling and engaging employees.

With respect to the Apprenticeship & Professional Training Program (AFTP), the Department advised that the Program is reviewed on an on-going basis. Should there be any revisions to the Program, UEW expressed its interest in being advised.

The Department advised that there will be discussions in the upcoming week concerning the length of the AFTP. Bargaining Agents will be consulted about the outcome of those discussions. UEW noted the need for regular assessments of employees in the AFTP and expressed concern for employees currently in the Program who should not be affected by any changes made to the AFTP.

This issue will be placed on the agenda of the Fall 2010 meeting of the MSC UMCC meeting with documentation being provided prior to the meeting to ensure productive discussions.

Advance Notice on Shift Schedule Change & Travel for Career Development Activities

The Department is looking at the consistency of the provision of the Collective Agreement. It is seeking clarification from the Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS) about whether or not it should be applying overtime or a shift change when adding an hour of work. As well, the Department is seeking input on how much time should be provided before and after Travel.

UEW noted that despite any TBS interpretation of the collective agreement, should UEW and its members not agree with the TBS interpretation, the method of recourse will be the grievance procedure.

Next Meeting: December 2010 - to be confirmed.

Should you have any questions or concerns relating to the above, please do not hesitate to communicate with the national office.

Yours fraternally,

William Pynn,
National President,
Union of Environment Workers.