

January 17, 2011

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

RE: **DOE MSC LMCC – Meeting of December 16, 2010**

The Union of Environment Workers attended a meeting with Environment Canada's Meteorological Services Branch on December 16, 2010. Brothers William Pynn, National President, Daryl Hoelke, Executive Assistant, and Sister Manon Desormeaux, Service Officer, attended. Below is a summary of the discussions that took place during this meeting.

David Grimes discussed the Signature Projects within MSC and explained where the Department is heading in the future. There will be more emphasis placed on competencies including experience.

Impact on Budget Pressures

UEW requested information concerning the impact that the Budget will have on MSC programs and staff. David Grimes advised that the budget will have no immediate impact on the staff.

With respect to any impact on hiring, the Branch explained that some projects like the Olympics will not be getting further funding; however, there are new programs on the horizon such as the Arctic Program. The Branch also advised that the departure rate of employees is consistent with normal attrition/retirement as most employees remain at MSC for their entire career.

Hydrometric Workstation and plans for national roll-out into operations

The Branch provided a status report and advised that the roll-out was postponed.

UEW asked about the training associated with the introduction of the workstation changes. The Department responded that the first step is to facilitate a train-the-trainer session after which it will be able to provide the training to the operational staff and have a national roll-out.

With respect to communicating this information in the workplace, the Department advised that there is a management meeting every other week which is followed by a briefing to the staff. UEW raised concerns with this approach inasmuch as there are consultative forums already in place in the workplace and those forums should also be utilized. As such, UEW recommended that this item be added to the Regional LMCC meetings to ensure meaningful discussions take place.

Apprenticeship and Professional Training Program (AFTP)

The Department advised that it is currently reviewing the AFTP. For the Hydrometrics AFTP, the only change is with respect to strengthening the H&S portion. With respect to the

Atmospheric APTP, the Department is looking at changing the entry level from EG-02 to EG-03. The Department is currently reviewing the impacts this would have.

UEW requested that consultation with the Department be scheduled to discuss the proposed APTP changes.

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.