

January 3, 2013

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

RE: **Union-Management Consultation Committee Meeting, Oceans and Science Sector**

The DFO Oceans and Science UMCC met on November 1st, 2012 with Brother Luc Paquette, Service Officer, attending. The following is a synopsis of the discussions held.

Welcome/Opening Remarks

The new Assistant Deputy Minister and Chairperson, Mr. Kevin Stringer, welcomed everyone and vowed to listen and learn. He expressed a wish to be as open and transparent as possible.

The Chair advised that one of his goals was to identify what the short-term irritants were within the Department. He advised that employees have shared concerns over Information Management and IT issues and concerns about timelines to complete staffing actions.

EG6 Update

The Department advised that the Directorate is still developing a national approach to its mandate. The Department indicated that it is still too early to determine what will be required for the EG6 positions since it has yet to complete its new organizational structure and are still looking into which key products and services the Sector will provide. The Department advised that it should be in a better position to provide information within six months.

UEW reaffirmed its concerns over the initial issue of career progression in relation to the educational requirements; i.e., EG6 to ENSUR classifications. UEW asked again whether last year's comment by the Department that it had no intention to eliminate the EG6 position from the structure was still true today. The Department responded that it had no systematic intent to reduce EG6 positions. However, the Department did specify that going forward, positions and classifications would be based on operational requirements which will be linked to the final structure analysis. UEW will be requesting an update at the next meeting.

Classification

The Department reported on the status of classification workload and advised that 32 prioritization classification requests had been submitted to the Organization and Classification Centre of Expertise (OCCOE) and that the majority of the positions were now classified and many had been linked to a National Model Work Description (NMWD).

The Department also noted that following the Carter PSLRB decision, 21 firearms variants were identified by the Regions. OCCOE is in the final process of classifying those variants.

Submitted on behalf of the national office