



Sudbury Mine Mill & Smelter Worker's Union Local 598/Unifor

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NEWSLETTER

Members that work at FIRST NICKEL INC.

October 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters of First Nickel Inc.,

Currently, we still have 2 dismissals on the go. One is referred to arbitration.

The number of first stage grievances are on the rise which consist mostly of policy grievances, wrongful discipline and pay issues. We have had no grievances heard at second stage since June 2014 despite the slotted time lines in the collective agreement.

There have been several Human Rights issues reported. The seniority list had to be removed from the board on October 6th as it listed one of our members on short term disability.

With regards to sensitive matters, each worker is entitled to union representation under the collective agreement. A policy grievance has been filed on this issue. Once filed, a grievance belongs to the union until such time as it is settled. Private deals that go against the collective agreement will not be made.

When matters involving confidentiality are involved or special training is required in order that good advice be given, ie: EAP, WSIB, Harassment or Accommodation, then Roger Charbonneau is your EAP representative and I am his alternate until we have more stewards trained in these issues. We are legally bound to give you the best representation possible.

George Gallagher and Tom McIntyre have been diligently working on pay issues, as well as resolving some other issues. Job postings and training remain front and centre. In particular, the McLean Bolter.

J.P. Dellaire and George Gallagher are registered for training in October and we are hoping that James McDonald will receive Joint Health and Safety Certification soon.

It has come to our attention that First Nickel Skilled Trades has not paid their dues (½ hour per year) for the last 2 years. This will resume soon and the new Skilled Trades cards will be issued when they arrive.

Roger Charbonneau and James McDonald have been very busy with the Health and Safety of our employees and encourage you to talk to them with any concerns for problems you may have.

In Solidarity,

Cathy Mikkelsen

Cathy Mikkelsen, Unit Chair

FAIRNESS WORKS

Something to strive for!!!

