

Unifor Local 25

Bell Canada has been put on notice by the Unifor national and delegates at the national convention that it will not be business as usual in future bargaining efforts.

Thousands of people marched in solidarity with telecommunications workers to the Bell offices in Quebec City and held a massive rally, demonstrating to the executives of the company that the Bell workers are not alone and will be supported in our fight for fairness.

Right now, the company is in a position to enjoy a protected business market, takes funding from the government then contracts out the related jobs, in the case of its new wireless to the home (WTTH) services, up to one million total installations given to contractors yet the company surplused Bell Canada employees.

Although we were able to get the employees their jobs back, the low morale environment continues to attack the well being of workers, threats of surplus continue to loom and high seniority technicians are told they are unworthy to be retrained in new technologies.

During the coming days it is critical that junior and senior workers must not become divided. While people may be at different stages of life, one must protect the other. The next person to be eligible to retire must be equally concerned with the contractual well being of the last person that was hired, and it is thus so in reverse. Junior workers must respect the seniority of workers who have been through similar trials in the past and their rights associated with decades of service ensured.

If we unite together behind the common cause of a healthy workplace and good secure jobs, the better our bargaining position will be. It is clear after Tuesday, August 20 that we will be supported by Unifor should company continue down a path of aggression.

To see pictures from the event posted to our twitter account, or updates and information about Unifor national, check out: unifor25.com/rssfeeds.html