ALLIED HYDRO COUNCIL OF B.C.



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#207 - 88 Tenth Street, New Westminster, B.C. V3M 6H8

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July 12, 2024

Allied Hydro Council ratifies new collective agreement

The following is a summary of the new ratified collective agreement.

Columbia Hydro Constructors Ltd. (CHC) is a wholly owned subsidiary of BC Hydro formed in 1962. CHC provides the skilled trades workforce for generation facility projects in B.C. that are named in a collective agreement between CHC and the Allied Hydro Council of British Columbia (AHC).

The collective agreement is a no strike no lockout agreement. If the parties cannot come to agreement in collective bargaining, then the bargaining goes to interest arbitration were the arbitrator only has jurisdiction to decide wages and funds. To negotiate more issues, either language or monetary the parties have to agree before interest arbitration. The contract has projects named in the agreement and remains active until all the projects are completed. In the 2018 round of collective bargaining eight new projects were added to the agreement as there was only one project remaining prior to the 2018 bargaining. Prior to the 2018 bargaining the project were located on the Peace River Columbia Basin. With the addition of the new projects there is now projects on Vancouver Island and the Bridge River area.

Prior to collective bargaining for the 2013 agreement the government legislated that CHC/AHC collective agreement bargaining would be subject to the PSEC guidelines.

The Public Sector Employers' Council was established to oversee the Province's strategic coordination of labour relations, total compensation planning, and human resource management across the broader public sector. The Minister of Finance is responsible for the <u>Public Sector Employers Act</u> and is the Chair to the Public Sector Employers' Council.

The government sets the wage mandate for all public sector bargaining, and this is overseen by PSEC.

The term of this collective agreement is for two year period from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026.

Wages and benefits

- July 1, 2024 \$0.25 per hour flat rate increase to all wages, and then a 3.24% increase to all wages
- July 1, 2024 4% increase to all benefits
- July 1, 2025 3% increase to all wages
- July 1, 2025 5% increase to all benefits

These wage increase maintains parity with CLR.

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Hours of Work

And increase from \$18.15 to \$23.00 per hour July 1, 2024, for meals worked after 10 hours.

Vacation and Holidays

Add - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Living out Allowance

Option 1 - (Daily allowance) from \$160.00 to \$190.00 July 1, 2024, increase to \$200.00 July 1, 2025.

Option 2 - single room plus daily meal allowance, from \$72.00 to \$75.00 July 1, 2024, increase to \$92.50 July 1, 2025.

Weekend vacate or check out

From \$16.00 to \$17.00 July 1, 2024, increase to \$18.00 July 1, 2025.

Periodic Leave

Change from six weeks to every twenty-eight days

Mileage

From \$507.00 to \$527.00 July 1, 2024, increase to \$680.00 July 1, 2025.

Foreperson Rates

Increases to numerous foreperson rates.

Your bargaining committee faced numerous challenges during this round of bargaining but were able to maintain parity with CLR on wages, but overall made greater increases as the CHC/AHC total package pays more than CLR.

Since 2018 the mandate of your AHC bargaining committee is to be competitive with CLR. AHC has been able to negotiate parity with CLR and the total compensation package is greater based on what the collective agreement pays.

Your bargaining committee was able to maintain wage parity and increase other items. This was a difficult achievement under the PSEC guidelines on total compensation.

Congratulations to your bargaining committee on achieving this agreement.

Brad Bastien

AHC Representative