

Grain Workers Union Local 333

West Coast Grain Movements
2014

Membership Statistics

- 625 members on the west coast
- Servicing 6 grain terminals
- 5 Terminals in the Port of Vancouver
- 1 Terminal in the Port of Prince Rupert
- Last labor stoppage was a 4 month Company Lockout in August 2002
- Grain Workers have not been on strike since 1975

Terminal Facts

- 4 of the 6 Terminals work Monday to Friday augmented with weekend overtime
- 2 of the 6 Terminals work a 6 and 3 continuous shift.
- 2 terminals work 16 hours a day unloading rail cars
- 4 terminals are available 24 hours a day unloading rail cars

Railway Claims

- Railways claim that terminals are not available or refuse to work holidays or weekends
- That there is a back log of cars waiting to be unloaded in Vancouver
- Both statements are false

Terminal Unloading Budgets

- 2 Terminals in the port of Vancouver have been on a continuous operation since 1997
- Richardson annually budgets for 30 full weekends in a crop year.
- Alliance budgets for weekend work for over 70% of the year or over 35 weekends in a crop year
- Prince Rupert is available for a minimum of 3 shifts per weekend if they are promised 1600 railcars in a week

Statement

- Grain Workers Union local 333 would prefer to have all terminals and all members on a continuous operation
- It would give us a membership increase of about 20 to 25%.
- Would allow us more flexibility to educate our members
- Would eliminate the pressures we feel to ensure all overtime needs are met

Holiday pay stats

- Grain workers at continuous operations receive double time for work on Statutory holidays plus a day in lieu.
- Grain workers at non-continuous Terminals receive double time plus paid for the day

Overtime

- Overtime rates of pay for weekend work on Saturday are time and one half
- Overtime rates of pay for Sunday are double time
- It is very rare that Grain workers refuse overtime shifts due to the very high cost of living in the Province of British Columbia in particular the City Of Vancouver.

Our Commitment

- Grain Workers have and will continue to be, available to meet the demands of Companies, Railways and Farmers when it comes to the unloading and shipping of Prairie Grain
- Grain Workers hope in the future that the demands of Prairie Grain force us into a situation where we are working 24 hours a day 360 days a year. There are 5 days a year that Grain workers are contractually not available to work. (Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day, Easter Sunday and Labor Day.)