

Collective Bargaining Update for Government Ships' Officers (GSO's)

February 16, 2018

After reaching an impasse with the employer on September 13, 2017 the Guild Negotiating Committee immediately met with the Guild's primary legal counsel on GSO issues to begin preparation for interest arbitration. This preparation is vital to ensuring we present our case professionally to an arbitration panel that will carefully consider our very detailed submission and make a decision on all matters that are submitted for final resolution.

Since our last communication preparation for interest arbitration by the Guild's legal counsel has been well underway concurrent with the arbitration panel nomination process.

The three-person arbitration panel is comprised of a nominee appointed by the Guild, and a nominee appointed by the treasury board.

The Guild is pleased to have appointed Mr. Joe Herbert as our nominee to the arbitration panel. Mr. Herbert has an intimate understanding of the complexities of the Ship's Officers Collective Agreement, having been our nominee on previous arbitration panels.

The treasury board has appointed Mr. Anthony Boettger as their nominee, who also has first-hand experience with the Ships' Officer Collective Agreement.

These two nominees were unable to agree to a third panel member to act as chairman, so the Federal Public Sector Labour Relations and Employment Board, in accordance with *the Act*, has appointed Mr. Sydney Baxter as Chairman.

This three-person arbitration panel has scheduled the interest arbitration hearing to commence on May 14, 2018 in Ottawa.

The Guild will continue to keep members informed of developments. Please feel free to contact your nearest Guild office with any inquires.

This Bulletin is currently being translated into both official languages.