

Local 31 Organizes in Style – Limousine Drivers at Aerocar Service Join the Teamsters



On May 19th, 2017 - Teamsters Local Union No. 31 applied at the British Columbia Labour Relations ("BCLRB") to be certified to 65 Limousine drivers employed by Aerocar Service located at Vancouver International Airport (YVR), Richmond, BC. Jointly, Local 31 filed a common employer application to determine that Aerocar Service Ltd., Highend Limousine Services Ltd., 632226 B.C. Ltd., and 0935143 B.C. Ltd. all operated as one common employer under section 38 of the **Labour Code**. The Labour Board scheduled a Hearing on August 8th, 9th, 10th.

One day prior to the Hearing on August 7th, a statutory holiday, the Labour Board and the Union received notice from the employer's legal counsel that it no longer represents Aerocar at this time.

The following morning the owner appeared on behalf of the employer without legal representation seeking an adjournment of the Hearing to hire new counsel. The Union was against this request on the basis that certifications shall be handled in an expeditious manner and that the employer had every opportunity to hire counsel with the ample time afforded. The BCLRB Vice-Chair (Judge) didn't take the employer bait and denied the request for adjournment and directed that the Hearing to commence.

In this case the Teamsters were clearly able to demonstrate that there was more than one entity carrying on the business, that the entities are under common control and that the entities are engaged in associated or related activities or businesses. Moreover, the Union wanted to ensure that it was able to collectively bargain and deal with the party truly in control and power.

Stan Hennessy, President, Local 31 stated, "I'm very proud that the Aerocar Drivers reached out to our Local Union and that the Teamsters are able to help so many drivers in stabilizing their working conditions." President Hennessy further proclaimed, "Our Organizing and Legal Dept. have accomplished so much at the Hearings and otherwise, that we now look forward to the next challenge together at the bargaining table."

Ultimately, the Vice-Chair decided that Aerocar Service Ltd., Highend Limousine Services Ltd., 632226 B.C. Ltd., and 0935143 B.C. Ltd. are to be treated as one employer and that Teamsters Local Union No. 31 is to be certified to Aerocar Service et al to the only Teamster Limousine bargaining unit in Canada.

President Stan Hennessy has assigned Business Representative, Caley Fieldhouse to represent the Aerocar Service Teamsters.

Please contact the Teamsters Local Union No. 31 Organizing Department to help unionize your workplace.

Ben Hennessy

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