



TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION No. 31

AFFILIATED WITH TEAMSTERS CANADA AND THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
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New 3-Year Contract Reached at Commercial Logistics: Teamsters Secure Commendable Gains for its Members

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — The members of Teamsters Local 31 employed at Commercial Logistics have ratified a new 3-year contract that includes a 25% increase to their wage package, with the addition of the Teamsters National Pension Plan and several new paid time-off provisions.

The drivers and warehousemen at Commercial Logistics service the BC Liquor Distribution Board and Brewers Distributors Ltd. by delivering beer and spirits to restaurants, bars, and hotels, making Local 31 the largest liquor distribution union in the region.

This marks the first contract renewal since the drivers and warehouse workers joined the Teamsters Union and approved their initial contract in 2020. During this round of bargaining, the members proposed prioritizing addressing the current economic challenges in the province by focusing on advancing hourly wages and retirement benefits.

The negotiating chair Paul Simms expressed his appreciation to the local union and the bargaining committee, saying, “Our brothers and sisters at Commercial Logistics provide valuable service to the BC service sector, and the new agreement rewards them for their hardwork and excellence,” said chair Paul Simms, “I want to thank President Stan Hennessy and co-chair Mike Hennessy, and Shop Steward Ken Davidson for all of their valuable assistance throughout collective bargaining.”

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Led by Business Agents Paul Simms, Mike Hennessy, and Shop Steward Ken Davidson, the Bargaining Committee yielded substantial gains across various facets of the agreement.

Wage Increase and Pension Contributions

Under the new contract, members will receive a commendable wage increase of \$3.35 over the three-year term, culminating in a wage of \$31.95 per hour. Moreover, the employer will now contribute pension funds for members into the Teamsters National Pension Plan. The contributions will begin at 60¢ per hour in year 1, then increase to 70¢ and 80¢ in years 2 and 3. The new pension plan will complement the existing RRSP plan of \$2.10 per hour per member. Overall, the drivers and the warehousemen will receive \$4.15 per hour in wages and pension contributions.

Expanded Benefits Package

The new agreement extends beyond wage enhancements, ushering in expanding paid time-off benefits for union members, resulting in a 25% compensation package increase. Noteworthy changes include:

- Increase sick time to 10 paid days.
- Addition of 5 personal days, 3 of which are paid.
- A new 5-day sick time payout plan.
- Addition of one extra paid statutory holiday for Truth and Reconciliation Day
- Increases in the boot allowance.
- Introduction of a Driver's License Upgrade Program.
- Renewal of the Safe Driving Program, reinforcing a culture of safety within the workplace.

President Stan Hennessy underscored the significance of the new contract in improving the lives of workers both on and off the job. "Warehousing and distribution represent core industries for Local 31," stated President Hennessy, "and through our collective agreements, we're effecting substantial gains in our members' wages, pension contributions, health benefits and licence upgrades"

As the Teamsters continue to advocate for the workplace rights and well-being of workers in warehousing and distribution, the successful negotiation at Commercial Logistics stands as a witness to the strength and power of Teamsters collective bargaining, securing top compensation and safe working conditions for all.

Teamsters Local Union No. 31 proudly represents more than 8,600 hard-working members in British Columbia and the Yukon Territory, including general truck drivers and industrial mechanics, courier, public services, clerical, warehouse and grocery workers, transit, coach, school bus drivers and monitors, lumber, pulp and paper workers and limousine chauffeurs, since 1936.