

September 9, 2020

Eric Barnaby, Director of Human Resources, and  
Chris Broughton, Chair of Winnipeg School Division Board of Trustees  
1577 Wall Street East  
Winnipeg, MB, R3E 2S5

**Re: UFCW/WSD School Bus Drivers Bargaining**

We have been hearing in the media that the Division is wanting to get back to the bargaining table, yet the WSD bargaining team chose not to attend scheduled negotiations on August 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. The Union committee was prepared to meet and was on standby for two days awaiting a response from your group. We were not even advised by you of when the WSD trustees were set to meet to discuss this issue until the evening of the 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Union has consistently communicated to the division that we will always engage in meaningful bargaining. It appears that there is a communication breakdown between the division bargaining committee and the trustees, who have been absent from the bargaining table during this process.

Negotiating in the media and not providing the correct information is not going to end this strike any sooner. The Division is using Bill 28 to justify an unreasonable offer to the drivers, and until that mandate changes we will continue to walk this picket line.

As the negotiator, I have had discussions with the WSD lead negotiator about resolving all outstanding issues not related to monetary items to have the remainder resolved by binding arbitration. Yet, I have heard nothing in response. If the WSD is open to having a resolve by utilizing binding arbitration, we need to be informed directly instead of hearing this in the media.

These drivers want to be driving and providing transportation services for the families that rely on it to get their students to and from school. They do not want to be walking a picket line but the Division and the Trustees have left us with no other choice. As always, we remain open to returning to the bargaining table.

We would welcome any of the Winnipeg School Divisions Trustees to the bargaining table. That way everyone has the same information which right now does not appear to be the case.

Yours Truly,



Phil Kraychuk  
Union Negotiator

Cc: Winnipeg School Division #1 School Trustees  
J. Traeger  
B. Bruske