

SEPTEMBER INPLANT UPDATE

PRODUCTION/BRIGHTDROP

Our downtime continues as GM has again extended our layoffs, this time until October 4. It seems almost every plant is now down in Ontario plus a large variety of other businesses as the chip issue seems far from resolved.

Construction has begun at the Cross Dock. The pits are dug, and the cement work is currently ongoing. Equipment will begin to be installed as the area will be the home for the final inspections for the Brightdrops. The current goal is to have our members begin doing all final cheques, road test, WAHA, etc by November 1.

Members who recently posted to the pilot teams are being called into work as the Brightdrop continues to head towards production launch. More members will be called as the process continues.

NEW PAYROLL/BENEFIT SYSTEM

The company is implementing a new global payroll/benefit system.

They are asking everyone to provide your cell number and email address. These are needed to trigger you into the new system. You will then be part of the new system that will run with everyone having their own passwords.

Only about 45 people have yet to sign up. The company will not be chasing these last 45 members, it is up to each member if they want to provide the information.

Once you are in the system you will be able to do things such as:

- Update any personal information changes; address, banking information, adding dependents, emergency contacts
- All pay statements including pay history's – you can go back and check your pay history
- Pension estimates – this is huge, currently you only get 1 pension estimate per contract, with the new system you can go in every week and get one
- Commuted value calculations – again you can go in every week and get a new one
- All benefit related issues

The current system will be shut down. Anyone not participating will still get paid but will no longer be able to get pension estimates, commuted value estimates, pay history, etc. We have had a good support system in the plant, company benefit rep, our own payroll department, but it would seem those positions will be eliminated in the near future as the new system will be available 24 hours a day to every member via your phone or computer.

There will also be computer sites available at work for anyone who does not own a computer.

CONFERENCES/EDUCATION

UNIFOR has begun planning for conferences again and our first Auto Council will be held November 4. A new Bargaining Committee will need to be voted in right after our triennial elections as our Master Bargaining Committee attends with full voice and vote at all Auto Councils as they prepare for the next round of Big 3 bargaining.

Port Elgin is also opening for a 2-week trial to determine if they can fully reopen and get the education classes going again.

BENEFIT BANTER

FAQ about EI

Jeff Bankes, 226-825-8535
Rob Gallace, 226-825-8534
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My current EI claim is coming to an end soon, what do I do?

When your current EI claim ends, you will need to complete a brand-new application. You will know your current claim is going to end, as it will tell you when you are completing your reporting that this is your last report on this current claim. You can also sign into your MyServiceCanadaAccount to check any information about your EI claim.

How many Hours will I need to Qualify for a new EI claim?

Service Canada will need 420 insurable hours to establish a claim for regular or special benefits for claims starting Sept 26th, 2021 up until Sept 18, 2022. (Increased insurable hours due to violations still apply.)

Can I still claim vacation as “other monies” and when will it end?

Separation monies including vacation pay are continuing to not be allocated as earnings. This measure applies when the start date of the allocation is between Sept 26, 2021 and Sept 18, 2022.

I have not received SUB pay.

A common issue is a missing SUB code from Service Canada. If you set up a new claim, it should ask you if you are part of a SUB plan. Another way to verify is the last question on your reporting under “Other Monies”. It should mention that they know you are part of a SUB plan. If this does not show up, please contact our office so we can have them add a SUB code and generate a SUB letter.

Will I see a raise in my SUB with the new contract?

The new contract is set to kick in on Sept 22nd, 2021. Any raises or changes to your SUB will not take effect until you either returned to work or used a week of vacation **after** Sept 22, 2021.

How do I reset SUB?

There is no hard reset on SUB. SUB is calculated on a 52-week period from every layoff. To do a soft reset, you can use a week of vacation. What will happen as an example: If you used a week of vacation the week of Sept 20, 2021. SUB will be calculated by going back to Sept 20, 2020, they will take how many weeks you’ve used and take that away from your SUB eligibility. So if you had 26 weeks of eligibility and used 18 weeks of SUB between Sept 20, 2020 and Sept 20, 2021, you’d have 8 weeks going forward.

In Solidarity,
Your Inplant Committee