



STAR BULLETIN

CEP LOCAL 87-M, SONG

June 6, 2012

Bargaining ahoy!

*June 21 meeting
to set the tone
for negotiations*

Contract expires Dec. 31,
tough choices ahead

Bargaining. Just the word you want to hear, with everything else going on.

But yes, the fundamental business of negotiating a new contract is upon us again.

We haven't faced a full bargaining round with Star management since late 2007. That went down to a tense strike/lockout wire. We voted to extend that contract two years ago, without much drama.

Now we're heading toward another tough round of bargaining. Our contract expires Dec. 31. By law, we could begin formal bargaining with the company anytime after Sept. 30. We need your help to get ready. We need a group huddle. We need to make several big decisions now, this month.

What's the big stuff you want our next contract to include? What's our bottom line? Should we consider another extension? Come help us decide together.

Please join us Thursday, June 21 at noon sharp at -- wait for it, this is special -- the banquet room of Captain John's, our neighbouring eatery at the foot of Yonge St. (Yes, Captain John's is a sunken boat in the lake. This has a certain subversive charm, no? We absolutely own the ironic high ground now.)

Nominations will be taken at that meeting for (1) bargaining representative and (1) alternate from each of Advertising, Circulation, Finance and Administration, Editorial and Pre-Press/Layout/Creative, whose job it will be to get us a new contract, along with the Star unit executive. Who do you want to represent your department, your interests, in these critical coming months? Someone tougher? More conciliatory? Smarter?

We'll have much more to share in the two weeks before the meeting. Please click Thursday, June 21 at noon. Life preservers not required. Yet.

-- Stuart Laidlaw, unit chair, and your chief stewards

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