

Ready Process

The transition work flowing from the Ready recommendations is now underway. BCPSEA has completed a series of regional meetings with districts; this bulletin provides a further update on our work to date. BCPSEA is tentatively scheduled to meet with Vince Ready on November 14 to review the process and obtain more specific information regarding how the parties will proceed.

The Ready recommendations can be divided into two specific components:

- A number of specific settlement issues to be addressed by BCPSEA and the BCTF, including salary grids, benefits, TOC rates and TOC seniority
- Bargaining structure.

The timeframes for both components are extremely short (salary grids – March 31; TOC issues – December 31; bargaining structure – December 31).

We understand that the BCTF has already met with local presidents and presented their view on the manner in which the first component of the Ready recommendations is to be implemented. Although BCPSEA is hopeful that we can resolve as many issues as possible with the BCTF, we are also mindful of the fact that on a number of these issues there are different views between the parties that may require a final determination by Mr. Ready. At this point, regardless of the information being distributed by the BCTF, nothing has been determined about the implementation of the recommendations beyond the broad parameters set by Mr. Ready.

BCPSEA is committed to ensuring that any changes in the first phase of the Ready recommendations do not exceed the financial parameters set in the report (i.e., \$40 million towards the harmonization of the salary grids). In addition, any changes supported by BCPSEA must be guided by sound principles that will further an improved environment within this sector.

BCPSEA will continue to work with resource groups comprised of representatives from districts to ensure that our work in the process is as representative as possible. In addition, we will send out updates and hold conference calls and regional meetings as required. Specifically, BCPSEA has created a provincially based focus group composed of Trustees, Directors, Secretary Treasurers and Assistant Superintendents to whom we will provide draft principles, proposals and language drawn from the recent regional meetings.

Once agreement has been reached on these draft materials, the information will be distributed to trustees and school district staff for discussion and feedback. BCPSEA is planning follow-up meetings with trustees and school district staff for in-depth discussion. These discussions will formulate the employers' position as we hold discussions with the BCTF and with Vince Ready.

Questions

If you have any questions about the Ready process, please contact:

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