

Sisters and Brothers,

Your Bell Joint Labour Relations Committee has been pushing the Company on several topics, since Covid 19 changed things for all of us this early March. We have had some success working with the Company and also through the Health and Safety Committee in order to make sure the members of this Bargaining Unit were treated fairly and as the important keys to the Company success that we truly are.

The topic of Hazard Compensation Premium has been brought to the Company several times, at both our level and above. Many levels of Government, Employers and almost all Telecommunications companies in North America, including their direct competitors, recognize the sacrifice that their employees have made to keep the network running in this crucial period in order to provide our customers with the information, entertainment and employment requirements they need to work from home. While the Company has placated us thus far saying that they are looking into it, we have come to understand that this is a hollow statement designed to push the issue off indefinitely. We have asked for a definitive answer about a Hazard Compensation Premium in recognition of all that our members are doing to keep our customers connected, and in turn, the Company very profitable.

Unfortunately, we have to report that there is nothing forthcoming other than the fluffy emails praising our work, and a reiteration of the hundreds of thousands of jobs that will be lost to contracting out the wireless to the home product providing high speed internet access in underserved areas. It would be an understatement to say we are disappointed in this lack of recognition in such an uncertain time, but also that these decisions are being made by those least affected as they continue to work in the isolation and comfort of their own homes while our members continue to work in the field, out in the public, exposing themselves and their loved ones every day.

In solidarity,

Your Bell Craft Bargaining Team