
BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF FILM UNIONS

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BULLETIN

WHAT REALLY HAPPENS WHEN A UNION IS CERTIFIED.

The British Columbia and Yukon Council of Film Unions has applied to be certified for employees working on various film productions.

Rumours are being spread that this would force the production companies to sign on to the Council's Master Agreement whether it was economical for them to do so or not.

That rumour is not true and is being put forward to improperly influence your decision on how to vote.

What happens when a Union is certified is that the Labour Relations Code recognizes the Union as the representative of the employees working on the production. That status requires the Employer to bargain with the Union in good faith and make every reasonable effort to conclude a collective agreement.

While that bargaining is taking place the Employer must continue to honour the existing rates of pay and other conditions of employment that were in effect at the time of the certification application. The Employer is not required to sign on to the collective agreement put forward by the Union.

The matters set out above are well known to the production companies. Instead of providing you with accurate information they have chosen to try and create fear and uncertainty to interfere with your rights to be a member of the trade union of your choosing and to obtain a real collective agreement. Remember this when you exercise your rights at the upcoming certification vote.

On behalf of the British Columbia and Yukon Council of Film Unions.

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