



**Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada
Locals 26 and 27 Toronto / Mississauga, Ontario**

Bell Canada's Contract Offers

During this round of bargaining, Bell Canada has tabled two offers which the membership rejected at 88 % and 59 % due to the concessions contained therein. The first offer was undoubtedly the worst offer we have seen from the Company in all our years of service. The second offer had some of the concessions removed but then asked us to work an additional 55 hours per year for the same annual salary.

There are lots of opinions about the Company's offers but the bottom line is it is still a bad deal. I have seen a lot of controversial e-mails regarding presentations at the contract vote meetings. There is an expression that perception is reality and I believe that perception has coloured many members' views and opinions regarding these contract vote meetings.

The Bargaining Committee is explaining the Company's "dropped offers" in their presentations to the members. In some cases, the explanation was just a little bit off of what the contract language stated. After the Bargaining Committee's presentation was finished, John Edwards addressed a few points that were explained incorrectly. John also clarified that a no vote contained the strike mandate and that the possibility of a strike was in fact a reality.

I believe that the National Union has a responsibility to ensure that the members receive an accurate presentation of the terms of the contract offer and are fully aware of what a no vote means.

Now is not the time for internal conflicts. Now is the time to unite in our support for the Bargaining Committee and the National Union in our efforts to obtain an acceptable collective agreement.

The enemy in this fight is clearly the Company. It is time to turn the guns out, not in!

This is the time for us to unite and fight together.

In solidarity

Ray Mortimer, President, CEP Local 26

Jim White, President, CEP Local 27