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Local26

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Hello everyone,

I want to touch base with everyone, and squash any rumours or misinformation that is out there. As you all probably know from the communication the employer has sent out, the company is canvassing for Volunteers interested in a Voluntary Separation Package (VSP), and for RIO's to anyone 55 years of age or older that has an 80 Factor (Age + Years of service) This opens up the possibility for a RIO entitlement to an additional 46 employees over and above the number that qualified for the last RIO offered after our Contract ratification.

The Company has relayed to us that they want to see what number of techs are interested in this round of offers, before we discuss other measures within the parameters of the Collective Agreement to lessen the impact on all of you. In spite of the bad news, the promising thing I hear from the company is that they are not interested in Layoffs or implementing Article 11, I will continue to work hard with Management and my fellow Bargaining Committee Reps to minimize the negative impact to you all.

I've been hearing that some techs are in the belief that if they don't accept a VSP now they might not be entitled to any Lay-off allowances as laid out in ART. 11 of the CBA, and that's *SIMPLY NOT TRUE* All parameters within Article 11 of the Collective Agreement will be in effect to every RFT employee.

The Company has confirmed to us that there's no pending Sale of the business, in spite of the *RUMOUR* that has been running rampant through the ranks of our employees.

I reiterate that if you have any concerns or questions, don't hesitate to call or email me directly at the points of contact listed below.

Please find UNIFOR's Expertech Media release on the following link:

EN: <https://www.unifor.org/news/all-news/bell-continues-eliminate-good-jobs-round-cuts-expertech>

SOLIDARITY,

**Paulo Duarte
Local 26 Recording Secretary
Expertech Craft Chief Stewart
Expertech Craft Bargaining Rep GTA**