

**COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT**

between

**ARCTIC CANADIAN DIAMOND COMPANY LTD.**  
(“THE EMPLOYER”)

and

**THE PUBLIC SERVICE ALLIANCE OF CANADA**  
(AS REPRESENTED BY ITS COMPONENT,  
THE UNION OF NORTHERN WORKERS)  
DIAMOND WORKERS LOCAL X3050  
(“THE UNION”)

**Expiry Date: May 31, 2026**

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## Article 1 - Purpose of Agreement

- 1.01 The purpose of this agreement is to maintain harmonious and mutually beneficial relations between the parties, the Employer, Arctic Canadian Diamond Company and the Union, the Public Service Alliance of Canada, Local X3050.
- 1.02 The parties agree to set forth terms and conditions of employment upon which agreement has been reached through collective bargaining; and to ensure that all reasonable measures are provided for the safety and occupational health of the employees; and fosters the employment of workers in an economically viable enterprise that is able to adapt to changes in the economy in a workplace that promotes productivity and the development of workforce skills.

## Article 2 - Interpretation and Definitions

- 2.01 For the purpose of this Agreement:
  - (a) **"Employee"** means an employee of Arctic Canadian Diamond Company who is a member of the Bargaining Unit.
  - (b) **"Grievance"** means a complaint in writing as per Article 13.
  - (c) **"Leave of Absence"** means absence from duty with the employer's permission.
  - (d) **"Promotion"** means the successful competition of an employee to another position, the maximum rate of pay for which exceeds that of their former position.
  - (e) **"Transfer"** means the appointment of an employee to another position, which does not constitute a promotion or a demotion.
  - (f) **"Personal Leave"** is an approved absence from the workplace provided for in this agreement for a specific period of time at the employee's discretion due to reasons not covered by other leave entitlements in the Collective Agreement such as vacation, bereavement, or maternity leave. Personal Leave would include leave options such as sick leave, emergency family leave and cultural leave.

### **Article 3 - Union Recognition**

- 3.01 The employer recognizes the Union as the exclusive bargaining agent for all Employees in the Bargaining Unit.
- 3.02 This agreement covers all employees in the Bargaining Unit, with the exception of temporary employees on employment contracts of finite duration.
- 3.03 Where the parties have a dispute over whether a permanent position created after the effective date of this Agreement is within the Bargaining Unit, or whether changes to the job duties of positions currently within the Bargaining Unit justifies exclusion of the position from the Bargaining Unit, either party may submit the dispute to binding arbitration under Article 13 of this Agreement, or another mutually agreed upon method of dispute resolution.

### **Article 4 - Management Rights**

- 4.01 Unless specifically restricted by a provision within this Agreement, the Employer reserves all management rights with respect to operating and managing its business, including but not limited to, the right to establish hiring policies, to select Employees for hire, to determine what work will be performed, what equipment and processes will be employed, how the workforce will be directed and evaluated, whether to increase or curtail operations, to schedule shifts and vacations, to grant leaves of absence, what security measures are required and including the right to make and enforce workplace rules that are not inconsistent with this collective agreement, and generally maintain order, discipline and efficiency.

### **Article 5 - Non-discrimination and Harassment**

#### Non-discrimination

- 5.01 The Union and the Employer recognize the right of employees to work in an environment free from sexual and personal harassment and the Employer undertakes to ensure that sexual and personal harassment will not be tolerated in the workplace.

There shall be no discrimination, interference, restriction, coercion, harassment, intimidation, or any disciplinary action exercised or practiced with respect to an employee by reason of age, race, creed, colour, national origin, religious affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, family status, mental or physical disability, language, gender identity or expression,

political affiliation, social condition, marital status, criminal record for which a pardon has been granted or membership or activity in the Union.

- 5.02 The Employer acknowledges its duty to accommodate to the point of undue hardship employees who are unable to perform their normal job functions as a result of physical or mental disability.

#### Anti-harassment

- 5.03 The Union and the Employer recognize the right of employees to work in an environment free from sexual harassment, personal harassment and abuse of authority. The Employer undertakes that sexual harassment, personal harassment and/or abuse of authority will not be tolerated in the workplace.
- 5.04 (a) Sexual harassment is defined as, but not limited to, any incident or series of incidents related to sexuality or gender where the person carrying out the incident knew or ought reasonably to have known would be unwelcome, and may be verbal, physical, non-verbal, deliberate or unintentional.
- (b) Personal harassment shall be defined as behaviour directed at a person that is abusive, intimidating, malicious or insulting. It includes forms of bullying, which may make the recipient feel upset, threatened, humiliated or vulnerable.
- (c) Abuse of authority occurs when an individual uses their authority or position with its implicit power to undermine, sabotage or otherwise interfere with or influence the career of an employee or in the provision of services. This definition includes blatant acts of misuse of authority such as intimidation, threats, blackmail and coercion.
- (d) Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement, it is understood that proper exercise of managerial authority for legitimate evaluation and performance management purposes does not constitute harassment or bullying or abuse of authority notwithstanding that it may be offensive to an employee.
- (e) The Employer and the Union encourage everyone to make an effort to resolve conflicts as soon as possible. Situations resolved informally between the parties directly involved often have the most positive outcomes. Individuals who feel they have been subjected to harassment in the workplace and are unable to resolve the matter informally with the parties involved should contact Human Resources and initiate the formal process outlined in the Employer's Workplace Harassment Policy. All allegations of harassment regardless of whether a formal complaint has been

made will be treated seriously and dealt with promptly and confidentially. Commencing proceedings under the Workplace Harassment Policy does not prevent an employee from enforcing any rights contained in the collective agreement or pursuant to any statute.

### **Article 6 - Application**

- 6.01 The provisions of this Agreement apply to the Union, the Employer and the Employees of the Bargaining Unit.

### **Article 7 - Union Security**

- 7.01 All employees shall, as a condition of employment, become a member and maintain membership in the Union in good standing, except for those employees who elected to cease membership in the Union under the provisions of the collective agreement expiring August 31, 2007 and who have not subsequently joined the Union.
- 7.02 No employee will be denied membership in the Union or have their membership in the Union terminated as a result of exercising any right under the Canada Labour Code, including but not limited to the right to continue to report to work during a work stoppage, or for failing to pay any assessment, dues or penalty levied by the Union as a result of exercising any such right.
- 7.03 No employee will be denied membership in the Union or have their Union membership terminated without the application of the principles of natural justice.

### **Article 8 - Union Dues and Check-Off**

- 8.01 Subject to the provisions of this Article, the Employer shall, as a condition of employment, deduct an amount equal to the monthly membership dues from the monthly pay of all employees in the Bargaining Unit. Where an employee does not have sufficient earnings in respect of any month to permit deductions made under this Article, the Employer shall not be obligated to make such deduction from subsequent salary.
- 8.02 The Union shall inform the Employer in writing of the authorized deduction to be checked off for each employee.
- 8.03 For the purposes of Article 8.01, deductions shall be made per pay period.

- 8.04 The amounts deducted in accordance with Article 8.01 shall be remitted to the Comptroller of the Union by cheque no later than fifteen (15) days after deductions are made and shall be accompanied by particulars identifying each employee and the deductions made on their behalf.
- 8.05 Union dues deducted by the Employer shall be included on employee T4 slips.
- 8.06 The employer will provide the Union with the names of new hires within the Bargaining Unit each month.

### **Article 9 - Union Representatives**

- 9.01 The Employer acknowledges the right of the Union to appoint or otherwise select a reasonable number of employees as stewards. Normally, the first point of contact in the following areas (Surface Mining, Process Plant, Supply Chain, Maintenance and Site Services) will be the designated steward in that area. In the event that the designated steward is not available, the point of contact shall be an alternate designated for that area.
- 9.02 All time spent performing the normal day-to-day administration of the Collective Agreement shall be paid for by the Employer, provided such business pertains to Employer scheduled meetings, joint meetings arising from the collective agreement and those meetings specifically called by the Employer.
- 9.03 The Union shall determine the jurisdiction of each steward or Union representative, having regard to the plan of the organization, the number and distribution of employees and the administrative structure implied by the grievance procedure and shall notify the Employer in writing of the names of these individuals.
- 9.04 Stewards or Union representatives shall obtain permission from their supervisor before leaving their work to carry out the duties of an employees' representative and report back to their supervisor before resuming their duties. Such permission shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 9.05 Where practicable, when the Employer requests the presence of a steward or Union representative at a meeting, such request will be communicated to the employee's supervisor by the Employer.



- 9.06 The Union will designate a servicing officer from the Union who will be the person charged with administering the collective agreement and the Bargaining Unit. The Employer will grant this person reasonable access to the Ekati site in order to carry out Union business. Provided the site access remains reasonable, the Employer will not charge the Union for air travel, accommodation or meals while on site. The Union agrees to cooperate with the Employer in terms of scheduling site visits to avoid times of peak occupancy. If the Union desires representatives other than the designated servicing officer to access the Ekati site, the parties will discuss this in advance.
- 9.07 The Employer shall provide the Union with a suitable, easily accessible, private room at the Ekati mine site for exclusive use as a Union office at no cost to the Union.

#### Time Off for Union Duties

- 9.08 The Local President of Local X3050, or a member of the Union executive designated to act as the designate of the Local President for these purposes, shall be granted leave with pay for one shift every Thursday, to conduct union business on site. During the period of leave the President, or their designate, shall be entitled to their normal rate of pay and all benefits and other provisions of the collective agreement to which an employee is normally entitled and shall continue to accumulate seniority during their leave. In order to qualify for such pay and benefits, the Union Local must advise the Employer of the identity of the person acting as the designate at least two weeks in advance.

### **Article 10 - Information**

- 10.01 Once every three (3) months, the Employer will provide the Union with an updated electronic list of all employees in the Bargaining Unit indicating name, job title, work location, hire date, employment status, and contact information.
- 10.02 The cost of printing and distributing the collective agreement will be shared equally between the parties. The printing shall be performed in the Northwest Territories. Given the number of official languages in the Northwest Territories, and the number of employees who speak one as a first language, the Employer will provide an interpreter for any employee needing assistance to understand the provisions of the agreement on account of speaking one of these as a first language.
- 10.03 At the orientation of new employees, the Employer will advise the new employees that terms and conditions of employment are governed by the

collective agreement, and will make available English copies of the collective agreement to any new hire. The Employer will provide a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes at the orientation for a representative of the Union to introduce new employees to the Union and its role. The representative must be a person not at work during the fifteen (15) minutes designated by the Employer for this purpose.

## **Article 11 - Leave for Union Business**

### Leave without Pay for Union Business

11.01 Subject to operational requirements, the Employer will grant leave without pay to:

- (a) an employee who represents the Union in a hearing in front of the Canada Industrial Relations Board, Conciliation Board, an Arbitration Board, Employment Standards Board, Human Rights Board and/or Workers' Safety & Compensation Commission;
- (b) to a reasonable number of Union representatives for attending preparatory and contract negotiation meetings, meetings or conventions of the Union, the Canadian Labour Congress, and the Northwest Territories Federation of Labour or to undertake training related to the duties of a representative;
- (c) to an employee to work for the Union.

### Leave without Pay for Full-Time Elected Officers

- 11.02 (a) The Employer will grant leave without pay, to an employee elected or appointed to a full-time office of the PSAC or the Component. The duration of such leave shall be for the period the employee holds such office but in any event the leave shall not exceed three (3) years without prior mutual agreement of the parties.
- (b) An employee who returns to work after a period of leave without pay granted under clause (a) shall have time spent on such leave without pay deducted from continuous employment for the purpose of calculating severance pay and seniority if the leave is for a period of more than three (3) months. However, time spent on such leave shall count towards years of service for the purpose of the calculation of vacation leave.

- (c) An employee granted leave without pay under clause (a) shall be reinstated to the position or a similar position they held when the leave commenced.
  - (d) If, during this leave, the employee's position is eliminated, the employee will, at this time, be treated as if the employee were still working in the same position and same salary prior to the leave. The employee shall be entitled to all the rights contained in the collective agreement.
- 11.03 For employees granted leave without pay under this article, the Employer shall continue to pay the employee an amount equal to their regular salary and Article 30 allowance in accordance with the terms of this collective agreement. This does not include any other amounts which would be payable if the employee was not on leave, including without limit, benefits, pension, premiums, or other allowances. Upon invoice by the Employer the Union shall reimburse the Employer for the amount so paid within thirty (30) days of the date of invoice.

#### **Article 12 - Joint Union Management Committee**

- 12.01 (a) The Employer and the Union acknowledge the mutual benefits of joint consultation and agree to maintain a Joint Union Management Committee which will have as its objective meaningful consultation on matters of mutual interest, except issues that are the subject of a grievance.
- (b) The Committee shall consist of equal numbers of Union and Management Representatives and will meet at least every three (3) months, unless the Employer and the Union agree otherwise.
- (c) Draft minutes of every meeting will be prepared and distributed by Management no later than seven (7) days prior to the next meeting, at which the minutes will be presented for review and adoption.
- (d) The Joint Union Management Committee has no authority to amend any terms of the Collective Agreement. This can only be accomplished by mutual agreement through a letter of understanding between the parties.

#### **Article 13 - Grievance and Arbitration Procedure**

- 13.01 Whenever a difference arises between the parties concerning the interpretation, application, operation or alleged violation of this Agreement,

including a question as to whether or not a matter is arbitrable, or the dismissal or discipline of an employee is for just cause, the alleged grievance shall be dealt with in the following manner without stoppage of work.

13.02 The time limits set out for each step of the grievance procedure are mandatory and may only be extended by mutual agreement in writing between the Employer and the Union. If the Employer or the Union does not present a grievance to the next higher level within either the prescribed time limit or the agreed extended time limit, the grievance will be deemed to be abandoned.

### 13.03 Levels of the Grievance Procedure

#### **Level 1**

Within twenty-eight (28) calendar days of becoming aware of the matter giving rise to the complaint, the Grievor may submit a written grievance to the Shop Steward who will submit it to the employee's immediate supervisor. Within twenty-one (21) working days of the receipt of the grievance, the Employer representative will provide a written response to the Grievor.

#### **Level 2**

If a satisfactory answer has not been obtained, the Grievor may within twenty-one (21) calendar days of receipt of the decision at Level 1 advance the grievance to the Superintendent/Coordinator of the area in which the employee filing the grievance works who will consider the grievance and provide a decision, in writing, within twenty-one (21) calendar days.

#### **Level 3**

If a satisfactory answer has not been obtained, the Grievor may within twenty-one (21) calendar days of receipt of the decision at Level 2 advance the grievance to the Departmental Manager who will consider the grievance and provide a decision, in writing, within twenty-one (21) calendar days. When the Employer dismisses an Employee, a grievance may be initially presented at Level 3.

13.04 In the event of a conflict of interest at any level, the Union or Employer shall have the right to initiate and present a grievance commencing at the next level. Grievances concerning matters of policy may be initiated at Level 3.

- 13.05 Subject to Article 13.02, no proceedings under this Article are invalid by reason of any defect of form or any technical irregularity such as an incomplete grievance form, spelling error, or similar inconsistency, provided such errors or defects have no essential bearing on the substance of the grievance.
- 13.06 If the grievance is not satisfactorily settled at Level 3, the grievance may be referred to arbitration, within twenty-one (21) calendar days after the decision received at Level 3.
- 13.07 The parties agree that grievances will be heard by a single arbitrator who will be mutually agreed upon by the parties or, if the parties mutually agree, by a three-person Arbitration Board. If mutual agreement is not reached by the parties to choose a single arbitrator or Chair of an Arbitration Board within thirty (30) calendar days from the date that either party receives notification of a wish to proceed to arbitration, the Minister of Labour shall be asked to appoint the single arbitrator, or Chair of the Arbitration Board as necessary. This appointment shall be accepted by both parties.
- 13.08 If the parties agree to utilize a three-person Arbitration Board, then they each will appoint one person to the Arbitration Board, with the Chair being selected as set out above.
- 13.09 The Arbitrator or Arbitration Board has all the powers granted to arbitrators under the Canada Labour Code, in addition to any powers which are contained in this Agreement but shall not have the authority to alter or amend any of the provisions of this Agreement nor to substitute any new provisions in lieu thereof, nor to render any decision contrary to the terms and provisions of this Agreement, nor to increase or decrease wages.

The Employer and the Union shall each pay one half of the remuneration and expenses of the Arbitrator and each party shall bear its own expenses of every arbitration. The decision of the Arbitrator or Arbitration Board will be binding on both parties.

#### Alternate Dispute Resolution

- 13.10 (a) The Employer and the Union recognize the benefits of resolving disputes in a cooperative manner with a minimum of formality.
- (b) Employees are encouraged to discuss areas of concern or complaint with their Team Leader or immediate supervisor on an informal basis prior to filing a grievance. An employee may be accompanied by a representative of the Union if they wish.

- (c) At any time in the grievance procedure the parties may mutually agree to refer the grievance to an alternate dispute resolution ("ADR") process. If this is agreed to then the parties will agree on the terms of reference for the ADR process. ADR is intended to be expeditious, informal and cost-effective. The parties shall not be represented by legal counsel in ADR. Settlements achieved through the ADR process will be binding and recorded in minutes of settlement and on a without prejudice and without precedent basis. While ADR process is underway, the time limits set out for the grievance procedure are suspended; however, if the matter is not resolved within 28 days of it being referred to ADR, or such other time as is agreed to by the parties, then the matter will revert back to the normal grievance procedure at the point it was when first referred to ADR and the time limits set out therein will apply. At any time during the ADR process, either party can opt out of the ADR process and the matter will revert back to the normal grievance procedure at the point it was when first referred to ADR and the time limits set out therein will apply. Discussions within the context of ADR cannot be relied upon in the grievance procedure.

#### **Article 14 - Discipline**

- 14.01 Other than in exceptional circumstances, prior to disciplining an employee, the Employer will conduct an investigation into the alleged grounds for discipline and provide the employee with the opportunity to provide input into the investigation. If the employee is suspended without pay pending completion of an investigation, the Employer will maintain benefit coverage to the extent permitted under the terms of the benefits insurance plan documents until the investigation is concluded and a decision is made by the Employer. If the investigation has not been completed within two (2) weeks of suspension, the suspended employee shall receive regular wages after two weeks until such time as the Employer's investigation is concluded and a decision is communicated to the employee or Union, provided the employee cooperates in the investigation.
- 14.02 (a) When an employee is required to attend a meeting where the Employer intends to discipline the employee, the employee shall be entitled to have a representative of the Union attend the meeting.
- (b) The employee shall receive advance notice of, and the reason for such a meeting. Such advance notice shall include notification that the employee is entitled to have a representative of the Union attend the meeting.

- 14.03 Where disciplinary action has been taken, the employee and the Local shall be notified in writing of the disciplinary action and the circumstances, which made the action necessary.

### **Article 15 - Employee Performance Reviews and Files**

- 15.01 When a formal assessment of an employee's performance is made, the employee concerned must be given an opportunity to sign the assessment form in question upon its completion to indicate that its contents have been read. A copy of the assessment form will be provided to the employee at the time. The employee's signature on the assessment form will be considered to be an indication only that its contents have been read and shall not indicate the employee's concurrence with the statements contained on the form.
- 15.02 An employee has the right to make written comments to be attached to the performance review form.
- 15.03 Prior to an employee performance review the employee shall be given the evaluation form which will be used for the review. If during the employee performance review, the form is changed, it shall be given to the employee.

### **Article 16 - Hours of Work**

- 16.01 It is understood that for employees on a 2 and 2 shift rotation, a workday consists of a continuous twelve (12) hour shift. This does not apply to shift changeout days when the length of the shift may be different.
- 16.02 In a 12-hour shift, employees are entitled to two 15-minute breaks and one 30-minute meal break, without loss of pay. Some departments may combine the two 15-minute breaks into one 30-minute break.
- 16.03 Time spent travelling from an employee's home to the Ekati mine site or to any other transportation marshalling site is not considered time worked for any purpose.
- 16.04 The Union agrees to execute a consent to the annual overtime averaging permit establishing the applicable shift rotation for the employee's department.

## Article 17 - Overtime

- 17.01 Each department has its own system for allocation of overtime. Overtime work shall be distributed as equitably as possible amongst employees who normally perform the work. It is understood, that in most cases the incumbent in a position will be asked to work overtime first. The Employer agrees to discuss overtime allocations at least quarterly with Union representatives in each department.
- 17.02 (a) The allowance described in Article 30 includes compensation for all regularly scheduled overtime in each rotation.
- (b) Time worked in excess of 168 hours in a four-week rotation, or in excess of an employee's regularly scheduled daily shift shall be considered overtime, and the employee will be paid at one and one-half (1.5) times the regular rate. Overtime will be calculated by taking the employee's annual base salary and dividing by two thousand and eighty (2080) and multiplying by the overtime rate.
- (c) When an employee is required by the Employer to work longer than 12 hours in a day, the minimum amount of overtime paid will be half an hour. Thereafter, overtime will be paid in 15 minute increments.
- 17.03 If an employee is required to return to work on a flight changeout day due to delays in flights, the employee will return to work without additional pay for the balance of the shift the employee commenced on the changeout day. Pay for such event is included in the allowance described in Article 30.
- 17.04 If the employee works beyond the end of the shift commenced on the changeout day, overtime will be paid for all hours worked past the end of the first shift.
- 17.05 If an employee is required to work on the day following the scheduled changeout day, then overtime will be paid for all hours worked on that date with a minimum twelve (12) hours of overtime paid.
- 17.06 An employee reporting for work at the call of the Company, after their regular working hours and not contiguous to their regular hours of work, is eligible for call-out compensation whether or not after reporting to work, they are required to perform any work. The employee will be paid the greater of:
- i. compensation at the applicable overtime rate; or
  - ii. compensation equivalent to four (4) hours of pay at the employee's regular straight time rate.



If the employee is called-out, completes work and is subsequently called out for the same issue within the same four (4) hour period, this will not be considered a separate incident, rather the additional time will be considered in addition to the already called out hours and compared to the minimums noted above. Where contiguous to the employee's scheduled hours, an employee who is required to work after their regular working hours is considered to be working overtime and shall be compensated at the applicable overtime rate for time worked and shall not be entitled to call-out compensation.

This Article 17.06 does not apply to a call-out as part of the Emergency Response Team (ERT).

### **Article 18 - Designated Paid Holidays**

- 18.01 The allowance described in Article 30 includes compensation for all statutory holidays. The payment assumes employees work all statutory holidays and therefore employees are not entitled to any additional pay for working on a statutory holiday.
- 18.02 Any additional day(s) proclaimed by an Act of Parliament or the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly as a general holiday shall result in an increase to the allowance equal to one percent (1%) of base salary for each full day so proclaimed.

### **Article 19 - Vacation Leave**

- 19.01 The vacation year shall be from April to March of each year.
- 19.02 Employees are entitled to take annual vacation without loss of pay after it has been earned in accordance with the following:
- (a) Employees with less than five years of service will earn vacation at the rate of fifteen (15) hours per month (180 hours per year);
  - (b) Employees with five years of service will earn vacation at the rate of sixteen (16) hours per month (192 hours per year);
  - (c) Employees with eight (8) years of service will earn vacation at the rate of seventeen (17) hours per month (204 hours per year);
  - (d) Employees with twelve (12) or more years of service will earn vacation at the rate of eighteen (18) hours per month (216 hours per year).

- 19.03 Vacation entitlement may be carried over from year to year to a maximum of 252 hours. Vacation accrual in excess of 252 hours as of December 31st and not scheduled for the following year, will be paid out.
- 19.04 By February 28<sup>th</sup> of each year, employees will submit their preferences for their full vacation entitlement. By March 31<sup>st</sup>, the Employer will advise employees as to their approved selections and post the approved vacation schedule in each department. The Employer will recognize seniority for granting requested vacation. Requests for vacation entitlement submitted after February 28<sup>th</sup> shall be approved or denied upon a first come, first served basis. The Employer may stipulate the maximum number of employees from any department or work area that may be away for vacation at any one time. Nothing in this agreement prevents the Employer and the employees in a department or mutually agreed work area from agreeing on an alternate system which will apply to that department or work area, provided the Union approves the alternate system. If such agreement is reached, it may be cancelled by either party at least one month in advance of a new vacation year, in which case the seniority system described above applies.
- 19.05 Where vacation dates have been approved, subsequent changes to a vacation leave schedule shall be based on availability and not on seniority.
- 19.06 Where an employee is hospitalized during a vacation leave or a death occurs for which they would be entitled to bereavement leave, they shall be allowed to substitute bereavement leave or available personal leave and reschedule that portion of their vacation leave. The Employer may require proof of hospitalization.

## **Article 20 - Other Leaves**

### Court Leave

- 20.01 The Employer will grant leave with pay for a maximum of one period of leave per calendar year to an employee who has provided verification of absence from work by reason of being required:
- (a) to be available for jury selection;
  - (b) to serve on a jury.

More than one leave under this clause in a calendar year will be unpaid leave, except for the actual days attending jury selection and serving on a jury.

20.02 The Employer shall grant leave without pay to an employee who is absent from work by reason of subpoena or summons to attend as a witness in any proceeding held:

- (a) in or under the authority of a court of justice or before a grand jury;
- (b) before a court, judge, justice, magistrate, or coroner;
- (c) before a legislative council, legislative assembly or house of assembly, or any committee thereof that is authorized by law to compel the attendance of witnesses before it; or
- (d) before an arbitrator or umpire or a person or body of persons authorized by law to make an inquiry and to compel the attendance of witnesses before it.

#### Leave of Absence

20.03 The Employer may, in its discretion and subject to operational requirements, grant an employee an unpaid leave of absence. The duration of the leave will be established in advance of the leave commencing, but may be extended by mutual consent. Failure to return to work immediately upon the expiry of the leave may be deemed a resignation of employment. While on the leave, the employee will continue to accrue seniority, but will not be entitled to receive any compensation or remuneration under this Agreement, nor to be eligible for income continuance coverage. However, the employee will continue to participate in the group benefits plan, excluding income continuance coverage, until the end of the first full month following the commencement of the leave.

20.04 Subject to operational requirements and provided at least fifteen (15) days advance notice is given requesting a leave under this provision, an employee may be granted up to 7 days of discretionary unpaid leave per calendar year to undertake traditional hunting, fishing, or food harvesting pursuits. Such leaves will not be considered if the employee can utilize unused vacation or other paid leave at the time of the request. Requests will be considered only after employees have had vacation approved pursuant to Article 19.

### **Article 21 - Bereavement Leave**

21.01 For the purpose of this Article, immediate family is defined as father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, foster parent, brother, sister, spouse, common-law spouse, child (including child of spouse or common-law spouse), stepchild or ward of the employee, grandfather, grandmother, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, spouse's brother or sister,

son-in-law, daughter-in-law, and any relative permanently residing in the employee's household or with whom the employee permanently resides.

- 21.02 When a member of the employee's immediate family dies, an employee shall be entitled to bereavement leave with pay of up to four (4) days. Where an employee is on site, this period shall start the date that the employee flies out of the worksite. Up to three (3) additional paid leave days will be granted if at the end of the four days of leave the employee is unable to connect with a scheduled flight back to site from their usual point of departure. The employee must take the first available flight back to site after the four days of leave from their usual point of departure or mutually agreed alternative point of departure.
- 21.03 The parties recognize that the circumstances which call for bereavement leave are based on individual circumstances and Indigenous traditions. Therefore upon request the Employer may, after considering the particular circumstances involved grant vacation leave, or grant leave without pay for a period greater than that provided for, or grant leave without pay following the death of a person not included in the above noted definition. Such requests will not be unreasonably denied.

## **Article 22 - Maternity/Parental Leave and Compassionate Care Leave**

- 22.01 (a) Employees are entitled to pregnancy leave, parental leave, adoption leave, and compassionate care leave in accordance with the provisions of the Employment Standards Act of the Northwest Territories and the Employment Insurance Act, and for any period for which the employee qualifies for maternity or parental benefits or compassionate care benefits under the Employment Insurance Act.
- (b) Leave granted under this Article shall be counted for the calculation of service for the purpose of calculating severance pay, vacation leave, and pay increments under this Agreement.
- (c) When the employee returns to work from any period of leave under this Article, the Employer will return the employee to the same position which the employee held prior to the leave, provided the position exists, but in any event, the employee shall be reinstated to a comparable position with the same wages, benefits and seniority.
- (d) During the leave to which an employee is entitled under this Article, provided the employee pays their share of any premiums for pension, benefits, and group insurance plans, the Employer will pay

its portion of any premiums and maintain applicable coverage for the employee during the period of the leave.

- 22.02 The Employer will continue to top-up maternity/parental benefits according to its current practice as of August 1, 2005. Employees shall be entitled to six (6) weeks of top-up to one-hundred percent (100%) of their base salary, following the Employment Insurance benefit waiting period.

### **Article 23 – Health, Safety and Wellness**

- 23.01 The Employer and the Union recognize the benefits to be gained from a safe and healthy place of employment and agree that they shall cooperate in the promotion of safety practices in support of their joint goal of accident prevention and the elimination of health hazards.
- 23.02 The Employer, the Union and the employees each recognize that they have an important role to play in the area of health and safety. More specifically, these parties also acknowledge that they have certain obligations, responsibilities and are governed by the Mine Health and Safety Act (S.N.W.T. 1994, c. 25, as amended).
- 23.03 The Employer recognizes the right of the Union to participate in the Occupational Health and Safety Committee established pursuant to the Mine Health and Safety Act.
- 23.04 An employee has a right to refuse to perform work that they have reasonable grounds to believe could endanger the health or safety of any person, in accordance with the Mine Health and Safety Act (S.N.W.T. 1994 c. 25, as amended). In the event that an employee chooses to exercise their right not to work for this reason, they will report the reasons for the refusal to work to their supervisor without delay, and the procedures set out in the Act will be followed.
- 23.05 Upon request an employee is entitled to all their accident and/or injury reports on file with the Employer.
- 23.06 Employees who are elected to serve as members of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee will be paid in accordance with the Mine Health and Safety Act.

#### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (clothing)

- 23.07 (a) The Employer shall provide and pay for all reasonable protective devices, specialized environmental clothing, Personal Protective

Equipment (PPE) that the employer requires employees to have to enable employees to perform their job duties safely.

- (b) The Employer shall make provisions for all Employer-provided protective devices, specialized environmental clothing and PPE to be kept in serviceable and sanitary condition at no cost to the employees.

#### First-Aid Training

- 23.08 (a) The Employer will ensure that First Aid facilities at the worksite will be organized and maintained with such equipment and supplies as prescribed by the Mine Health and Safety Act regulations.
- (b) The Employer will ensure that at all times on the Ekati site it complies with the requirements of the Mine Health and Safety Act with respect to having qualified First Aid and CPR personnel on site, and will assume the cost of training employees selected by it to be certified as First Aid and CPR providers.

#### Transportation of Injured Workers

- 23.09 The Employer will reimburse an employee injured while on duty and requiring transportation to Yellowknife for emergency treatment for reasonable transportation costs to Yellowknife not covered by WSCC or medical insurance. If the employee is regularly transported to site by the Employer from a designated flypoint, then the Employer will also arrange for or reimburse the employee for transportation from Yellowknife back to the employee's flypoint when discharged from hospital, if the employee is unable to return to work. If the employee is not a Northern Resident, the Employer will permit the employee to access the Company charter, provided the service is being offered, to travel to Edmonton or Calgary if the employee is unable to return to work upon discharge.

### **Article 24 - Seniority**

- 24.01 Seniority is defined as length of service in the Bargaining Unit and shall be applied on a Bargaining Unit wide basis.
- 24.02 If an employee accepts a position outside of the Bargaining Unit, such time will not count as time towards Bargaining Unit seniority.
- 24.03 If a former employee is re-employed by the Employer after a break in service of less than ninety (90) calendar days they shall be credited with their total seniority based on earlier period(s) of employment.

### Probationary Employees

- 24.04 All new employees will be considered probationary employees for six hundred and seventy-two (672) hours worked. Upon completion of probation the employee's seniority shall be retroactive to their date of hiring.
- 24.05 During this period, the Employer will be assessing the suitability of the employee for permanent hire, and as such, may decide that the employee is not suitable for permanent hire, even though the employee may be able to complete the basic requirements of the job. In making a decision on suitability for permanent hire the Employer cannot act in a manner that is arbitrary, discriminatory or in bad faith. Probationary employees have access to the grievance procedure, but the Employer's decision as to suitability for permanent hire may only be reviewed on this basis.

### **Article 25 - Severance, Layoff and Recall**

Article 25 shall continue apply to all employees who are employed as of the December 12, 2022, with no change. For greater clarity, such employees shall continue to accrue severance according to the table in 25.05.

- 25.01 In the event of a reduction in the size of the workforce, the following will apply:
- (a) The Employer will attempt to achieve the reduction through attrition.
  - (b) The Employer may, in its discretion, accept applications for redundancy packages to elicit volunteers to retire. Where voluntary redundancy packages are offered, the Employer will have regard to its requirement to retain an appropriate mix of skills and competencies, and accordingly, not all applicants for voluntary redundancy packages will be accepted. If at the end of the process the Employer determines that there are more acceptable candidates than there are voluntary redundancy packages available, the packages will be offered in accordance with seniority.
  - (c) The Employer will determine which employees will be laid off.
  - (d) For employees hired after December 12, 2022, the Employer may provide any employee to be laid off with working notice of their layoff and if so provided such period of working notice shall be deducted from any severance pay to which the employee may become entitled pursuant to Article 25.05. In no case shall the working notice provided pursuant to this paragraph reduce an employee's severance pay below one (1) month.

25.02 If a lay-off is necessary, the Employer will take steps appropriate to ensure that the mine is able to operate in a safe, productive and profitable manner, and in accordance with obligations made by the Employer pursuant to Socio-Economic Agreements and Impact Benefit Agreements the Employer has with government and Indigenous organizations.

25.03 (a) If a lay-off is necessary, the Employer will take into account the length of service of the employees involved.

(b) The Employer may take into account other factors such as:

(i) the necessary skills mix required by the business;

(ii) individual skills, proficiencies, and attitudes of employees;

(iii) individual employment records; and

(iv) prior job performance.

(c) The Employer will determine the weight to be accorded the factors taken into account, but will give the greatest weight to length of service.

(d) Notwithstanding the above, in all cases, the need to maintain the ratios of Northerners and Indigenous employees mandated by the Agreements referred to above will take precedence over any other factor(s).

25.04 The Employer will provide each employee to be laid off with at least two (2) weeks notice of the lay-off date, exclusive of vacation. If notice is not provided, the Employer will pay the employee two weeks of regular salary in lieu.



25.05 Employees who are laid off will retain a right of recall to employment for twelve (12) months. If they are not recalled to work during this time, the lay-off will be deemed to be a permanent lay-off and the Employer will pay the employee severance pay in accordance with the table below:

<b>Length of Service</b>	<b>Severance</b>
less than 2 years	1.0 month salary
2 years	1.5 months salary
3 years	2.0 months salary
4 years	2.5 months salary
5 years	3.0 months salary
6 years	3.5 months salary
7 years	4.0 months salary
8 years	4.5 months salary
9 years	5.0 months salary
10 years	5.5 months salary
11 years	6.0 months salary
12 years	6.5 months salary
13 years	7.0 months salary
14 years	7.5 months salary
15 years	8.0 months salary
16 years	8.5 months salary
17 years	9.0 months salary
18 years	9.5 months salary
19 years	10.0 months salary
20 years	10.5 months salary
21 years	11.0 months salary
22 years	11.5 months salary
23 years or more	12.0 months salary

25.06 Upon commencement of a lay-off, an employee can elect to receive severance in accordance with the above table immediately, in which case all seniority and recall rights are forfeited.

25.07 The Employer will not hire any new employees or any new contract workers while employees with recall rights are on lay-off provided the laid-off employee is competent to perform the job at an efficient level, and subject to meeting hiring quota numbers under Socio-Economic Agreements and Impact Benefit Agreements.

25.08 In the event the Employer is contemplating the layoff of one or more employees, the Employer will provide training for the affected employees where the Employer concludes that it is practical and meets the needs of its business.

## **Article 26 - Bargaining Unit Work**

- 26.01 Prior to contracting out any work that directly results in a layoff of Bargaining Unit members, the Employer will notify the Local Union President and UNW President and provide the Union with the opportunity to present any proposals as an alternative. Such discussions will not delay the tendering of contracts. As of the date of this Agreement it is not the intention of the Employer to contract out any work that directly results in the layoff of Bargaining Unit members.

## **Article 27 - Vacancies, Promotions, Job Postings, Transfers**

- 27.01 When the Employer elects to create and fill a new position, or to fill a vacancy in an existing position, within the Bargaining Unit, the Employer shall post notice of the position on the Union notice board for a period of twenty-one (21) days prior to the closing date. This requirement shall apply to part-time, and full-time positions. The job posting shall state the job position, range of pay, shift and required qualifications of the job. An employee who wishes to apply for a position so posted shall do so in writing on or before the closing date as advertised on the posting. If the Employer elects to fill a vacancy within the Bargaining Unit with an employee who is on layoff with recall rights, then the above posting provisions do not apply.
- 27.02 New positions created by the Employer and intended to be out of the scope of the Bargaining Unit will be discussed with the Union prior to implementation. If the parties are unable to agree on the position's designation, the matter will be resolved through the grievance and arbitration procedure in Article 13.
- 27.03 In making selections and appointments within the Bargaining Unit, the Employer will consider factors such as the necessary skills mix required in any department, the individual candidates' skills and proficiencies, the length of service with the employer, employment records and previous performance history in order to ensure a safe, productive and profitable operation.
- 27.04 Employees selected, promoted or appointed to a new position will have ninety (90) days worked in which to demonstrate that they can perform the new position duties in a safe, productive and efficient manner. If in the opinion of the Employer they cannot, then the employee will be returned to the previous position without loss of seniority, unless an extension of the familiarization period is mutually agreed upon.

27.05 At any time during the above familiarization period the employee wishes to return to their previous position, the employee shall have the right:

- (a) to return to their previous position provided it remains vacant. This will not be considered a demotion;
- (b) to be considered for other vacant positions for which they are qualified; or
- (c) to remain in their position.

The Employer may waive any or all of the familiarization period if it is satisfied the employee is proficient at the position.

27.06 Where applicable applicants for transfer and/or promotion shall be informed in writing of their acceptance or rejection within fourteen (14) working days before the date of appointment.

27.07 No employee shall be transferred to a position outside the Bargaining Unit without their consent. If an employee accepts a position outside the Bargaining Unit, they shall retain their bargaining unit seniority for up to four (4) months from the date of leaving the Unit. If the employee does not return to a position in the Bargaining Unit within four (4) months, all bargaining unit seniority will be lost.

27.08 The Employer may request an employee to work in another department in a position with the same rate of pay on a short-term basis and with duties that are not significantly different from their current duties.

27.09 When an employee is asked to perform the duties of a higher classification for two hours or more of their shift; they will receive a premium of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per hour for all hours worked on that shift.

## **Article 28 - Technological Change**

28.01 For the purpose of this agreement, a technological change shall be defined as:

- (a) the introduction by the Employer into its work, undertaking or business of equipment, or material or processes of a different nature or kind than previously utilized by the Employer in the operation of the work, processes, undertaking or business: and,

- (b) a change in the manner in which the Employer carries on the work, undertaking or business that is directly related to the introduction of that equipment or material. This would include the automation of equipment or automation of duties which may adversely affect employees in the Bargaining Unit.

28.02 (a) In order to lessen the effects on employees who are adversely affected as a result of technological change, it is agreed that the Employer shall notify the Union in writing not less than four (4) months in advance of intent to institute technological change. The Employer shall then meet with the Union to explain the technological change. The written notice shall contain:

- (i) the nature of the technological change;
  - (ii) the date on which the Employer proposes to effect the technological change;
  - (iii) the approximate number and type of employees likely to be affected;
  - (iv) the effect that the technological change is likely to have on the terms and conditions or security of employment of the employees affected;
  - (v) the names of the employees who will likely be affected;
  - (vi) the rationale for the change.
- (b) After providing the notice referred to above, the Union may notify the Employer that it wishes to enter discussions with the Employer, and after this notice has been given the Employer and the Union must meet, in good faith, and endeavour to develop an adjustment plan, which may include, but is not limited to, the following:
- i) consideration of alternatives to the proposed technological change;
  - ii) training and/or retraining of employees;
  - iii) human resource planning and employee counselling;
  - iv) notice of termination;
  - v) severance pay;
  - vi) revisions to existing collective agreement provisions.

If the parties agree upon an adjustment plan, it is enforceable as part of this Agreement.

- (c) Sections 52, 54 and 55 of the Canada Labour Code, R.S.C. 1985, L-2 and as subsequently amended, do not apply during the term of this collective agreement, to the Employer and the Union.

## Article 29 - Apprenticeship

### Purpose

- 29.01 The purpose of the apprenticeship program is to foster skilled trades among Northern Residents, and to attempt to secure qualified tradespeople through apprentices who have qualified through the apprenticeship program and are Northern Residents.

### Position Posting

- 29.02 All apprenticeship positions shall be posted in accordance with Article 27.

### Apprenticeship Training

- 29.03 The length of the apprentice training will be determined by the NWT Apprenticeship, Trade and Occupations Certification Board, or the applicable board in another jurisdiction, and will vary depending upon the trade. The Employer may request that the Board reduce the normal period of training if it is satisfied that the apprentice has sufficient credits in the form of previous vocational training or a number of years of work experience in that trade.
- 29.04 Provided there is sufficient work available, apprentices working on-site will be given the opportunity to accumulate the number of hours of job experience as required by their program, within a reasonable period of time. In the event that there are delays in offering an apprentice required work experience, the Employer will communicate the reasons for the delay to the apprentice and the Union in writing. The Employer shall endeavour to provide the apprentice with needed work experience as soon as is practicable.

### Apprenticeship Wages

- 29.05 Apprentice pay rates will be based on a percentage of the appropriate journey person rate as follows:

<u>Four Year Apprenticeship</u>		<u>Three Year Apprenticeship</u>	
Year 1	80%	Year 1	80 %
Year 2	85%	Year 2	87 %
Year 3	90%	Year 3	94 %
Year 4	95%		

Pay increases shall not be automatic but will be based upon levels of certification issued under the Apprenticeship, Trade and Occupations Certification Act and shall be effective from the date of certification.

An incumbent employee who is an apprentice and whose wages are higher than the apprenticeship level for which they qualify shall be salary protected (i.e. red-circled) until such time as the apprenticeship rate is higher than their red-circled rate.

- 29.06 An apprentice attending apprenticeship school will receive their regular pay. Should an apprentice fail to pass their trade school examination, and is permitted to repeat, the Employer shall continue to subsidize the apprentice while repeating the examination, up to one repeated attempt.
- 29.07 The Employer shall not deduct pay from an apprentice for absences at school, provided such absences are justified by medical or compassionate reasons, and confirmed by appropriate supporting documentation. Apprentices are expected to attend school as if they were attending a regularly scheduled shift at work.
- 29.08 Apprentices shall receive any applicable pay increases whether they are at school or working on site.

#### Tools

- 29.09 The Employer will continue the current practice of providing all tools and equipment for apprentices as required.

#### Books

- 29.10 The Employer will reimburse apprentices for the cost of books and materials used at school upon successful completion of each course or stage of education/training.

#### Accommodation and Travel

- 29.11 The Employer will provide apprentices with access to company charter flights for the purpose of travelling to and from school at locations where the charter normally flies, subject to seat availability.

### **Article 30 - Allowance**

- 30.01 The Employer shall continue its practice of paying employees an allowance equal to eighteen percent (18%) of base salary. This payment includes compensation for all statutory holidays, scheduled overtime (eight (8) hours per rotation), and flight delays.

30.02 The allowance will be treated as pensionable earnings for the pension plan.

### **Article 31 - Northern Travel Allowance**

31.01 An employee who is not on unpaid leave and who is a Northern Resident shall be paid a Northern Travel Allowance. "Northern Resident" means an employee who makes their home in, and who normally resides in, the Northwest Territories or Nunavut.

31.02 The Northern Travel Allowance is to offset the high cost of travelling within and from the North, and is an incentive to employees to reside in the communities in which the Employer operates.

31.03 To qualify for the Northern Travel Allowance, employees must confirm their status as a Northern Resident. When an employee ceases to be a Northern Resident, they must immediately notify Human Resources, and any Northern Travel Allowance paid after they ceased to be a Northern Resident must be repaid to the Employer.

31.04 The amount of the Northern Travel Allowance shall be based on \$15,000 per year, effective July 1, 2014. Northern Travel Allowance is payable on a pro-rata basis on each pay period to employees who are eligible Northern Residents.

31.05 Northern Travel Allowance shall be designated as a travel allowance pursuant to the *Income Tax Act* and reported accordingly on the eligible employees T4 slips.

### **Article 32 - Sick in Room, Personal Leave and Short Term Disability**

32.01 All employees shall be entitled to up to three (3) days per year without loss of pay if they become ill while at site and cannot perform their regular job duties. In order to qualify for paid sick-in-room leave, the employee must have arrived at site fit to perform their job duties and worked at least the first day of their scheduled rotation. The employee must also have the medical reason for their inability to perform their job duties certified by a Physician Assistant at the mine site. The Physician Assistant shall have the sole discretion as to whether the employee remains on site. If the employee remains on site, they will remain confined to their room except for meals or consults with the Physician Assistant.

32.02 In addition to the provisions of 32.01, employees may utilize their Personal Leave credits when unable to report to work due to illness.

- 32.03 On January 1st of each year, active employees will be credited with seven (7) Personal Leave Days. Employees hired after January 1 of any year shall be credited with a pro-rated number of days which shall be credited to their bank on the date of hire.
- 32.04 Any unused Personal Leave Days may be carried over to the next year, to a maximum of fourteen (14) days in the bank in any one year at any given time. There shall be no payout of excess Personal Leave days and there is no cash value of remaining Personal Leave days upon termination. Employees on unpaid leave will be credited Personal Leave days on a pro-rated basis on return to work.
- 32.05 Personal leave may be used in the case of:
- a) Personal non-work-related illness or injury preventing an employee reporting to work fit for duty
  - b) Illness or injury of spouse, child, parent or other family member
  - c) Childcare or elder care
  - d) Household emergencies such as, but not limited to: flood, fire, emergency evacuation, household damage caused by natural or intentional events (documentation may be required)
  - e) Traditional hunting, fishing, or food harvesting pursuits
  - f) An absence where another approved leave entitlement is not applicable.

Personal leave may not be used:

- a) As vacation leave or to extend vacation leave
- b) In place of another approved leave type including bereavement leave, court leave, pregnancy/parental leave and compassionate care leave
- c) To replace previously booked vacation leave or another approved leave type, except in the case of hospitalization

Approval of personal leave is dependent on the submission of complete and appropriate documentation. Failure to provide appropriate documentation may result in denial of personal leave.

- 32.06 In order to qualify for a Personal Leave day, except in cases of illness, injury, or other unforeseen event, the employee must apply for the leave 48 hours in advance. Permission to take the leave shall not be unreasonably withheld, but is subject to operational requirements, except in cases of illness or injury. Any employee providing wrong or misleading information about the grounds for taking Personal Leave day may be subject to discipline.



32.07 Short Term Disability shall be payable following 10 consecutive days of illness at a rate of 85% of regular base salary. Employees shall not be entitled to the payment of the Article 30 Allowance during periods of Short Term Disability, but remain entitled to the Northern Travel Allowance.

### **Article 33 - Benefits**

33.01 The Employer shall continue to provide a health benefits plan equal to or better than the plan in place at August 1, 2005.

33.02 Group Benefits to be improved as follows effective at the next Group Benefits contract renewal or January 1, 2012, whichever is earliest:

Orthodontia reimbursement level will increase from 50% to 75% and the lifetime maximum benefit per insured will increase from \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Paramedical services will be increased to a total spend of \$1,500 per year, and the individual limits for each paramedical practitioner will be abolished.

33.03 The Employer shall continue to provide a Long Term Disability Plan equal to or better than the plan in place at June 20th, 2018. LTD shall be at a rate of 70% of regular base salary, but no Article 30 Allowance or Northern Travel Allowance shall be paid during LTD coverage.

### **Article 34 - Pay Administration**

34.01 The Employer will provide employees with semi-monthly pay statements showing:

- (a) base salary,
- (b) allowance,
- (c) Northern travel allowance,
- (d) unscheduled overtime (hours and amount),
- (e) details of all earnings,
- (f) details of all deductions,
- (g) accrued vacation hours,
- (h) accrued incentive plan payments, and
- (i) personal leave days

## **Article 35 - Pension**

- 35.01 All employees must participate in either the Arctic Canadian Diamond Ltd. Defined Benefit Pension Plan or the Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd. Defined Contribution Pension Plan, as applicable.
- 35.02 Employees hired after July 1, 2004 will participate in the Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd. Defined Contribution Pension Plan (the "DC Plan").
- 35.03 Employees hired before July 1, 2004, and who made the election to remain in the Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd. Defined Benefit Pension Plan will remain in that defined benefits plan (the "DB Plan"). Those who elected to switch to the DC Plan must remain in the DC Plan.
- 35.04 Eligibility for benefits under each of the DB Plan and DC Plan will be determined solely in accordance with the Plan document itself. Neither the DB Plan nor the DC Plan forms part of this Agreement and any disputes concerning one or both of the said plans or entitlement to benefits under it must be pursued by the Employee directly with the appropriate Plan administrator and are not subject to the Grievance Procedure.
- 35.05 The Joint Union Management Committee established under Article 12 will review and meaningfully consult on all information listed in Article 35.06 within the framework of existing contribution levels. The Joint Union Management Committee does not have the authority to make any changes to the pension plan.
- 35.06 With respect to Bargaining Unit members, the Employer agrees to annually furnish the Joint Union Management Committee with the following information regarding the DB plan and the DC plan:
- (a) net interest earned by the fund,
  - (b) net employer contributions,
  - (c) gross total contributions,
  - (d) total pension credits purchased,
  - (e) list of pensioners retiring each year,
  - (f) list of separation from the plan,
  - (g) list of members entering the plan, and
  - (h) a copy of the actuarial report when the same is available.

## **Article 36 - Privacy**

- 36.01 It is understood that the Employer produces an extremely valuable, highly marketable, and easily concealable commodity. Further, the remoteness

and extreme environmental conditions at the mine site present significant security and protection challenges. Employees consent to the Employer collecting, storing, and using personal confidential information that identifies them and their activities on site, including the use of electronic surveillance and data collection. This does not constitute consent to the collection or storage of personal information relating to activities in private dormitory areas, toilets, or changing areas.

36.02 As a condition of employment all employees will provide consents as required by the Employer for collection, storage, use and dissemination of personal information excluding electronic surveillance for the limited following purposes:

- (a) administering and maintaining personnel records,
- (b) paying and reviewing salary and other remuneration and benefits,
- (c) providing and administering benefits (including pension, superannuation, life assurance, health insurance, medical insurance and share plans),
- (d) undertaking performance appraisals and reviews,
- (e) undertaking investigations for safety and performance issues,
- (f) succession and development planning,
- (g) maintaining sickness and other attendance records,
- (h) taking decisions as to fitness for work and accommodation,
- (i) providing references and information to future employers, and if necessary, governmental bodies for social security and other purposes, including taxation authorities,
- (j) providing information to future purchasers of the Employer or of the business in which you work, and
- (k) transferring information concerning the employee to other operations of the Employer, including operations outside the Northwest Territories and Canada.

### **Article 37 - Employment Equity**

37.01 The Union acknowledges that the Employer is bound to Impact Benefit Agreements with the Dogrib Treaty 11 Council, the Akaitcho Treaty 8 Council, the North Slave Métis Alliance and the Hamlet of Kugluktuk and Kitikmeot Inuit Association which requires the Employer to honour certain commitments to Indigenous employees employed by the Employer.

37.02 If a party to an Impact Benefit Agreement provides the Employer with written consent to such disclosure, the Employer will provide the Union with a summary of hiring data involving employees of the Employer within the Bargaining Unit who are members of the First Nation that is signatory to that Impact Benefit Agreement. Disclosure will at all times be

conditional on the continued existence and scope of the consent provided by the party to the Impact Benefit Agreement and the Union undertaking in writing to the party authorizing the disclosure and the Employer to keep the information confidential.

37.03 The Employer will receive and consider any written or oral submissions from the Union concerning issues faced by Indigenous employees.

37.04 Through the Joint Union Management Committee, the Employer and Union will discuss educational and training initiatives which will enhance the security and employability of Indigenous employees.

### **Article 38 - Northern Social Justice Fund**

38.01 The Employer will contribute \$20,000 in January of each calendar year of this Agreement to a Northern Social Justice Fund managed and administered jointly by the Employer and the Union through the Joint Union Management Committee. The Employer and Union will identify worthy social justice causes within the North and will work together in partnership to support and advance these causes to the joint credit of the parties.

The funds will be held in trust for the attainment of the objects of the Fund. The Union and Employer will each provide an equal number of representatives to serve as trustees of the Fund. The Joint Union Management Committee will strive to achieve consensus decision making on the use of the funds, but in the alternative decisions will be made by a majority of the trustees.

### **Article 39 - Duration**

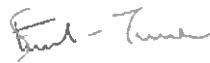
39.01 The term of this agreement shall be from June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2026. The provisions of this agreement shall take effect on the date of ratification, unless another date is otherwise agreed to by the parties.

39.02 Notwithstanding the preceding, the provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect during negotiations for its renewal until a lawful strike or lockout has occurred.

39.03 Within four (4) months preceding the termination of this Agreement, either party may, by written notice, require the other party to commence bargaining collectively with a view to a conclusion, renewal or revision of the Collective Agreement.

Signed virtually this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2023

**Arctic Canadian Diamond Company Ltd. Public Service Alliance of Canada**



Stuart Turner  
Head of Human Resources  
Corporate Communications



Craig Black  
Local Union President



Suzanne Pelletier  
Sr HR Business Partner



Nagidhe Paulette  
Committee Member



Brittney Flaig  
HR Business Partner



Sheila Warren  
Committee Member



Mike Sluggett  
Sr Manager Maintenance



Gayla Thunstrom  
President UNW



James Keenan  
Sr Manager Surface Mining and  
Site Services



Melvin Larocque  
1<sup>st</sup> VP, UNW



Drew Demerse  
Spokesperson



Seth Sazant  
Negotiator, PSAC



Kim Thorne  
Committee Member



Lorraine Rousseau  
Regional Executive VP, North PSAC

## Appendix A – Salaries

- A) Employees are entitled to be paid an annual salary for services rendered for the classification and position to which they are hired at the pay rates specified in Appendices A.
- B) To determine the employee's starting grade on the pay grid in Appendix A, the Employer will consider factors such as:
  - i. Existing skills and qualifications related to job duties;
  - ii. Related job experience;
  - iii. Prevailing market conditions, which may include factors related to Impact Benefit Agreements and/or Socio Economic Agreements.
- C) Each year, the Employer will review each employee's performance and determine whether to adjust any employee's salary grade based upon merit. Any salary grade adjustment will be to another higher existing salary grade. In 2022, the Employer will spend a minimum of one and a half percent (1.5%) of the total gross annual base salaries of the Bargaining Unit employees on salary grade adjustments based on merit. In 2023, 2024 and 2025, the Employer will spend a minimum of one half percent (0.5%) of the total gross annual base salaries of the Bargaining Unit employees on salary grade adjustments based on merit.

In making its determination concerning salary grade adjustments, the Employer will consider such factors as:

- i) Attainment of designated skills criteria;
- ii) Job performance;
- iii) Safe work practices;
- iv) Disciplinary record in the eighteen (18) months preceding the date on which merit is awarded;
- v) Culpable absenteeism; and
- vi) Performance against Company leadership behaviours and values.

Employer determinations regarding which employees will receive merit pay adjustments are at the discretion of the Employer.

- D) The Employer has the discretion to move any classification in Appendix A-1 upwards to an existing higher range. The Employer shall inform the Union of any such changes no fewer than thirty (30) days before implementation.
- E) Present incumbents being paid over-range compared to their classification on the pay grid in Appendix A shall be blue-circled (i.e. paid their existing rate plus 2/3 of all negotiated increases) until such time as they may terminate their employment or transfer to another classification or until

their salary moves back into range. No employee shall experience any decrease in salary as a result of the new pay grid in Appendix A or conversion to the new pay grid in Appendix A.

- F) The Employer retains the right to award lump sum discretionary bonus payments to individual employees. The awarding of such bonuses is not considered salary, does not change the employee's salary level, and the bonus does not constitute pensionable earnings.
- G) The Employer retains the right to provide and administer general incentive compensation plans, including the right to establish criteria for the attainment of incentive compensation, the amount of compensation potentially available, the timing of payments pursuant to the plans, and also including the right to discontinue such incentive plans. The Employer agrees to meaningfully consult with the Union on the application of any incentive compensation plans, and any changes to or discontinuance of such plans.
- H) On June 1, 2022, the pay grid will be amended by an amount equal to the average monthly percentage change for the previous twelve-month period ending April, 2022, of the Canadian Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Yellowknife as determined and published by Statistics Canada (i.e. Yellowknife CPI). On each of June 1, 2023, June 1, 2024, and June 1, 2025, the pay grid will be amended to reflect general wage increases of 3.50%, 3.50%, and 3.25%, respectively.
- I) Merit increases resulting from the above shall be made effective June 1 of the applicable year and aligned with the above salary increases.
- J) When the Employer requires a bargaining unit member to act as a temporary supervisor, for the duration of the temporary assignment, the employee shall receive an acting premium equal to the lesser of 10% of their base salary rate or the actual base salary of the position they are acting in. To be eligible for the premium, the temporary position must be one in which the employee actually supervises other employees and has direct reports. For greater clarity, this does not include Assistant Team Leader or Planner positions.

## Appendix A-1 – Pay Ranges and Classifications

### **Range 1**

Assistant – Waste Management  
Labourer – Warehouse  
Labourer – General  
UG – Dewatering Operator  
UG – Labourer  
UG – Nipper

### **Range 2**

Assistant – Maintenance

### **Range 3**

UG Equipment Operator – Support  
UG Operator – Sizer Conveyor  
Operator – Batchplant

### **Range 4**

UG Equipment Operator – Haul Truck  
Equipment Operator – Haul Truck  
Assistant – Blaster  
UG Operator – Lube Truck  
Technician – Mobile Lube Truck  
Assistant – Process Plant Production  
Warehouse Attendant

### **Range 5**

Technician – Waste Management  
Incinerator Plant Operator

### **Range 6**

UG Construction Miner

### **Range 7**

Technician Logistics  
Equipment Operator – Support  
Equipment Operator – Utility 1  
Hydrocarbon Tech I  
Technician – Tool Crib

### **Range 8**

### **Range 9**

Equipment Operator – Production Loader  
Equipment Operator – Utility 2  
Equipment Operator – Road Train  
Hydrocarbon Tech II

### **Range 10**

Technician – Process Plant Production  
Technician – Warehouse Inventory  
Technician – Warehouse

### **Range 11**

UG Equipment Operator - Scooptram  
UG Blaster  
Blaster  
Equipment Operator – Surface Drill  
UG Equipment Operator – Solo Drill  
UG Equipment Operator – Bolter  
UG Equipment Operator – Shotcrete

### **Range 12**

Journey person – Millwright  
Journey person – Pipefitter  
Journey person – Rubber Technician  
Journey person – Welder  
Journey person – Crane Operator  
Journey person – Boiler Operator  
Journey person – Carpenter  
Journey person – Electrician  
Journey person – Overhead Door Technician  
Journey person – Plumber  
Journey person – Scaffolder  
Journey person – Machinist  
Journey person - HVAC  
Equipment Operator – Shovel  
Equipment Operator – Mass Excavator  
Heavy Equipment Technician  
Waste Management

### **Range 13**

### **Range 14**

UG Equipment Operator – Jumbo  
Technician – Communications  
Technician – Process Control  
Journey person – Heavy Equipment Technician  
Journey person – Rebuild Technician



## Appendix A-2 – Pay Ranges and Annual Salaries

**Effective June 1, 2022 – 4.26% Increase**

	<b>Grade 1</b>	<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Grade 8</b>
<b>Range 1</b>	65,693	67,336	69,021	70,747	72,514	74,327	76,186	78,090
<b>Range 2</b>	70,559	72,323	74,132	75,985	77,885	79,832	81,828	83,872
<b>Range 3</b>	72,151	73,955	75,802	77,699	79,640	81,633	83,674	85,764
<b>Range 4</b>	72,995	74,818	76,688	78,606	80,571	82,585	84,651	86,767
<b>Range 5</b>	80,293	82,299	84,357	86,466	88,628	90,843	93,115	95,444
<b>Range 6</b>	81,771	83,815	85,911	88,060	90,260	92,517	94,830	97,201
<b>Range 7</b>	85,159	87,286	89,468	91,706	93,999	96,349	98,759	101,227
<b>Range 8</b>	87,592	89,785	92,028	94,327	96,686	99,103	101,579	104,120
<b>Range 9</b>	88,810	91,029	93,304	95,638	98,027	100,480	102,990	105,563
<b>Range 10</b>	90,025	92,275	94,584	96,946	99,370	101,855	104,401	107,010
<b>Range 11</b>	92,116	94,419	96,779	99,198	101,679	104,220	106,827	109,496
<b>Range 12</b>	96,108	98,510	100,973	103,498	106,085	108,736	111,457	114,243
<b>Range 13</b>	99,758	102,252	104,809	107,430	110,114	112,869	115,688	118,582
<b>Range 14</b>	102,337	104,895	107,517	110,206	112,960	115,785	118,679	121,644

**Effective June 1, 2023 – 3.50% Increase**

	<b>Grade 1</b>	<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Grade 8</b>
<b>Range 1</b>	67,992	69,693	71,437	73,223	75,052	76,928	78,853	80,823
<b>Range 2</b>	73,029	74,854	76,727	78,644	80,611	82,626	84,692	86,808
<b>Range 3</b>	74,676	76,543	78,455	80,418	82,427	84,490	86,603	88,766
<b>Range 4</b>	75,550	77,437	79,372	81,357	83,391	85,475	87,614	89,804
<b>Range 5</b>	83,103	85,179	87,309	89,492	91,730	94,023	96,374	98,785
<b>Range 6</b>	84,633	86,749	88,918	91,142	93,419	95,755	98,149	100,603
<b>Range 7</b>	88,140	90,341	92,599	94,916	97,289	99,721	102,216	104,770
<b>Range 8</b>	90,658	92,927	95,249	97,628	100,070	102,572	105,134	107,764
<b>Range 9</b>	91,918	94,215	96,570	98,985	101,458	103,997	106,595	109,258
<b>Range 10</b>	93,176	95,505	97,894	100,339	102,848	105,420	108,055	110,755
<b>Range 11</b>	95,340	97,724	100,166	102,670	105,238	107,868	110,566	113,328
<b>Range 12</b>	99,472	101,958	104,507	107,120	109,798	112,542	115,358	118,242
<b>Range 13</b>	103,250	105,831	108,477	111,190	113,968	116,819	119,737	122,732
<b>Range 14</b>	105,919	108,566	111,280	114,063	116,914	119,837	122,833	125,902

**Effective June 1, 2024 – 3.50% Increase**

	<b>Grade 1</b>	<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Grade 8</b>
<b>Range 1</b>	70,372	72,132	73,937	75,786	77,679	79,620	81,613	83,652
<b>Range 2</b>	75,585	77,474	79,412	81,397	83,432	85,518	87,656	89,846
<b>Range 3</b>	77,290	79,222	81,201	83,233	85,312	87,447	89,634	91,873
<b>Range 4</b>	78,194	80,147	82,150	84,204	86,310	88,467	90,680	92,947
<b>Range 5</b>	86,012	88,160	90,365	92,624	94,941	97,314	99,747	102,242
<b>Range 6</b>	87,595	89,785	92,030	94,332	96,689	99,106	101,584	104,124
<b>Range 7</b>	91,225	93,503	95,840	98,238	100,694	103,211	105,794	108,437
<b>Range 8</b>	93,831	96,179	98,583	101,045	103,572	106,162	108,814	111,536
<b>Range 9</b>	95,135	97,513	99,950	102,449	105,009	107,637	110,326	113,082
<b>Range 10</b>	96,437	98,848	101,320	103,851	106,448	109,110	111,837	114,631
<b>Range 11</b>	98,677	101,144	103,672	106,263	108,921	111,643	114,436	117,294
<b>Range 12</b>	102,954	105,527	108,165	110,869	113,641	116,481	119,396	122,380
<b>Range 13</b>	106,864	109,535	112,274	115,082	117,957	120,908	123,928	127,028
<b>Range 14</b>	109,626	112,366	115,175	118,055	121,006	124,031	127,132	130,309

**Effective June 1, 2025 – 3.25% Increase**

	<b>Grade 1</b>	<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Grade 8</b>
<b>Range 1</b>	72,659	74,476	76,340	78,249	80,204	82,208	84,265	86,371
<b>Range 2</b>	78,042	79,992	81,993	84,042	86,144	88,297	90,505	92,766
<b>Range 3</b>	79,802	81,797	83,840	85,938	88,085	90,289	92,547	94,859
<b>Range 4</b>	80,735	82,752	84,820	86,941	89,115	91,342	93,627	95,968
<b>Range 5</b>	88,807	91,025	93,302	95,634	98,027	100,477	102,989	105,565
<b>Range 6</b>	90,442	92,703	95,021	97,398	99,831	102,327	104,885	107,508
<b>Range 7</b>	94,190	96,542	98,955	101,431	103,967	106,565	109,232	111,961
<b>Range 8</b>	96,881	99,305	101,787	104,329	106,938	109,612	112,350	115,161
<b>Range 9</b>	98,227	100,682	103,198	105,779	108,422	111,135	113,912	116,757
<b>Range 10</b>	99,571	102,061	104,613	107,226	109,908	112,656	115,472	118,357
<b>Range 11</b>	101,884	104,431	107,041	109,717	112,461	115,271	118,155	121,106
<b>Range 12</b>	106,300	108,957	111,680	114,472	117,334	120,267	123,276	126,357
<b>Range 13</b>	110,337	113,095	115,923	118,822	121,791	124,838	127,956	131,156
<b>Range 14</b>	113,189	116,018	118,918	121,892	124,939	128,062	131,264	134,544

## **Letter of Understanding – Performance-based Discretionary Incentive Plan**

The Employer is committed to meeting the challenge of ensuring a safe, long term, sustainable operation. The Employer will implement an incentive plan to reward employees for performance that contributes to the achievement and surpassing of performance objectives.

The Employer will implement an incentive plan to be effective for each fiscal year of the collective agreement commencing July 1, 2007.

The Employer will identify Key Performance Indicators (KPI) (e.g. safety, unit production costs) which it will use to measure achievement during any period to which the incentive plan applies. The Employer will determine what Key Performance Indicators it will use to measure performance and the weight it will give to individual Key Performance Indicators. Key Performance Indicators shall be in the category of public domain information, which will be publicly released at the end of each fiscal quarter and concurrently provided to the Union.

For each Key Performance Indicator the Employer will establish three levels of achievement, referred to as the threshold level, the budget level, and the stretch level.

Prior to identifying the Key Performance Indicators, determining the weight to be given to them, and establishing the threshold, budget and stretch achievement levels, the Employer will meet with the Union to meaningfully consult on the application of this Discretionary Incentive Plan. The Employer will also meet with the Union at least once every six months to review the Key Performance Indicators and whether to add or delete from the list of Key Performance Indicators, revise the target levels, or to revise their respective weightings.

If, during any period to which the incentive plan applies the mine achieves the threshold level of performance for a Key Performance Indicator, then eligible employees will receive an incentive payment equal to five percent (5%) of the employee's base salary earned during the period, as determined below, multiplied by the weighted value of that Key Performance Indicator. If the mine achieves the budget level of performance, then the amount increases to seven and one-half percent (7.5%) of base salary earned during the period multiplied by the weighted value; and if the mine achieves stretch level of performance, the amount increases to twelve and one-half (12.5%) of base salary earned during this period multiplied by the weighted value.

The bonus payment will be a percentage of each eligible employee's base salary earned in the period to which the incentive plan applied. Base salary earned includes vacation but excludes pay for such things as allowances, premiums, overtime, sick leave / short term disability benefits and long term disability benefits. Any required deductions will be withheld at source.

The threshold, budget and stretch level targets will be universally and uniformly applied (the same for union and non-union personnel, including managerial employees, of the mine).

The Employer will provide the Union with Key Performance Indicators excerpts of these records to a degree sufficient to demonstrate the application of the KPIs to the incentive plan, after the end of each fiscal quarter when such information has been released into the public domain by the Employer. The data on which the Key Performance Indicators are based are not subject to review through the grievance procedure.

Notwithstanding Appendix "A" – Salaries, paragraph G, this incentive plan shall continue throughout the life of this Collective Agreement.

Incentive periods will always start and end on a date that coincides with a fiscal quarter and may extend over one, two, three or four consecutive quarters.

In order to be eligible for receipt of the incentive bonus payment for any incentive period, an employee must be employed on the last day of the applicable incentive period. However, employees who, prior to the end of the incentive period, are laid off or whose employment is terminated by the employer other than for just cause will also be eligible. Employees who resign from their employment prior to the end of the incentive period are not eligible.

**Examples of how the incentive plan may work:**

Assume that there are two Key Performance Indicators chosen and they are Safety and Production Costs. Both have equal weight (that is the weighting for each is 50%). The incentive plan is to operate over an entire fiscal year.

The performance levels for Safety are set at:

Threshold:	TRIFR of 10.2	
Budget:	TRIFR of 8.2	<b>EXAMPLES</b>
Stretch:	TRIFR of 6.2	

The performance levels for Production Costs are set at:

Threshold:	\$90/tonne	
Budget:	\$80/tonne	<b>ONLY</b>
Stretch:	\$70/tonne	

For an employee who earned \$70,000 in regular salary in the fiscal year, the following are examples of the incentive payments made based on various performance situations.

- A. The mine makes stretch levels for both KPI's:

- the incentive payment for safety is 12.5% of the annual earnings, or \$8,750, multiplied by 50%, which equals \$4,375
- the incentive payment for production costs is also 12.5% of annual earnings, multiplied by 50%, which also equals \$4,375
- the total incentive payment is \$8,750 (\$4,375 plus \$4,375)

B. The mine makes stretch level for Safety and budget level for Production Costs:

- the incentive payment for safety is the same as above, \$4,375
- the incentive payment for ore processed is 7.5% of annual earnings, multiplied by 50%, which is \$2,625
- the total incentive payment is \$7,000 (\$4,375 plus \$2,625)

C. The mine makes threshold level for both Safety and Production Costs:

- the incentive payment for safety is 5% of earnings, multiplied by 50%, which equals \$1,750
- the incentive payment for ore processed is the same, \$1,750
- the total incentive payment is \$3,500

## Letter of Understanding – Discussion Framework for Ekati Mine Closure

This letter of understanding outlines the framework for the Employer and the Union to discuss collaboratively issues relating to the closure activities of the Ekati mine, and shall be a reference document to guide the Joint Union and Management Committee.

Article 12 continues to apply to the activities of the Joint Union and Management Committee.

By working together it is our intent to achieve a mine closure which leaves a proud legacy for the North. The Joint Union and Management Committee shall be guided by the Arctic Canadian Diamond Company values which currently encompasses the following values:

- **Safety and the Environment** — An overriding commitment to health, safety, environmental responsibility and sustainable development.
- **Integrity** — Including doing what we say we will do.
- **High Performance** — The excitement and fulfilment of achieving superior business results and stretching our capabilities.
- **Win-Win Relationships** — Having relationships which focus on the creation of value for all parties.
- **The Courage to Lead Change** — Accepting the responsibility to inspire and deliver positive change in the face of adversity.
- **Respect for Each Other** — The embracing of diversity, enriched by openness, sharing, trust, teamwork and involvement.

Issues to be considered with respect to Ekati Mine closure may include, but shall not be limited to:

- the plan for the Ekati closure and reclamation requirements;
- communications to employees on the closure and reclamation plans;
- notice provisions to the Union and employees of the closure;
- identifying opportunities for Ekati closure and reclamation work to be completed in-house by Bargaining Unit employees;
- identifying opportunities for Bargaining Unit employees within Arctic Canadian Diamond Company;
- retraining for outside employment;
- special terms and conditions of employment that may apply.



The Joint Union Management Committee may make joint recommendations to the Employer and the Union for consideration at future collective bargaining rounds.

It is recognised that at the time of writing this document (2017), closure is years away, and detailed planning has not yet commenced.

## **Memorandum of Understanding – Opportunities for Northern and Indigenous Employees**

The parties shall form a standing committee that will discuss ways to increase opportunities for recruitment, retention, training and advancement of Northern and Indigenous employees. This committee shall be composed of the Recruitment and Development Coordinator, as well as up to three employer representatives and up to three union representatives.

This committee shall hold its first meeting within sixty (60) days of the signing of this agreement. The committee shall develop its own terms of reference as expeditiously as possible and shall meet at minimum every two months on an ongoing basis.

Although the committee shall not have the ability to make any amendments to the collective agreement, any recommendations made by the committee shall be considered for implementation by the employer as expeditiously as possible.

This MOU will expire on the date the Collective Agreement expires, unless there is a mutual agreement to renew it.