

PRESS RELEASE

Lockout at Hematite continues after workers reject company's final contract offer

GUELPH, ON, September 16, 2016 – Workers at Hematite Manufacturing have voted overwhelmingly to reject the company's final contract offer after this morning's Labour Board appointed vote.

The company filed with the Labour Board for a final offer vote under Section 42 of the Ontario Labour Relations Act. Workers voted 42-18 to reject the contract. This is in contrast to the results of the vote held on Saturday, September 10th, where workers voted 25-24 to reject the company's final offer.

"This is the third time that workers have voted to reject the same contract put forth by the company," explained Barry Fowlie, Director of Workers United Canada Council. "It's clear that workers are united more than ever and that labour and community support for these locked out workers is growing".

Workers from Local 2508 have been on lockout since Sunday, September 11th.

"Our goal is to get the company back to the bargaining table so that we can negotiate a fair contract," said Gary Panton, President of Local 2508. "We want our members to get back to work, but we will not accept having a contract forced upon us".

The company has not approached the Union as of yet to resume contract negotiations.

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