

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

between the

**CANADA/BRITISH COLUMBIA BUSINESS
SERVICES SOCIETY
(DBA Small Business BC)**

and the

**B.C. GENERAL
EMPLOYEES' UNION (BCGEU)**

Effective from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2024

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DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this agreement:

- (1) "*bargaining unit*" - is the unit for collective bargaining for which the B.C. General Employees' Union was certified by the Labour Relations Board of British Columbia on the 5th day of July, 2002;
- (2) "*basic pay*" - means the rate of pay negotiated by the parties to this agreement, including add-to-pay resulting from salary protection;
- (3) "*child*" - wherever the word "*child*" is used in this agreement, it will be deemed to include a ward of the Director of Child Protection, or a child of a spouse;
- (4) "*common-law spouse*" - includes same sex and opposite sex individuals where the employee has signed a declaration or affidavit that they have been living in a common-law relationship or have been co-habiting for at least 12 months. The period of co-habitation may be less than 12 months where the employee has claimed the common-law spouse's child/children for taxation purposes;
- (5) "*continuous employment*" or "*continuous service*" - means uninterrupted employment with the Canada/British Columbia Business Services Society; subject to Clause 11.1;
- (6) "*day of rest*" - in relation to an employee, means a day other than a holiday on which an employee is not ordinarily required to perform the duties of their position. This does not include employees on a leave of absence;
- (7) "*demotion*" - means a change from an employee's position to one with a lower maximum salary;
- (8) "*domestic violence*" - means:
 - (a) an act of abuse between an individual and a current or former intimate partner, between an individual and a child who resides with the individual, or between an individual and an adult who resides with the individual and who is related to the individual by blood, marriage, foster care or adoption, whether the abuse is physical, sexual, emotional or psychological, and may include an act of coercion, stalking, harassment or financial control; or
 - (b) a threat or attempt to do an act described in (a) above.
- (9) "*emergency*" - means a sudden unexpected or unforeseen situation or occurrence or set of circumstances demanding an immediate action;
- (10) "*employee*" - means a member of the bargaining unit and includes:
 - (a) "*regular employee*" - meaning an employee who is employed for work which is of a continuous full-time or continuous part-time nature;
 - (b) "*casual employee*" - meaning an employee who is employed for work which is not of a continuous nature such as:
 1. seasonal positions;
 2. positions created to carry out special projects or work which is not continuous;
 3. temporary positions created to cover employees on vacation, short-term disability leave, education leave, compassionate leave, or other leave;

4. temporary positions created by special programs such as the summer student employment program, winter works programs for the unemployed, emergencies such as floods or other special temporary programs.

(11) "*Employer*" - means Canada/British Columbia Business Services Society (the "*Society*");

(12) "*field status*" - employees who are normally required to work away from their point of assembly and who, on a day-to-day basis, do not work in an office, institution, plant, or other similar fixed location which is their normal point of assembly;

(13) "*First Nation*" for the purposes of this agreement, is an Indian Band Council duly constituted under the federal *Indian Act* or an Indigenous governing body authorized under the terms of a treaty duly ratified by the provincial and federal governments;

(14) "*headquarters or geographic location*" - is that area within a radius of 32 kilometres of where an employee ordinarily performs their duties;

For the purposes of Articles 12.8 and 13 relocation expenses arising therefrom, "*headquarters or geographic location*" will be redefined as a radius of 50 kilometres (32 kilometres in the GVRD or CRD) of where an employee ordinarily performs their duties;

(15) "*holiday*" - means the 24-hour period commencing at 0001 hours of a day designated as a paid holiday in this agreement;

(16) "*hours of operation*" - are the hours established by the Employer to provide adequate service to the public and to fulfil the functions of the work unit;

(17) "*hours travelled*" - means hours spent travelling from point to point on an hourly or daily basis laid down by the Employer and does not include meal breaks, lodging time, or time spent other than travelling;

(18) "*intimate partner*" - includes a spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend, dating partner, sexual partner or an individual with whom one has a relationship similar to the relationships enumerated in this definition;

(19) "*lateral transfer*" or "*transfer*" - refers to the movement of an employee from one position to another which does not constitute a demotion or promotion;

(20) "*layoff*" - includes a cessation of employment, or elimination of a job resulting from a reduction of the amount of work required to be done by the Employer, a reorganization, program termination, closure or other material change in organization, and where should work become available, employees will be recalled in accordance with Article 13 - Layoff and Recall or Article 31 - Casual Employees;

(21) "*leave of absence with pay*" - means to be absent from duty with permission and with pay;

(22) "*leave of absence without pay*" - means to be absent from duty with permission but without pay;

(23) "*probation*" - for an employee means the first six months worked;

(24) "*promotion*" - means a change from an employee's position to one with a higher maximum salary level;

(25) "*relocation*" - refers to the movement of an employee from one geographic location to another;

(26) "*resignation*" - means a voluntary notice by the employee that they are terminating their service on the date specified;

- (27) "*rest period*" - is a paid interval which is included in the workday and is intended to give the employee an opportunity to have refreshments or a rest;
- (28) "*sexual violence*" - means any conduct of a sexual nature or act targeting an individual's sexuality, gender identity or gender expression that is committed, threatened or attempted against an individual without the individual's consent and includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, indecent exposure, voyeurism, sexual exploitation and sexual solicitation, and may include an act that occurs online or in the context of domestic or intimate partner relationships;
- (29) "*shift*" - means the period of scheduled straight-time working hours on a scheduled workday where the hours scheduled are consecutive except for the meal period;
- (30) "*spouse*" - includes husband, wife and common-law spouse;
- (31) "*termination*" - is the separation of an employee for cause pursuant to Article 10 - Dismissal, Suspension and Discipline, Article 11 - Seniority, or Article 31 - Casual Employees;
- (32) "*travel status*" - with respect to an employee means absence of the employee from their headquarters or geographic location on Society business with the approval of the Employer, but travel status does not apply to employees temporarily assigned to a position outside of the Society;
- (33) "*Union*" - means the B.C. General Employees' Union (BCGEU);
- (34) "*workday*" - is a period of 24 consecutive hours commencing with the starting time of any shift. For the purpose of calculating compensatory overtime rates only, the time worked prior to, but adjoining to, a shift will be deemed as time worked after a shift;
- (35) "*work schedule*" - means the roster of work hours and days to meet the annual hours of work.

ARTICLE 1 - PREAMBLE

1.1 Purpose of Agreement

The purpose of this agreement is to establish and maintain orderly collective bargaining procedures between the Employer and the Union.

1.2 Future Legislation

In the event that any future legislation renders null and void or materially alters any provision of this agreement, the remaining provisions will remain in effect for the term of the agreement. If the premium paid by the Employer for any employee benefit stipulated in this agreement is reduced as a result of any legislative or other action by the Government of British Columbia, the amount of the saving will be used to increase other benefits available to the employees, as may be mutually agreed to between the parties.

1.3 Conflict with Policy

In the event that there is a conflict between the contents of this agreement and any policy made by the Employer, or on behalf of the Employer, this agreement will take precedence over the said policy.

1.4 Singular and Plural

Wherever the singular is used in this agreement the same will be construed as meaning the plural if the context requires unless otherwise specifically stated.

1.5 Human Rights Code

The parties hereto subscribe to the principles of the *Human Rights Code* of British Columbia.

In accordance with Clause 7.4, the parties will continue to review methods of extending knowledge of the *Human Rights Code* within the Society and for extending knowledge relating to the *Human Rights Code* to all employees.

The Society, in cooperation with the Union, will promote a work environment that is free from discrimination where all employees are treated with respect and dignity.

Discrimination relates to any of the prohibited grounds contained in the BC Human Rights Tribunal. Prohibited conduct may be verbal, non-verbal, physical, deliberate or unintended, unsolicited or unwelcome, as determined by a reasonable person. It may be one incident or a series of incidents depending on the context.

Employees have the right to employment without discrimination because of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, family status, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political beliefs, and criminal or summary offence unrelated to their employment.

Discrimination does not include actions occasioned through exercising in good faith the Employer's managerial/supervisory rights and responsibilities.

Protection against discrimination extends to incidents occurring at or away from the workplace during or outside working hours provided the acts are committed within the course of the employment relationship.

This clause does not preclude an employee from filing a complaint under Section 13 of the BC *Human Rights Code*, however, an employee will not be entitled to duplication of process. An employee making a complaint of discrimination must choose to direct a complaint to either the BC Council of Human Rights or to the process specified in Clause 1.7. In either event a complaint of discrimination, if included as an element of a grievance, will not be pursued through the process identified in Clause 1.7.

An employee who files a written complaint that would be seen by a reasonable person to be frivolous, vindictive or vexatious may be subject to disciplinary action. Disciplinary action taken may be grieved pursuant to Article 8 - Grievances.

1.6 Sexual Harassment

The Society, in co-operation with the Union, will promote a work environment that is free from sexual harassment where all employees are treated with respect and dignity.

Sexual harassment is one form of discrimination and is defined as any unwelcome comment or conduct of a sexual nature that may detrimentally affect the work environment or lead to adverse job-related consequences for the victim of the harassment. Prohibited conduct may be verbal, non-verbal, physical, deliberate or unintended, unsolicited or unwelcome, as determined by a reasonable person. It may be one incident or a series of incidents depending on the context.

Sexual harassment does not include actions occasioned through exercising in good faith the Employer's managerial/supervisory rights and responsibilities.

Protection against harassment extends to incidents occurring at or away from the workplace during or outside working hours provided the acts are committed within the course of the employment relationship.

This clause does not preclude an employee from filing a complaint under Section 13 of the BC *Human Rights Code*, however, an employee will not be entitled to duplication of process. An employee making a

complaint of sexual harassment must choose to direct a complaint to either the BC Council of Human Rights or to the process specified in Clause 1.7. In either event a complaint of sexual harassment, if included as an element of a grievance will not be pursued through the process identified in Clause 1.7.

An employee who files a written complaint that would be seen by a reasonable person to be frivolous, vindictive or vexatious may be subject to disciplinary action. Disciplinary action taken may be grieved pursuant to Article 8 - Grievances.

Examples of sexual harassment include but are not limited to:

- a person in authority asking an employee for sexual favours in return for being hired or receiving promotions or other employment benefits;
- sexual advances with actual or implied work related consequences;
- unwelcome remarks, questions, jokes or innuendo of a sexual nature; including sexist comments or sexual invitations;
- verbal abuse, intimidation, or threats of a sexual nature;
- leering, staring or making sexual gestures;
- display of pornographic or other sexual materials;
- offensive pictures, graffiti, cartoons or sayings;
- unwanted physical contact such as touching, patting, pinching, hugging;
- physical assault of a sexual nature.

This definition of sexual harassment is not meant to inhibit interactions or relationships based on mutual consent or normal social contact between employees.

1.7 Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures

(a) All persons involved in the handling of a discrimination or sexual harassment complaint under Clause 1.5 or 1.6 will hold in the strictest confidence all information of which they become aware; however, it is recognized that various officials of the constituent group(s) and the Employer will be made aware of all or part of the proceedings on a "*need to know*" basis.

(b) Before proceeding to the formal complaint mechanism an employee who believes they have a complaint of harassment or discrimination may approach their supervisory personnel, union steward, or other contact person to discuss potential means of resolving a complaint and to request assistance in resolving the matter. If the matter is resolved to the complainant's satisfaction the matter is deemed to be resolved.

(c) If the matter is not resolved to the employee's satisfaction, then the employee will approach the first excluded level of management not involved in the matter, for assistance in resolving the issue within six months of the alleged occurrence. The manager will investigate the allegation and take steps to resolve the concern as appropriate within 30 days of the issue being raised by the employee. The manager will discuss the proposed resolution with the employee. The employee may have a union representative present during these discussions. Where the first excluded level of management is the respondent, the employee will approach the respondent's supervisor.

(d) If the proposed resolution is not acceptable, the employee may refer the matter through the Union in writing to the next management level of exclusion, or where no such level exists, the designated member of the Board of Directors, within 30 days of receiving the manager's response or when the response was due.

A written complaint will specify the details of the allegation(s) including:

- name and title of the respondent;
- a description of the action(s), conduct, events or circumstances involved in the complaint;
- the specific remedy sought to satisfy the complaint;
- date(s) of incidents;
- name(s) of witnesses (if any);
- prior attempts to resolve (if any).

(e) The President and CEO, or the designated member of the Board of Directors, as appropriate, will acknowledge, in writing, receipt of the Union's notice and will have the matter investigated and will take such steps as may be required to resolve the matter. The Union and the employees involved will be advised in writing of the proposed resolution within 30 days of providing notice to the President and CEO or designated member of the Board of Directors, as appropriate, or such later date as may be mutually agreed by the Society and the Union.

(f) Where the matter is not resolved pursuant to (e), the Union may refer the matter to adjudication. Where either the complainant or the respondent, are members of the Union in conjunction with the Union, is not satisfied with the Employer's response, the Union will put the complaint, within 30 days, before a mutually agreed upon, independent adjudicator who specializes in cases of harassment or discrimination or sexual harassment. The adjudicator will work with the parties to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution and if this is not achieved, the adjudicator will have the right to:

- (1) dismiss the complaint; or
- (2) determine the appropriate level of discipline to be applied to the harasser;
- (3) make further recommendations as are necessary to provide a final and conclusive settlement of the complaint.

(g) Any action taken by the Employer, including discipline, which is consistent with the findings of fact of the Adjudicator will be considered by all parties to be determinative of the complaint and will not form the basis of a grievance.

(h) If the adjudicator determines that discrimination and/or harassment has occurred, the Employer must document the personnel file of the respondent accordingly.

(i) Pending the determination of the complaint, the Society may take interim measures to separate the employees concerned, if deemed necessary. Any such action taken under this section will not be deemed disciplinary in nature, or seen as presumption of guilt or innocence.

(j) The complainant will not be relocated without their agreement.

ARTICLE 2 - UNION RECOGNITION AND RIGHTS

2.1 Bargaining Unit Defined

(a) The bargaining unit will comprise all employees of the Canada/British Columbia Business Services Society, except those employees in positions mutually agreed to between the parties as excluded and those excluded by the *Code*.

(b) The guidelines to be considered in negotiating exclusions will be:

- (1) position incumbents who perform the functions of a manager or superintendent;

- (2) position incumbents employed in a confidential capacity related to labour relations or personnel.
- (c) Incumbents of new positions established by the Employer will automatically be included in the bargaining unit unless specifically excluded by mutual agreement or by virtue of a decision of a mutually agreed upon arbitrator or the Labour Relations Board.
- (d) (1) When the Employer wishes to commence negotiations for the exclusion of a position from the bargaining unit, it will notify the Union in writing. The Employer will provide to the Union a copy of the organization chart for the immediate branch or program where the position is located, a copy of the position's job description and a copy of the job description for the position which supervises the applied for position.
- (2) The parties will then commence discussions with a view to reaching a mutually agreeable resolution to the exclusion status of the position. Such discussions will include an interview with the incumbent and their immediate supervisor. Where the position is vacant, the supervisor will be interviewed. These interviews may be waived by mutual agreement.
- (3) If no agreement is reached or if no response is received from the Union within 90 days of the date of notification in (1) above, the Employer may refer the matter to arbitration and have it heard by an arbitrator from a mutually agreeable list of arbitrators, or to the Labour Relations Board.
- (4) Where a matter has been referred to arbitration, or the Labour Relations Board the decision, if any, will be deemed to be binding on the parties.
- (5) The Employer will provide to the Union on an annual basis a list of excluded positions and incumbents.

2.2 Bargaining Agent Recognition

The Employer recognizes the B.C. General Employees' Union as the exclusive bargaining agent for all employees to whom the certification issued by the Labour Relations Board applies.

2.3 Correspondence

- (a) The Employer agrees that all correspondence between the Employer and the Union related to matters covered by this agreement will be sent to the President of the Union or their designate.
- (b) The Employer agrees that a copy of any correspondence between the Employer and any employee in the bargaining unit covered by this agreement pertaining to the interpretation or application of this agreement, as it applies to that employee, will be forwarded to the President of the Union or their designate.

2.4 No Other Agreement

No employee covered by this agreement will be required or permitted to make a written or oral agreement with the Employer or its representatives that may conflict with the terms of this agreement.

2.5 No Discrimination for Union Activity

The Employer and the Union agree that there will be no discrimination, interference, restriction, or coercion exercised or practised with respect to any employee for reason of membership or activity in the Union.

2.6 Recognition and Rights of Stewards

- (a) The Employer recognizes the Union's right to select stewards to represent employees.
- (b) The Union agrees to provide the Employer with a list of the employees designated as stewards for each jurisdictional area.
- (c) A steward, or their alternate, will obtain the permission of their immediate supervisor before leaving their work to perform their duties as a steward. Leave for this purpose will be with pay. Such permission will not be unreasonably withheld. On resuming their normal duties, the steward will notify their supervisor.
- (d) The duties of stewards will include:
 - (1) investigation of complaints of an urgent nature;
 - (2) investigation of grievances and assisting any employee whom the steward represents in presenting a grievance in accordance with the grievance procedure;
 - (3) supervision of ballot boxes and other related functions during ratification votes;
 - (4) attending meetings at the request of the Employer;
 - (5) carrying out duties within the realm of assigned safety responsibilities for stewards who are members of safety committees;
 - (6) other responsibilities as needed.

2.7 Bulletin Boards

The Employer will provide bulletin board facilities for the exclusive use of the Union, the sites to be determined by mutual agreement. The use of such bulletin board facilities will be restricted to the business affairs of the Union.

2.8 Union Insignia

- (a) A union member will have the right to wear or display the recognized insignia of the Union. The Union agrees to furnish to the Employer at least one union shop card, for each of the Employer's places of operation covered by this agreement, to be displayed on the premises. Such card will remain the property of the Union and will be surrendered upon demand.
- (b) The recognized insignia of the Union will include the designation "BCGEU". This designation will, at the employee's option, be placed on stenography typed by a member of the Union. This designation will be placed below the signatory initials on typewritten correspondence.

2.9 Right to Refuse to Cross Picket Lines

All employees covered by this agreement will have the right to refuse to cross a picket line arising out of a dispute as defined in the *Labour Relations Code* of British Columbia. Any employee failing to report for duty will be considered to be absent without pay. Failure to cross a picket line encountered in carrying out the Employer's business will not be considered a violation of this agreement nor will it be grounds for disciplinary action.

2.10 Time Off for Union Business

- (a) *Without Pay* - with reasonable written notice leave of absence without pay and without loss of seniority will be granted:

- (1) to an elected or appointed representative of the Union to attend conventions of the Union and bodies to which the Union is affiliated;
 - (2) for elected or appointed representatives of the Union to attend to union business which requires them to leave their general work area;
 - (3) for employees who are representatives of the Union on a bargaining committee to attend meetings of the Bargaining Committee;
 - (4) to employees called by the Union to appear as witnesses before an arbitration board, the Labour Relations Board, or the Human Rights Tribunal;
 - (5) to employees designated to sit as an observer on a selection panel in accordance with Clause 12.1.
- (b) *With Pay* - leave of absence with basic pay and without loss of seniority will be granted to two employees to sit on the Bargaining Committee to carry on negotiations with the Employer.
- (c) To facilitate the administration of this clause when leave without pay is granted, the leave will be given with basic pay and the Union will reimburse the Employer for salary and benefit costs, including travel time incurred. Leave of absence granted under this clause will include sufficient travel time. The Union will provide the Employer with reasonable notice prior to the commencement of leave under this clause. It is understood that employees granted leave of absence pursuant to this clause will receive their current rates of pay while on leave of absence with pay. The Employer agrees that any of the above leaves of absence will not be unreasonably withheld.
- (d) The Employer will grant, on request, leave of absence without pay:
- (1) for employees selected for a full-time position with the Union for a period of one year;
 - (2) for an employee elected to the position of president or Treasurer of the B.C. General Employees' Union;
 - (3) for an employee elected to any body to which the Union is affiliated for a period of one year and the leave will be renewed upon request.

2.11 Union Meetings

- (a) Employees may attend a meeting with a representative of the Union at their worksite on a quarterly basis on a mutually agreeable date.
- (b) The Union will provide not less than two weeks' notice to the appropriate excluded manager at the local level of the intended date and time of the meeting.
- (c) Such meetings are permitted during work hours with every effort not to interfere with normal operations and are without loss of pay for employees to attend.

2.12 Union Representatives

The Employer may, upon written request from the President of the Union or the President's designate, allow reasonable time for a designated representative of the Union on the agenda of any course, training session, seminar, or conference sponsored by the Employer. Such permission will not be unreasonably withheld.

ARTICLE 3 - UNION SECURITY

All employees will be required, as a condition of employment, to be members of the Union.

ARTICLE 4 - CHECK-OFF OF UNION DUES

- (a) The Employer will, as a condition of employment, deduct from the wages or salary of each employee in the bargaining unit, whether or not the employee is a member of the Union, the amount of the regular dues payable to the Union by a member of the Union.
- (b) The Employer will deduct from any employee who is a member of the Union any assessments levied in accordance with the Union Constitution and/or Bylaws and owing by the employee to the Union.
- (c) Deductions will be made for each biweekly payroll period and membership dues or payments in lieu thereof will be considered as owing in the period for which they are so deducted.
- (d) All deductions will be remitted to the President of the Union not later than 28 days after the date of deduction and the Employer will also provide a list of names as well as classifications of those employees from whose salaries such deductions have been made together with the amounts deducted from each employee. The Employer will provide to the Union with every regular dues remittance, the information provided in the chart below. The information will be provided electronically in the file formats ".csv".

Column Order	Name	Format	Format Description
1	Member SIN	XXXXXXXXXX	9 digits, no dashes or spaces
2	Member Last Name		
3	Member First Name		
4	Dues	XXXX.XX	No commas or dollar signs
5	Gross Wages for Period	XXXX.XX	No commas or dollar signs
6	Job/ Position Title		
7	Service Start Date	yyyyMMdd	
8	Appointment Code		Regular, Auxiliary, etc
9	Work Location Name		
10	Work Location Address		
11	Member Address		
12	Member Work Phone	XXXXXXXXXX	10 digits, no dashes or spaces
13	Member Home Phone	XXXXXXXXXX	10 digits, no dashes or spaces
14	Member Cell Phone	XXXXXXXXXX	10 digits, no dashes or spaces
15	Member Home Email		

- (e) Before the Employer is obliged to deduct any amount under (a) above, the Union must advise the Employer in writing of the amount of its regular dues. The amount so advised will continue to be the amount to be deducted until changed by further written notice to the Employer signed by the President of the Union. When the change cannot reasonably be accommodated by the Employer's existing payroll

system, then the cost of implementation will be borne by the Union. In all cases, the Union will provide the Employer with a reasonable notice period to implement any change.

(f) From the date of the signing of this agreement and for its duration, no employee organization other than the Union will be permitted to have membership dues or other monies deducted by the Employer from the pay of the employees in the bargaining unit.

(g) The Employer will supply each employee, without charge, a receipt for income tax purposes in the amount of the deductions paid to the Union by the employee in the previous year. Such receipts will be provided to the employees prior to March 1 of the succeeding year.

(h) An employee will, as a condition of continued employment, complete an authorization form providing for the deduction from an employee's wages or salary the amount of the regular dues payable to the Union by a member of the Union.

(i) The Employer will provide to the Union on a quarterly basis a report of employees who have ceased employment and the Record of Employment (ROE) Code used in Block 16 of the ROE form for each of those employees.

(j) The Employer will submit union dues remittance by EFT. The EFT will be submitted with an email to direct.deposit@bcgeu.ca including the EFT date and dollar amount.

(1) Each EFT email will also include:

- (i) Employer name;
- (ii) pay period type (i.e., monthly, semi-monthly, biweekly, etc.);
- (iii) pay period number;
- (iv) pay period end date; and
- (v) pay period pay date.

ARTICLE 5 - EMPLOYER AND UNION TO ACQUAINT NEW EMPLOYEES

(a) At the time of hire, new employees will be advised that a collective agreement is in effect and of the conditions of employment set out in the articles dealing with Union Security and Dues Check-off.

(b) A new employee will also be provided with:

- (1) the name, location and work telephone number of the steward in the employee handbook; and
- (2) an authorization form for union dues check-off.

(c) The steward will be advised of the name, location and work telephone number, within 10 days of the start date of the new employee.

(d) The steward will be given an opportunity to meet with each new employee within regular working hours, for the purpose of acquainting new employees with the benefits and duties of union membership and the employee's responsibilities and obligations to the Employer and the Union, without loss of pay, for 30 minutes sometime during the first 30 days of employment.

(e) The Union will provide the Society with an up-to-date list of stewards' names and work telephone numbers in order that the Employer may meet its obligation in (b)(1) above.

(f) The Union will be provided with a copy of the completed and signed authorization form for dues check-off for all new employees.

ARTICLE 6 - EMPLOYER'S RIGHTS

The Union acknowledges that the management and directing of employees in the bargaining unit is retained by the Employer, except as this agreement otherwise specifies.

ARTICLE 7 - EMPLOYER/UNION RELATIONS**7.1 Union and Employer Representation**

No employee or group of employees will undertake to represent the Union at meetings with the Employer without the proper authorization of the Union. To implement this the Union will supply the Employer with the names of its officers and similarly, the Employer will supply the Union with a list of its supervisory or other personnel with whom the Union may be required to transact business.

7.2 Union Representatives

- (a) The Employer agrees that access to its premises will be granted to members of the staff of the Union when dealing or negotiating with the Employer, as well as for the purpose of investigating and assisting in the settlement of a grievance.
- (b) Members of union staff will notify the excluded designated supervisory official in advance of their intention and their purpose for entering and will not interfere with the operation of the Society concerned.
- (c) In order to facilitate the orderly, as well as the confidential investigation of grievances, the Employer will make available to union representatives or stewards temporary use of an office or similar facility.
- (d) The Employer agrees that access to its premises will be granted to local chairpersons and members of the Provincial Executive. Notification will be given to the excluded designated supervisory official in advance of the intention and purpose for entering the Employer's premises and such access will not interfere with the operations of the Society.
- (e) Notwithstanding Clause 7.2(d), the Employer agrees that access to its premises will be extended to persons designated by the President upon reasonable notice to the President and CEO of the Society of their intention and purpose for entering the Employer's premises and such access will not interfere with the operations of the Society.

7.3 Technical Information

The Employer agrees to provide to the Union such information that is available relating to employees in the bargaining unit, as may be required by the Union for collective bargaining purposes.

7.4 Policy Meetings

The Employer and the Union recognize the importance and necessity of the Principals to this agreement meeting regularly to discuss problems that may arise from time to time.

ARTICLE 8 - GRIEVANCES**8.1 Grievance Procedure**

- (a) The Employer and the Union recognize that grievances may arise concerning:

- (1) differences between the parties respecting the interpretation, application, operation, or any alleged violation of a provision of this agreement, or arbitral award, including a question as to whether or not a matter is subject to arbitration; or
 - (2) the dismissal, discipline, or suspension of an employee bound by this agreement.
- (b) The procedure for resolving a grievance will be the grievance procedure in this article.

8.2 Step 1

In the first step of the grievance procedure, every effort will be made to settle the dispute with the designated supervisor. The aggrieved employee will have the right to have their steward present at such a discussion. If the dispute is not resolved orally, the aggrieved employee may submit a written grievance, through the union steward, to Step 2 of the grievance procedure. Where the aggrieved employee is a steward, they will not, where possible, act as a steward in respect of their own grievance but will submit the grievance through another steward or union staff representative.

8.3 Time Limits to Present Initial Grievance

An employee who wishes to present a grievance at Step 2 of the grievance procedure, in the manner prescribed in Clause 8.4, must do so no later than 30 days after the date:

- (a) on which they were notified orally or in writing, of the action or circumstances giving rise to the grievance;
- (b) on which they first became aware of the action or circumstances giving rise to the grievance.

8.4 Step 2

- (a) Subject to the time limits in Clause 8.3, the employee may present a grievance at this level by:
- (1) recording their grievance on the appropriate grievance form, setting out the nature of the grievance and the circumstances from which it arose;
 - (2) stating the article(s) or clause(s) of the agreement infringed upon or alleged to have been violated, and the remedy or correction required; and
 - (3) transmitting their grievance to the designated supervisor through the union steward.
- (b) The designated supervisor will:
- (1) forward the grievance to the representative of the Employer authorized to deal with grievances at Step 2; and
 - (2) provide the employee with a receipt stating the date on which the grievance was received.

8.5 Time Limit to Reply at Step 2

- (a) Within 21 days of receiving the grievance at Step 2, the representative designated by the Employer to handle grievances at Step 2 and the designated union representative will meet to examine the facts, the nature of the grievance and attempt to resolve the dispute. This meeting may be waived by mutual agreement.
- (b) The representative designated by the Employer to handle grievances at Step 2 will reply in writing to an employee's grievance within 30 days of receiving the grievance at Step 2.

(c) Where the grievance concerns a disciplinary matter, the reply at this step will include a report of the Step 2 meeting and the results of investigations carried out by the Employer with regard to the facts and nature of the grievance. In such cases, Clause 8.7(b) will not apply. The report will not be introduced as evidence at any arbitration proceeding.

8.6 Failure to Act

If the President of the Union, or their designate, does not present a grievance to the next higher level within the prescribed time limits, the grievance will be deemed to have been abandoned. However, the Union will not be deemed to have prejudiced its position on any future grievance.

8.7 Time Limits to Submit to Arbitration

Failing satisfactory settlement at Step 2, and pursuant to Article 9 - Arbitration, the President, or their designate, may inform the Employer of their intention to submit the dispute to arbitration within:

- (a) 30 days after the Employer's decision has been received; or
- (b) 30 days after the Employer's decision was due.

8.8 Administrative Provisions

- (a) Grievances and replies at Step 2 of the grievance procedure and notification to arbitrate will be by certified mail, courier or by facsimile.
- (b) Subject to (c), grievances, replies, and notification will be deemed to have been presented on the date on which they were certified, and received on the date they were delivered to the appropriate office of the Employer or the Union.
- (c) Where a facsimile is used to transmit grievances, replies and notification, the sender must forward the original documents to the Step 2 recipient by mail within three business days of the facsimile transmission. The sender will retain a facsimile receipt to prove service.
- (d) In the event of a dispute, strike, lockout, or other work stoppage in the Canada Post Office, within British Columbia, (c) will not apply and originals will be forwarded upon conclusion of the dispute.

8.9 Dismissal or Suspension Grievances

- (a) In the case of a dispute arising from an employee's dismissal, rejection on probation, suspension greater than 20 days or suspension for just cause pending investigation, the grievance may be filed directly at arbitration, with a copy to the President and CEO of the Society, within 30 days of the date on which the dismissal, rejection on probation, or suspension occurred, or within 30 days of the employee receiving such notice.
- (b) In the case of a dispute arising from other suspensions, the grievance may commence at Step 2 of the grievance procedure within 30 days of the date on which the suspension occurred, or within 30 days of the employee receiving such notice.

8.10 Deviation from Grievance Procedure

- (a) The Employer agrees that, after a grievance has been initiated by the Union, the Employer's representatives will not enter into discussion or negotiation with respect to the grievance, either directly or indirectly with the aggrieved employee without the consent of the Union.
- (b) In the event that, after having initiated a grievance through the grievance procedure, an employee endeavours to pursue the same grievance through any other channel, then the Union agrees that, pursuant to this article, the grievance will be considered to have been abandoned.

- (c) Where an employee has filed a complaint with the Ombudsman or the Employment Standards Branch, the grievance will be deemed to be abandoned unless the complaint is withdrawn, in writing, within 45 days of it being filed.
- (d) Notwithstanding (b) above, an employee who has filed a complaint with the Human Rights Council will not have their grievance deemed abandoned through the filing of the complaint.

8.11 Policy Grievance

- (a) Where either party to this agreement disputes the application, interpretation, or alleged violation of an article of this agreement, the dispute will be discussed initially with the President and CEO or the Union, as the case may be, within 60 days of the occurrence. Where no satisfactory agreement is reached, either party may submit the dispute to arbitration, as set out in Article 9 - Arbitration.
- (b) Unless agreed by the Principals, this article will not be used by the Union to initiate a grievance directly affecting an employee or group of employees where such employees themselves could otherwise initiate a grievance through the grievance procedure. This provision will not be utilized to circumvent any mandatory provision of the grievance procedure.

8.12 Technical Objections to Grievances

It is the intent of both parties to this agreement that no grievance will be defeated merely because of a technical error other than time limitations in processing the grievance through the grievance procedure. To this end an arbitration board will have the power to allow all necessary amendments to the grievance and the power to waive formal procedural irregularities in the processing of a grievance in order to determine the real matter in dispute and to render a decision according to equitable principles and the justice of the case.

8.13 Effective Date of Settlements

Settlements reached at any step of the grievance procedure in this article, other than Clause 8.11, will be applied retroactively to the date of the occurrence of the action or situation which gave rise to the grievance, but not prior to the effective date of the agreement in effect at the time of the occurrence or the date set by a board of arbitration.

8.14 Amending Time Limits

The time limits fixed in this grievance procedure may be altered by mutual consent of the parties, but the same must be in writing.

ARTICLE 9 - ARBITRATION

9.1 Notification

- (a) Where a difference arising between the parties relating to the interpretation, application, or administration of this agreement, including any question as to whether a matter is arbitrable, or where an allegation is made that a term or condition of this agreement has been violated, either of the parties may, after exhausting the grievance procedure in Article 8 - Grievances, notify the other party within 30 days of the receipt of the reply at the second step, of its desire to submit the difference or allegations to arbitration.
- (b) A submission of such a difference or allegation to arbitration will be by certified mail or by courier to the other party. Submissions may be transmitted by facsimile, however, the sender must forward the

original documents by mail within three business days of the facsimile transmission. The sender will retain a facsimile receipt to prove service.

- (c) Where the matter in dispute is a dismissal grievance, the parties will set a date for the hearing to be held seven weeks from the date that such a hearing is requested.
- (d) The parties agree to select arbitrators in accordance with Appendix 3 - List of Arbitrators.

9.2 Assignment of a Single Arbitrator

- (a) When a party has requested that a grievance be submitted to an arbitration and either party has requested that a hearing date be set, an arbitrator will be assigned from the mutually agreed upon list of single arbitrators.
- (b) Depending upon availability, single arbitrators will be assigned cases on a rotating basis.
- (c) The parties will agree upon a list of arbitrators that will be appended to this agreement. An arbitrator may be removed from the list by mutual agreement.
- (d) The parties will endeavour to develop and maintain a list of acceptable arbitrators that is gender balanced.

9.3 Three-Person Arbitration Board

- (a) Notwithstanding Clause 9.2, when a single arbitrator has been appointed either party may indicate to the other party, within seven days of receipt of written notice, if it chooses to have the matter heard by a three-person arbitration board. Both parties will then have seven days to name their appointee to the three-person board. The two appointees will then meet to select an impartial chairperson.
- (b) If either party fails to name their appointee, or the two appointees fail to agree upon a chairperson within seven days of their appointment, the appointment will be made by the Collective Agreement Arbitration Bureau.

9.4 Board Procedure

- (a) In this article the term "*board*" means a single arbitrator or a three-person arbitration board.
- (b) The Board may determine its own procedure in accordance with the relevant legislation and will give full opportunity to all parties to present evidence and make representations. It will hear and determine the difference or allegation and will render a decision within 60 days of the conclusion of the hearing.

9.5 Decision of Board

The decision of the majority will be the decision of the Board. Where there is no majority decision, the decision of the Chairperson will be the decision of the Board. The decision of the Arbitration Board will be final, binding, and enforceable on the parties. The Board will have the power to dispose of a discharge or discipline grievance by any arrangement that it deems just and equitable. However, the Board will not have the power to change this agreement or to alter, modify, or amend any of its provisions.

9.6 Disagreement on Decision

Should the parties disagree as to the meaning of the Board's decision, either party may apply to the Chairperson of the Arbitration Board to reconvene the Board to clarify the decision, which it will make every effort to do within seven days.

9.7 Expenses of Arbitration Board

Each party will pay:

- (a) the fees and expenses of the Arbitrator it appoints; and
- (b) one-half of the fees and expenses of the Chairperson.

9.8 Amending Time Limits

The time limits fixed in the arbitration procedure may be altered by mutual consent of the parties, but the same must be in writing.

9.9 Expedited Arbitration

(a) All grievances will be considered suitable for and resolved by expedited arbitration except grievances in the nature of:

- (1) dismissals;
- (2) rejection on probation;
- (3) suspensions in excess of 20 workdays;
- (4) policy grievances;
- (5) grievances requiring substantial interpretation of collective agreement;
- (6) grievances relating to Article 14 - Hours of Work of the collective agreement;
- (7) grievances requiring presentation of extrinsic evidence;
- (8) grievances where a party intends to raise a preliminary objection;
- (9) demotions.

By mutual agreement, a grievance falling into any of these categories may be placed into the expedited arbitration process.

(b) The parties will mutually agree upon single arbitrators who will be appointed to hear and resolve groups of grievances.

(c) The Arbitrator will hear the grievances and will render a decision within two working days of such hearings. No written reasons for the decision will be provided beyond that which the Arbitrator deems appropriate to convey a decision.

(d) Arbitration awards will be of no precedential value and will not thereafter be referred to by the parties in respect of any other matter.

(e) All settlements of expedited arbitration cases prior to hearing will be without prejudice.

(f) A grievance determined by either party to fall within one of the categories listed in (b) above, may be removed from the expedited arbitration process at any time prior to hearing and forwarded to a regular arbitration hearing pursuant to Clause 9.2.

(g) The parties will equally share the cost of the fees and expenses of the Arbitrator and hearing rooms.

ARTICLE 10 - DISMISSAL, SUSPENSION AND DISCIPLINE**10.1 Burden of Proof**

In all cases of discipline, the burden of proof of just cause will rest with the Employer.

10.2 Dismissal

The President and CEO, or any official specifically authorized by the President and CEO may dismiss any employee for just cause. Notice of dismissal will be in writing and will set forth the reasons for dismissal.

10.3 Suspension

The President and CEO, or any official specifically authorized by the President and CEO may only suspend an employee for just cause. Notice of suspension will be in writing and will set forth the reasons for the suspension.

10.4 Dismissal and Suspension Grievance

All dismissals and suspensions will be subject to formal grievance procedure under Article 8 - Grievances. A copy of the written notice of dismissal or suspension will be forwarded to the President of the Union within five days of the action being taken.

10.5 Right to Grieve Other Disciplinary Action

- (a) Disciplinary action grievable by the employee will include:
- (1) written censures;
 - (2) letters of reprimand;
 - (3) adverse reports; or
 - (4) adverse employee appraisals.
- (b) An employee will be given a copy of any such document placed on the employee's file that might be the basis of disciplinary action. Should an employee dispute any such entry in their file, they will be entitled to recourse through the grievance procedure and the eventual resolution thereof will become part of their personnel record.
- (c) Upon the employee's request any such document, other than formal employee appraisals, will be removed from the employee's file after the expiration of 18 months from the date it was issued provided there has not been a further infraction.
- (d) The Employer agrees not to introduce as evidence in any hearing any document from the file of an employee, the existence of which the employee was not aware at the time of filing.

10.6 Employee Appraisal Forms

- (a) Where a formal appraisal of an employee's performance is carried out, the employee will be given sufficient opportunity to read, review and ask questions about the appraisal. Upon request, the employee will be given three working days to read and review the appraisal.
- (b) The appraisal form will provide for the employee's signature in two places, one indicating that the employee has read and accepts the appraisal, and the other indicating that the employee disagrees with the appraisal. No employee may initiate a grievance regarding the contents of an employee appraisal unless the employee has signed in the place indicating disagreement with the appraisal.
- (c) An employee appraisal will not be changed after an employee has signed it, without the knowledge of the employee, and any such changes will be subject to the grievance procedure of this agreement.
- (d) An employee will receive a copy of their appraisal upon request.

10.7 Personnel File

An employee, or the President of the Union or their designate with the written authority of the employee, will be entitled to review the employee's personnel file(s), both paper and, if applicable, electronic, in the office in which the file is normally kept. The employee or the President, as the case may be, will give the Employer adequate notice prior to having access to such file(s).

Where it is not practical for the employee to review the file in the office in which it is kept, the Employer will make arrangements to have the file delivered to the Society office nearer to the employee's worksite, to allow the review under the supervision of a person designated by the Employer.

10.8 Right to Have Steward Present

(a) An employee will have the right to have their steward present at any discussion with supervisory personnel that the employee believes might be the basis of disciplinary action. Where a supervisor intends to interview an employee for disciplinary purposes, the supervisor will make every effort to notify the employee in advance of the purpose of the interview in order that the employee may contact their steward, providing that this does not result in an undue delay of the appropriate action being taken. This clause will not apply to those discussions that are of an operational nature and do not involve disciplinary action.

(b) A steward will have the right to consult with a staff representative of the Union and to have a local union representative present at any discussion with supervisory personnel which the steward believes might be the basis of disciplinary action against the steward, providing that this does not result in an undue delay of the appropriate action being taken.

10.9 Rejection During Probation

(a) The President and CEO, or any official specifically authorized by the President and CEO may reject any probationary employee for just cause. A rejection during probation will not be considered a dismissal for the purpose of Clause 10.4. The test of just cause for rejection will be a test of suitability of the probationary employee for continued employment in the position to which they have been appointed, provided that the factors involved in suitability could reasonably be expected to affect work performance.

(b) Where an employee feels they have been aggrieved by the decision of the Employer to reject the employee during the probationary period, they may in accordance with Article 8 - Grievances, grieve the decision within 30 days of receiving the notice of rejection. Such grievance may be filed directly at arbitration in accordance with Clause 8.9(a).

10.10 Abandonment of Position

An employee who fails to report for duty for five consecutive workdays without informing the Employer of the reason for their absence will be presumed to have abandoned their position. An employee will be afforded the opportunity to rebut such presumption and demonstrate that there were reasonable grounds for not having informed the Employer.

ARTICLE 11 - SENIORITY**11.1 Seniority Defined**

For the purpose of this agreement:

(a) Service seniority will mean the length of continuous service as a regular employee in the bargaining unit. Regular employees in the bargaining unit as of November 1, 2002 will be credited with service seniority equivalent to their length of continuous service as a regular employee or their length of service as a continuous auxiliary employee with the public service prior to that date. Service seniority for part-time employees will be prorated on the basis of one years' service seniority for every 1827 hours completed.

(b) Service seniority for part-time employees will be prorated.

(c) Where two or more regular or casual employees have the same service seniority date, and when mutual agreement cannot be reached, then seniority will be determined by chance.

11.2 Seniority List

A current service seniority list for regular employees as of December 31 will be provided by the Employer to the President of the Union on or before March 31 of the following year and for June 30 by September 30.

11.3 Loss of Seniority

(a) A regular employee on leave of absence without pay, other than leave of absence for an elected or appointed position in the Union, or leave granted under Article 21 - Maternity, Parental and Pre-Adoption Leave, will not accrue seniority for leave periods over 30 calendar days.

(b) A regular employee on a claim recognized by the Workers' Compensation Board will be credited with service seniority equivalent to what they would have earned had they not been absent and had been able to work.

(c) A regular employee who is on leave of absence without pay in an elected or appointed position of the Union will continue to accrue seniority without benefits during the leave period, provided that, upon returning, the employee will accept the first available position in their original classification at the work location nearest their residence.

(d) An employee will lose their seniority as a regular employee in the event that:

(1) they are discharged for just cause;

(2) subject to Clause 11.4, they voluntarily terminate their employment or abandon their position;

(3) they are on layoff for more than one year; or

(4) except as provided in Clause 13.3(a)(4) they become a casual employee.

11.4 Re-Employment

A regular employee who resigns their position and within 90 days is re-employed as a regular employee will be granted leave of absence without pay covering those days absent and will retain, effective the date of re-employment, all provisions and rights in relation to seniority and other fringe benefits.

11.5 Bridging of Service

If a regular employee terminates as a result of a decision to care for a dependant parent, spouse or child, and is re-employed, upon application they will be credited with length of service accumulated at time of termination for the purposes of benefits based on service seniority. The following conditions will apply:

- (a) the employee must have been a regular employee with at least two years of service seniority at time of termination;
- (b) the resignation must indicate the reason for termination;
- (c) the break in service will be for no longer than six years;
- (d) the previous length of service will not be reinstated until successful completion of the probationary period on re-employment.

Former employees who meet the conditions outlined above will have in-service status when applying for re-employment, and will, for the purpose of the selection process, be credited with points for the years of continuous service accumulated to the effective date of termination.

ARTICLE 12 - SERVICE CAREER POLICY AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

12.1 Postings

- (a) Vacancies of a regular nature that are to be filled, for positions in the bargaining unit, will be posted within 30 days.
- (b) Eligibility lists may be established through the posting process and used to fill vacancies. When eligibility lists are established it will be stated on the posting. Eligibility lists will be in effect for a maximum of one year from the establishment of the list.
- (c) Vacancies of a temporary nature that are known to exceed seven months will be posted within 30 days.
- (d) Notices will be posted at least 14 days prior to the closing date of the competition, except as provided for in Clauses 12.7, 12.8, 12.9 and Article 13 - Layoff and Recall.
- (e) The notice of postings will contain the following information: nature of position, qualifications, skills, whether shift work is involved, wage or salary rate or range, and where applicable, specific location. Such qualifications may not be established in an arbitrary or discriminatory manner.
- (f) Where the Employer determines that it is prepared to have a particular position filled by persons possessing either specified educational requirements or equivalencies, the posting will specify that equivalent experience is acceptable.
- (g) Temporary vacancies of not more than seven months in duration will be filled in accordance with the provisions in the collective agreement.

12.2 Union Observer

The President of the Union or their designate may sit as an observer on a selection panel, including panel deliberations following selection tests. The observer will be a disinterested party. This clause will not apply to excluded positions.

12.3 Selection Procedures

- (a) Appointments will be based on applying the principle of merit. The matters to be considered in determining merit will, having regard to the nature of the duties to be performed, include the applicant's education, skills, knowledge, experience, past work performance and years of continuous service.

- (b) The initial assessment of applicants will be a process that appraises the knowledge, skills and abilities of eligible applicants. The weighting of these factors will be consistently applied within job types within a classification, which have been evaluated under the selection standards project. If the highest rated qualified applicant has the most years of continuous service, this applicant will be appointed.
- (c) If the highest rated qualified applicant is not the applicant with the most years of continuous service the selection panel will determine which qualified applicants, if any, are relatively equal to this applicant. The qualified applicant who is relatively equal with the most years of continuous service will be appointed.
- (d) For the purpose of this clause "*relatively equal*" means candidates with:
- 10 years or more of continuous service have a point score difference of 10% or less of the points available for education, skills, knowledge, experience and past work performance;
 - less than 10 years of continuous service have a point score difference of 5% or less of the points available for education, skills, knowledge, experience and past work performance.
- (e) Where an eligibility list has been established pursuant to Clause 12.1(b), qualified candidates who are relatively equal to the highest ranked successful candidate will be placed on the eligibility list in order of their years of continuous service. Other qualified candidates will be placed on the list in order of their respective point scores.

12.4 Notification

- (a) Unsuccessful employee applicants to posted positions will be notified of the name and classification of the successful employee applicant.
- (b) If the successful applicant is not an employee, upon request, an unsuccessful employee applicant will receive either the name of the successful applicant or a summary of the successful applicant's qualifications, skills and experience.

12.5 Appeal Procedure

- (a) An unsuccessful candidate may request an explanation from the panel Chairperson by telephone of the reasons why they were unsuccessful, and receive an oral explanation. If a candidate wishes the reasons in writing, they must request them in writing by electronic mail, telegram, letter or facsimile. Where no written requests have been received by the panel Chairperson within 14 days of the date of mailing notification pursuant to Clause 12.4, the appointment of the successful applicant may be confirmed.
- (b) The panel Chairperson will reply to the employee, within five days from receipt of the request.
- (c) An appeal must be processed through the Union and filed at Step 2 of the grievance procedure, within 14 days after the date of mailing of the panel Chairperson's reply.
- (d) Where an appeal has been filed, no permanent transfers or placements will take place until the appeal has been adjudicated. Where one or more appeals have been filed arising from competitions with multiple vacancies, with the mutual agreement of the Union, permanent transfers or placements may be made provided that vacancies are retained to accommodate successful appeals. Such agreement will be in writing and will not be unreasonably withheld.
- (e) Time limits set out in (a), (b) and (c) above will be calculated from the postmark or the indicator of transmission. In the event of a dispute, strike, lockout or other work stoppage in the Canada Post Office, within British Columbia, the parties will negotiate a mutually acceptable alternative.

12.6 Interview Expenses

An in-service applicant for a posted position who is not on leave of absence without pay and who has been called for a panel interview will be granted leave of absence with basic pay and will have their authorized expenses paid. An employee granted leave under this clause will notify their supervisor as soon as they are notified of their requirement to appear for an interview.

12.7 Transfers Without Posting

- (a) Lateral transfers or voluntary demotions may be granted, without posting for:
 - (1) compassionate or medical grounds to regular employees who have completed their probationary period;
 - (2) all employees who have become incapacitated by industrial injury or industrial illness.
- (b) Each request for special consideration will be judged solely on its merit and mutually agreed by the parties to this collective agreement.

12.8 Training and Development

- (a) It is recognized that it is in the mutual interest of the employees of the Society that:
 - (1) a skilled workforce is maintained through timely and adequate training that is necessary to perform current responsibilities;
 - (2) developmental opportunities are made available in requisite skills, knowledge and experience areas which are not needed in an employee's present position but needed in potential future responsibilities or when replacing absent staff;
 - (3) developmental training is available to satisfy personal long-term educational goals utilizing after-hours time.
- (b) It is recognized that training and development activity is a joint responsibility shared between the Employer and the recipient employee.
- (c) Training and development opportunities will be considered on a fair and equitable basis and will not be unreasonably withheld.
- (d) The Employer will respond in writing to applications within 14 days.
- (e) Employees are entitled to education funding each year as outlined in the Employee Handbook.

12.9 Training

- (a) The Employer will determine the training necessary for employees to perform the duties of their position.
- (b) Such training may be in the form of in-service training, courses, seminars, demonstrations, conferences, refresher courses or on-the-job instruction as appropriate. Leave required for such training will be in accordance with Clause 20.7 of the agreement.

12.10 Training Assistance

- (a) Employees will be reimbursed for 100% of the tuition for job-related courses approved by the Society the guidelines for which are outlined in Clause 12.11 below.

- (b) Tuition fees for approved courses which lead to a diploma or a degree will be reimbursed in the amount of 75%.
- (c) Termination of employment will nullify any obligation of assistance by the Employer.

12.11 Educational Assistance

To qualify for reimbursement, an employee must be a regular employee upon enrolment.

To be approved, the courses described below must be related to the employee's present position or career development:

- (a) on-campus or extension courses taken for credit and given by accredited higher educational institutions;
- (b) correspondence courses taken from recognized schools;
- (c) vocational or business courses taken from recognized schools;
- (d) technical courses taken from recognized engineering/technical institutions;
- (e) seminars.

All applications for training assistance must be submitted prior to registration in the course.

The employee will initially pay the tuition fees, with reimbursement provided on proof of successful completion of the program.

12.12 Conferences and Seminars

- (a) Where practical, employees may be permitted to attend conferences and seminars in their respective fields at Society expense. Upon return from such conferences or seminars, the employee may be required to submit a report to the President and CEO.
- (b) Where an employee is, or will be, required to operate technical equipment or use new methods during the course of their duties and where seminars, demonstrations, or conferences are held pertaining to such technical equipment or new methods, the employee may attend such demonstrations, conferences or seminars upon approval, by the Employer, of their application. Employees will suffer no loss of basic pay as a result of such attendance.
- (c) An employee who attends a conference, convention, seminar or staff meeting at the request of the Employer, will be deemed to be on duty and, as required, on travel status.

12.13 In-Service Examination

- (a) Employees will be permitted to write any in-service examination required by the Employer, upon satisfactory completion of the necessary term of service and training programs. Employees who fail an in-service examination will, upon request and where available, receive a copy of their examination paper and will be eligible to be re-examined. This provision will not apply to examinations set as a condition of initial employment.
- (b) Eligible candidates participating in a posted competition for a regular position, and who are required to take an examination as a part of the competitive process, including the testing of keyboarding skills, will be administered at no cost to the employee.

12.14 On the Job Training

The local supervisor will be responsible for providing job training to employees filling vacant or new positions.

ARTICLE 13 - LAYOFF AND RECALL

13.1 Notice to Union

The Employer agrees to supply the Union with as much advance notice as possible of expected position redundancies.

The Employer will consult with the Union through the Labour Management Committee established pursuant to Article 29 respecting workforce adjustment which results in redundancy.

Workforce adjustment activities will be guided by the following principles and procedures:

- (a) Both parties recognize the need for the cooperation of all participants to facilitate the placement of regular employees.
- (b) The Employer must exhaust all placement options prior to layoff by the appropriate transfer of regular employees subject to layoff to other areas within the bargaining unit from the list below subject to available work and the regular employee being qualified and able to perform the work that is available after a period of familiarization.
- (c) It is agreed however, that should the impacted employee or another employee elect voluntary severance under Clause 13.2 - Pre-Layoff Canvas, then the following steps will not be required. Should the impacted employee not elect severance or there are no employees electing voluntary severance; then the Employer must exhaust the following placement options:
 - (1) cancellation of contracts for employment agency personnel;
 - (2) cancellation of personal service contracts where a surplus regular employee qualified to do the work can be placed;
 - (3) casual employees will be laid off, providing the remaining employees have the necessary skills, abilities and qualifications to fill the remaining positions;
 - (4) lateral transfers.

13.2 Pre-Layoff Canvass

- (a) If a workforce reduction is necessary, representatives of the Employer and the Union will canvass employees in the area identified for reduction over a five workday period, or a longer period agreed to by the parties, in order to invite on a voluntary basis:
- (b) *Menu of Labour Adjustment Strategies*

To minimize layoffs, the following menu of labour force adjustment strategies will be considered, and, whenever possible, offered to employees:

- (1) job sharing;
 - (2) reduced hours of work through partial leaves;
 - (3) transfers to other areas within the bargaining unit subject to the employee being qualified and able to perform the work that is available after a period of familiarization;
 - (4) unpaid leaves of absence;
 - (5) voluntary severance.
- (c) While various options may be considered and offered, there will be no stacking of benefits.

- (d) Responses from employees to the Pre-Layoff Canvass will only be received by the Employer for consideration if submitted in writing within five workdays, or a longer period agreed to between the parties, of issuance of a written notice to the employee or group of employees within the area identified for reduction and to the Union of the Pre-Layoff Canvass.
- (e) Where an employee(s) selects an option or accepts an offer of placement, which will be confirmed in writing by the Employer, such acceptance is final and binding on the employee.
- (f) Where the number of employees choosing to exercise their options under this provision exceeds the number of positions to be reduced, the determination will be on the basis of seniority.

13.3 Layoff-Less Than Three Years' Service Seniority

In the event of a layoff, the following will apply to regular employees with less than three years' service:

- (a) *Layoff*
 - (1) Layoff of regular employees with less than three years' service seniority will be in reverse order of seniority within a classification.
 - (2) (i) A regular employee designated for layoff may opt to use Clause 13.4(c)(1)(i) and (ii) providing the employee exercising such an option has the qualifications to meet the requirements of the job.
 - (ii) If there are no vacancies available an employee promoted from another position within the same seniority block may opt to displace the employee currently filling the position originally held by the employee designated for layoff, providing the employee exercising such a displacement option has greater seniority and is qualified and able to perform the job after a period of familiarization.
 - (iii) If an employee is not placed through the option of (a)(1)(ii) above, then they may opt to displace the junior employee currently filling a position within that classification originally held, providing the employee exercising this displacement option has greater seniority and is qualified and able to perform the job after a period of familiarization. The employee displaced pursuant to (ii) or (iii) will have the options contained in (i).
 - (3) Upon layoff, a regular employee will have the option of displacing the most senior casual employee at the Society at that location and going on the casual recall list.
 - (4) A regular employee who chooses to go onto the casual recall list pursuant to this section, will retain their regular status unless they fail to maintain 1200 hours worked at the straight-time rate within the previous 26 pay periods except as provided under Article 21 - Maternity, Parental and Pre-Adoption Leave; but a regular employee recalled to casual work will be considered to have casual status for purposes of Clauses 15.3 and 15.4 of the agreement, and notice of layoff as specified in (b) below.

Where an employee loses regular status by failing to maintain 1200 hours in 26 pay periods as referenced above, their previous regular service seniority will be credited as casual seniority for the purposes of layoff and recall only. Calculation will be based on 1827 hours of casual seniority per year of regular service seniority (prorated for partial years).

- (5) Notwithstanding (1), (2) and (3) above, regular employees to be retained will be qualified and able to perform the work that is available after a period of familiarization.

- (b) The Employer will notify regular employees, in writing, who are to be laid off, 20 workdays prior to the effective date of layoff. Copies of such notifications will be forwarded to the Union. If the employee has not had the opportunity to work 20 full days after notice of layoff, they will be paid in lieu of work for that part of the 20 days during which work was not made available.
- (c) An employee will not accumulate seniority while on layoff.
- (d) Notwithstanding (a)(4) above, a regular employee with service seniority of less than three years and who is laid off, will be placed on a recall list for a period of one year, for the purposes of recall to a regular position.
- (e) Recall of regular employees will be in order of service seniority providing the employee is qualified and able to perform the work that is available after a period of familiarization. Recall to available work of four months or longer duration will be considered to be "*regular*" recall under this section rather than "*casual*" recall under Clause 31.5 or (3) above. An employee who declines an offer pursuant to this paragraph will be deemed to have resigned but may, if eligible, claim early retirement.
- (f) *Severance Pay*
- (1) An employee may opt for severance pay on the date the layoff was scheduled to occur, in which case they will be deemed to have resigned.
- (2) A regular employee who has elected severance pay pursuant to this article will be entitled to severance pay in an amount equal to two weeks' pay for every year (1827 hours at straight-time rate) of regular service seniority or major part thereof.

13.4 Layoff-Three or More Years of Service Seniority

In the event of a layoff of employees with three or more years' seniority, the following will apply:

- (a) Where the employee's position is relocated, they will be offered the position in the new location. An employee may decline an offer pursuant to this section.
- (b) The Employer will notify employees affected by Clause 13.4, in writing, at least six weeks prior to the effective date. Copies of such notifications will be forwarded to the Union. If the employee has not had the opportunity to work their regularly scheduled shifts during the six-week period after notice of layoff, they will be paid in lieu of work for that part of the regularly scheduled shifts during which work was not made available.
- (c) An affected employee subject to layoff will have the right to fill vacancies and to displace employees in the following manner and sequence:
- (1) The employee to be laid off will be the employee with the least service seniority in the same classification. The employee will be placed on the basis of service seniority in accordance with (i) through (viii) below.

	Vacancy/ Displacement	Classification	Geographic Location
(i)	Vacancy	same	same
(ii)	Vacancy	comparable	same
(iii)	Displace	same	same
(iv)	Displace	comparable	same
(v)	Vacancy	same	other
(vi)	Vacancy	comparable	other
(vii)	Displace	same	other
(viii)	Displace	comparable	other

(2) In order to facilitate the administration of Clause 13.4(c)(1) above, an employee is required to indicate if it is their intention to utilize the displacement/bumping option within three working days of their notification. The displacement/bumping option will be voluntary and if the option is declined by the employee it will not count as a job offer pursuant to this section. Should an employee wish to displace/bump, the Employer will identify the least senior employee within the classification.

(3) For purposes of this clause, an employee may only displace a junior employee with less than three years' seniority.

(4) "*Comparable*" includes a job with a salary range not more than four grid levels below the employee's original classification.

(5) Notwithstanding above, an employee may choose to take the options available to employees with less than three years' seniority as outlined in Clause 13.3, rather than the options available to an employee with three or more years' service seniority.

(6) In the event that an employee is not placed pursuant to any of the above options they will claim Section 5 above or early retirement or severance pay.

(d) *Job offers pursuant to (c) above:*

(1) If an employee refuses one job offer in the same classification, they will be deemed to have resigned but may, if eligible, claim early retirement.

(2) If an employee refuses one job offer in a different classification and with a salary or maximum step pay range the same as their existing position, they will claim early retirement or severance pay as outlined in Clause 13.4(h).

(3) If an employee refuses a maximum of two job offers with a salary or maximum step pay range comparable to their existing position they will claim early retirement or severance pay as outlined in Clause 13.4(i).

(4) An employee who fails to elect between early retirement or severance pay in (2) and (3) above will be paid severance pay as outlined in Clause 13.4(h).

(e) In all cases, the regular employee must possess the qualifications to perform the work available.

(f) *Retraining and Adjustment Period:*

(1) Employees who assume a new position pursuant to this article will receive job orientation, including, where appropriate current in-service training, and will be allowed a reasonable time to familiarize themselves with their new duties.

(2) In those circumstances where an employee is being placed in a regular vacancy, the Employer will also consider other training where it is complementary to current in-service training.

(3) Employees involved in training under this section will receive their basic pay for the period of training, the cost of tuition and the cost of course-related materials.

(g) Employees who relocate pursuant to Clause 13.4 will be entitled to relocation expenses in accordance with Clause 27.14.

(h) *Severance Pay*

Prior to the expiry of the Notice of Layoff, or within 30 days of refusing job offers in accordance with Clause 13.4(d), a regular employee with greater seniority than three years will be entitled to resign with severance pay based upon three weeks current salary for each year (1827 hours at straight-time rate) of regular service seniority or major part thereof.

The employee will not receive an amount greater than 12 months current salary.

(i) Subject to Clause 13.4(d), employees will remain at work and on pay until the steps under Clause 13.4(c)(1) are completed provided the employee:

- (1) has co-operated in the placement process; and
- (2) has opted for displacement; and
- (3) has not opted to use Clause 13.4(c)(5).

The above provisions of paragraph (i) do not apply to employees who receive a layoff notice resulting from a seasonal reduction in the amount of work required to be done by the Employer.

ARTICLE 14 - HOURS OF WORK

14.1 Hours of Work

The annual hours of work exclusive of meal periods taken away from the workstation but including paid holidays will be 1827, which is equivalent to an average of 35 hours per week. The 1827 annual hours means that all work schedules will be based on that figure. Due to varying lengths of the calendar and work years and the varying times that employees may begin and end their work schedules, an employee will be required to work an average of 1827 hours.

14.2 Work Schedules

(a) This agreement will establish shift patterns, length of scheduled workdays and, where appropriate, averaging periods to meet the annual hours of work.

(b) The Employer will determine, pursuant to the appropriate statutory authority, when various services are provided (hours of operation), the classifications of positions and the numbers of employees required to provide the services.

- (c) Except as otherwise provided, the standard workweek will consist of five consecutive days from Monday to Friday, inclusive.
- (d) Except as otherwise provided, the workday will be seven hours duration exclusive of meal period, and these hours will be scheduled between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- (e) The Employer's designate and the union steward at the local level will establish work schedules based upon the shift patterns and hours of work clauses of this article including the following:
- (1) if either party wishes a change to existing work schedules it will provide the other party with the earliest possible advance notice in writing;
 - (2) the parties will have 14 days, from the date notice is given to reach agreement on work schedules;
 - (3) if the parties are unable to reach agreement within 14 days, either party may refer the matter to expedited arbitration, pursuant to Article 9.
- (f) The parties recognize that in reaching mutual agreement on work schedules, or where an arbitrator is determining a schedule in accordance with the provisions of this article the following will also apply:
- (1) work schedules will meet the hours of operation and will consider unusual or seasonal demands and functionally linked work groups within and without the bargaining unit;
 - (2) work schedule changes, within existing hours of operation, must not result in increased cost to the Employer and where possible will result in decreased cost to the Employer and/or improved efficiency and/or improved service to the public. The onus of proof will be on the Employer to prove decreased cost;
 - (3) consideration will also be given to employee preferences, fairness and equity.
- (g) In the event there is a dispute between the parties at the local level, the Employer may implement, on an interim basis, a new or changed work schedule by giving 14 days' notice, providing the length of workday is not increased beyond nine hours and providing the change is necessary because of an introduction of a new program or a change to the hours of operation. However, under extenuating circumstances the 14 days' notice may be concurrent with the period of notice in (e)(2) above.

Where the proposed change is within existing hours of operation, no change will be made without mutual agreement.

14.3 Rest Periods

All employees will have two, 15-minute rest periods in each work period in excess of six hours, one rest period to be granted before and one after the meal period. Employees working a shift of three and one-half hours, but not more than six hours, will receive one rest period during such a shift. Rest periods will not begin until one hour after the commencement of work or not later than one hour before either the meal period or the end of the shift. Rest periods will be taken without loss of pay to the employees.

14.4 Meal Periods

- (a) Meal periods will be scheduled as close as possible to the middle of the scheduled hours of work. The length of the meal period will be agreed to at the local level and will be not less than 30 minutes nor more than 60 minutes.

- (b) An employee will be entitled to take their meal period away from the workstation. Where this cannot be done, the meal period will be considered as time worked.

14.5 Split Shifts

No shift will be split for a period longer than the regularly scheduled meal period. The application of this clause to field employees will be at their discretion.

14.6 Scheduling Lieu Days

- (a) Pursuant to Clauses 17.3 and 17.4 of the agreement, days off in lieu of paid holidays will be scheduled by mutual agreement and taken within 60 days following the paid holiday.
- (b) If the lieu day is not taken within the 60 days, it will be immediately scheduled on the vacation roster.
- (c) This clause does not apply where the days in lieu of paid holidays are built into the shift pattern.

14.7 Modified Workweek

- (a) Where there is mutual agreement between the union designate and the Employer's designate at the local level for a modified workweek, work schedules may be arranged on one of the following bases:
- (1) 4/3 - the workday will be eight hours and 45 minutes;
 - (2) 5/4 - the workday will be seven hours and 47 minutes;
 - (3) 5/5/4 - the workday will be seven hours and 30 minutes;
 - (4) 5/5/5/4 - the workday will be seven hours and 22 minutes.
- (b) The foregoing work schedules will be subject to the following provisions:
- (1) It is understood that the implementation of modified workweek work schedules is dependent on receiving confirmation from the Employer prior to implementation.
 - (2) There will be equitable rotation of the extra days off as mutually agreed at the local level.
 - (3) Pursuant to Clause 14.8(b) of the agreement, for vacation purposes employees will remain on the agreed work schedules and vacation entitlement will be converted to hours. The scheduled daily hours will be deducted from the vacation entitlement for each day of vacation taken.
 - (4) Pursuant to Clause 14.8(c) of the agreement, any shortfall arising from designated paid holidays falling within the schedule will be scheduled by mutual agreement within the two-week period following the designated holiday.
- (c) (1) The extra day off is scheduled by mutual agreement at the local level on Monday or Friday; or
- (2) is scheduled by mutual agreement within the applicable cycle in (a) above.

14.8 Conversion of Hours

- (a) *Lieu days* - where an employee is granted a lieu day pursuant to Clauses 17.3 or 17.4, the time off granted will be seven hours per lieu day for a full-time employee and prorated for a part-time employee.
- (b) *Vacation* - where an employee is granted vacation pursuant to Clause 18.1, the annual vacation entitlement will be converted to hours on the basis of a seven hour day and vacation taken will be

deducted in accordance with the actual hours of the employee's daily shift in effect at the time the vacation is taken.

(c) *Designated paid holidays* - where an employee is granted a designated paid holiday pursuant to Article 17 - Paid Holidays, the time off granted will be seven hours per designated paid holiday for a full-time employee and prorated for a part-time employee. Where the scheduled workday exceeds seven hours, the resulting difference will be included in the work schedules established pursuant to Clause 14.2.

14.9 Standby Provisions

(a) Where regular employees are required to stand by to be called for duty under conditions which restrict their normal off-duty activities, they will be compensated at straight-time in the proportion of one hour's pay for each three hours standing by. An employee designated for standby will be immediately available for duty during the period of standby at a known telephone number. No standby payment will be made if an employee is unable to be contacted or to report for duty when required. The provisions of this clause do not apply to part-time employees who are not assigned a regular work schedule and who are normally required to work whenever called.

(b) Regular employees on standby in a relief operation, such as a staffing pool, will be compensated one day's basic pay for 12 hours of standing by. Where the time spent on standby is followed by a full shift being worked, employees will be compensated at the straight-time rate in the proportion of one hour's pay for each four hours of standing by in addition to their normal day's pay with a minimum of one hour standby.

(c) Employees required to stand by under (a) above will not be required to stand by on two consecutive weekends or two consecutive designated paid holidays, except by mutual agreement. This provision will not apply in emergency situations.

14.10 Flextime

(a) Employees may be given the authority to work flextime by mutual agreement between the parties at the local level. For the purpose of this agreement, flextime means the hours worked by an employee, or a group of employees, who are given authority to:

- (1) choose their starting and finishing times; and
- (2) choose their length of workday within a stated maximum number of hours, subject to meeting the required annual hours of work in accordance with this agreement.

(b) The averaging period for those employees on flextime will be 70 hours per two-week period.

(c) The workday for those employees on flextime will not exceed 10 hours.

(d) The full-time employee on flextime who has a day of absence, whether with or without pay, will be deemed to be absent for seven hours, providing at least seven hours are required to complete the averaging period. If less than seven hours are required to complete the averaging period, such number of hours will be deemed to be hours of absence.

ARTICLE 15 - SHIFT WORK**15.1 Definition of Shifts and Shift Premiums**(a) *Identification of Shifts*

(1) *day shift* - all hours worked on any shift which starts between 4:30 a.m. and 1:59 p.m. inclusive;

(2) *afternoon shift* - all hours worked on any shift which starts between 2:00 p.m. and 8:59 p.m. inclusive;

(3) *night shift* - all hours worked on any shift which starts between 9:00 p.m. and 4:29 a.m. inclusive.

(b) *Shift Premium (full-time employees)*

\$1.15 per hour for afternoon shift;

\$1.25 per hour for night shift.

Effective April 1, 2015

\$1.40 per hour for afternoon shift;

\$1.50 per hour for night shift.

15.2 Shift Premium Entitlement

(a) Employees working an afternoon or night shift as identified in Clauses 15.1(a)(2) and 15.1(a)(3) will receive a shift premium for all hours worked on the shift.

(b) An employee working a full shift that begins between 11:00 a.m. and 1:59 p.m. inclusive will receive the afternoon shift premium for all hours worked after 2:00 p.m.

(c) A part-time employee working less than the normal hours per day of a full-time employee will receive the afternoon shift premium for all hours worked on a shift more than half of which is regularly scheduled between 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., except that an employee regularly scheduled to start between 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. will receive instead the night shift premium.

(d) Employees covered by flextime and/or modified workweek agreements who, by their own volition, choose to begin their shift at a time which would qualify them for a shift premium will not be entitled to the premium. Employees who are required to begin their shift at a time that would qualify them for a shift premium in accordance with the above provisions will receive the appropriate premium.

(e) Shift premiums will apply to overtime hours worked in conjunction with a shift. An employee who is called out between 9:00 p.m. and 4:29 a.m. will receive the night shift premium for each hour worked during the callout period up to the commencement of their regularly scheduled shift.

15.3 Notice of Work Schedules

(a) Work schedules for regular employees will be posted at least 14 days in advance of the starting day of a new schedule.

(b) In the event that the work schedule or shift for a regular employee or a casual employee working a scheduled shift roster is changed without 48 hours advance notice and such change is the result of the actions of another employee covered by this agreement utilizing the benefits provided for by the provisions of this agreement, the employee will receive a premium of 85¢ per hour in addition to their regular pay, for work performed on the first shift to which they changed.

(c) In the event that an employee's work schedule or shift is changed without five days advance notice and the change results from causes other than defined in (b) above, the employee will receive a premium at the applicable overtime rate for work performed on the first shift to which they changed, except that if the change results from no fault of the Employer they will not receive a premium at overtime rates but will receive the premium defined under (b) above.

15.4 Short Changeover Premium

(a) If shifts are scheduled so that there are not 24 hours between the start of an employee's shift and the start of their next shift, a premium calculated at the overtime rates will be paid for hours worked on the succeeding shift within the 24-hour period.

(b) Where an employee exercises seniority rights to work shifts, one of which falls within the 24-hour period from the start of the previous shift, the employee will not be entitled to claim the premium rate referred to in (a) above.

15.5 Exchange of Shifts

Employees may exchange shifts with the approval of the Employer, provided that, whenever possible, sufficient advance notice in writing is given and provided that there is no increase in cost to the Employer.

15.6 Shortfall of Annual Working Hours

There will be no payback for shortfall of annual working hours in the shift systems determined in the collective agreement.

ARTICLE 16 - OVERTIME

16.1 Definitions

- (a) "*Overtime*" - means work performed by a full-time employee in excess or outside of their regularly scheduled hours of work.
- (b) "*Straight-time rate*" - means the hourly rate of remuneration.
- (c) "*Time and one-half*" - means one and one-half times the straight-time rate.
- (d) "*Double-time*" - means twice the straight-time rate.
- (e) "*Double-time and one-half*" - means two and one-half times the straight-time rate.

16.2 Authorization and Application of Overtime

- (a) An employee who is required to work overtime will be entitled to overtime compensation when:
 - (1) the overtime worked is authorized in advance by the Employer; and
 - (2) the employee does not control the duration of the overtime worked.
- (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Employer and the Union recognize that the nature of the work carried out by persons in some classifications is such that it may not be possible for the employee to obtain prior authorization for the necessary overtime work. In such cases, the employee will use their discretion in working the overtime and the Employer will be considered to have authorized the overtime in advance. However, the Employer reserves the right, subject to the grievance procedure, to determine the legitimacy of the overtime claimed. In order to facilitate a fair and reasonable administration of the clause, the Society will draw up policies defining the circumstances under which an employee may undertake overtime work without prior authorization.

16.3 Overtime Entitlement

- (a) An employee will be entitled to compensation for authorized overtime in excess of:
 - (1) the scheduled daily hours; or
 - (2) the maximum daily hours for those employees on flextime; or
 - (3) the agreed averaging period.
- (b) For the purposes of calculating the hourly rate for overtime, an employee's biweekly rate will be divided by 70.
- (c) Overtime will be compensated in 30-minute increments; however, employees will not be entitled to any compensation for periods of overtime of less than five minutes per day.

16.4 Recording of Overtime

Employees will record starting and finishing times for overtime worked in a form determined by the Employer.

16.5 Sharing of Overtime

Overtime work will be allocated equitably to qualified employees considering their availability and location.

16.6 Overtime Compensation

- (a) Overtime worked will be compensated at the following rates:
 - (1) time and one-half for the first two hours of overtime on a regularly scheduled workday; and
 - (2) double-time for hours worked in excess of the two hours referred to in (1) above;
 - (3) double-time for all hours worked on a day of rest.

The compensation of overtime in (1) and (2) is to be on a daily basis and not cumulative.

- (b) An employee who works on a designated holiday which is not a scheduled workday will be considered to have worked overtime and will receive their regular days' pay, and will receive additional compensation at the rate of double-time for all hours worked; except for Christmas and New Year's when the additional compensation will be at the rate of double-time and one-half for all hours worked.
- (c) An employee on travel status who is required to travel on Society business outside their regular working hours will be compensated at the applicable overtime rates for all hours travelled. The Employer may determine the means of such travel.
- (d)
 - (1) Overtime will be compensated either in cash or time off, or a combination of both. Compensation in cash will not be unreasonably denied upon employee request.
 - (2) Accumulated overtime will be paid in cash at the fiscal year-end or upon termination.

16.7 Overtime Meal Allowance

- (a) When an employee is required to work in excess of two and one-half hours overtime immediately before or after completion of their scheduled daily hours, they will be provided with a meal or will be reimbursed with an overtime meal allowance in the amount of \$25, and a meal break of one-half hour with pay will be given.

- (b) If the employee continues to work overtime beyond three hours, a further meal or allowance and meal break as above will be provided upon completion of an additional four hours worked, and upon the completion of every three hours worked thereafter.
- (c) When an employee is not on standby and is called out for overtime prior to their scheduled shift and it was not possible to give one-half hour notice to permit preparation of the meal normally taken to work, the Employer will provide the meal or pay the overtime meal allowance.
- (d) In the case of an employee called out on overtime to work on a rest day, this clause will apply only to hours worked outside their regular shift times for a normal workday.
- (e) Where any of the meals provided under (a), (b), (c) or (d) above duplicates a meal to which an employee is entitled because of travel status, then the employee will receive only one benefit for each meal.

16.8 No Layoff to Compensate for Overtime

Employees will not be required to lay off during regular hours to equalize any overtime worked.

16.9 Right to Refuse Overtime

- (a) All employees will have the right to refuse to work overtime, except when required to do so in emergency situations, without being subject to disciplinary action for so refusing.
- (b) An employee on standby will not have the right to refuse callout for overtime work.

16.10 Overtime for Part-Time Employees

- (a) A part-time employee working less than the normal hours per day of a full-time employee, and who is required to work longer than their regular workday, will be paid at the rate of straight-time for the hours so worked, up to and including the normal hours in the workday of a full-time employee.
- (b) A part-time employee working less than the normal days per week of a full-time employee, and who is required to work other than their regularly scheduled workdays, will be paid at the rate of straight-time for the days so worked up to and including the normal workdays in the workweek of a full-time employee.
- (c) Overtime rates will apply to hours worked in excess of (a) and (b) above.

16.11 Callout Provisions

- (a) *Callout Compensation* - A regular employee who is called back to work outside their regular working hours will be compensated for a minimum of three hours at overtime rates. They will be compensated from the time they leave their home to report for duty until the time they arrive back upon proceeding directly to and from work.
- (b) *Callout Time Which Abuts the Succeeding Shift*
 - (1) If the callout is for three hours or less, the employee will be required to work the callout period and the whole of the abutting shift. In this case, compensation will be overtime rates for the callout period and straight-time rate for the regular shift.
 - (2) If the callout is for longer than three hours, the employee will be required to work the callout period and a portion of the abutting regular shift. The portion of the regular shift which must be worked will be regular shift less the amount that callout exceeds three hours.

Compensation will be at overtime rates for the callout period and straight-time for the regular shift without shortfall.

(3) For the purpose of (1) above it is agreed that "*callout*" means that an employee has been called out without prior notice.

(c) *Overtime or Callout Which Does not Abut the Succeeding Shift*

(1) When overtime is worked there will be an elapsed time of eight hours between the end of overtime and the time the employee reports for duty on the next regular shift, with no shortfall out of their regular shift.

(2) In a callout situation where at least three hours which do not abut the succeeding shift are worked in the 10 hours preceding the start of the regular shift, there will be an elapsed time of eight hours between the end of callout and the time the employee reports for duty on their next regular shift, with no shortfall out of the regular shift.

(3) If the elapsed eight-hour period following results in only two hours or less of their regular shift available for work, employees will not be required to report for work on that shift, with no shortfall.

(d) Time spent by an employee travelling to work or returning to their residence before and after callout will not constitute time worked but will be compensated at the overtime rate.

(e) Should the employee be required to work that period which is considered free from work in the regular shift, as provided for in (b)(2), (c)(1), and (c)(2) above, then that portion of the shift will be compensated at overtime rates.

(f) A casual employee who is called back to work in a circumstance such that they would be entitled to overtime compensation for the time worked, will also be entitled to the provision of (a) above.

16.12 Rest Interval After Overtime

An employee required to work overtime adjoining their regularly scheduled shift will be entitled to eight clear hours between the end of the overtime work and the start of their next regular shift. If eight clear hours are not provided, a premium calculated at overtime rates will apply to hours worked on the next regular shift.

16.13 General Provisions

(a) If overtime is required by the Employer, employees will have the option of being compensated for overtime in cash or compensatory time off. Where an employee chooses to volunteer for an event, the Employer may choose the form of compensation for the employee from cash or compensatory time off.

(b) If the employee elects to take compensatory time off, such time off will be scheduled by mutual agreement within 60 days from it being earned.

(c) If mutual agreement on the scheduling of compensatory time off cannot be reached, the employee may elect, at any time after the 60 days, to receive cash payment for such unscheduled compensatory time off.

(d) Where overtime is paid in cash, the Employer will make every reasonable effort to make payment by the next pay period immediately following the month in which the employee opts for cash payment pursuant to (a) or (c) above, as the case may be.

(e) Any overtime still owing at the end of the calendar year may be taken as compensatory time off at a mutually agreeable time prior to the end of the fiscal year. Should this become impossible, all outstanding overtime will be compensated by monetary payment at the end of the fiscal year or upon termination, whichever occurs earlier.

ARTICLE 17 - PAID HOLIDAYS

17.1 Paid Holidays

(a) The following have been recognized as paid holidays:

New Year's Day	British Columbia Day
Family Day	Labour Day
Easter Monday	Thanksgiving Day
Good Friday	Remembrance Day
Victoria Day	Christmas Day
Canada Day	Boxing Day

(b) Any other holiday proclaimed as a holiday by the federal, provincial, or municipal governments for the locality in which an employee is working will also be a paid holiday.

17.2 Holidays Falling on Saturday or Sunday

(a) For an employee whose workweek is from Monday to Friday and when any of the above-noted holidays fall on a Saturday and is not proclaimed as observed on some other day, the following Monday will be deemed to be the holiday for the purpose of this agreement; and when a holiday falls on a Sunday and it is not proclaimed as being observed on some other day, the following Monday (or Tuesday, where the preceding section already applies to the Monday), will be deemed to be the holiday for the purpose of this agreement.

(b) Where there is a work dependency between employees covered by this agreement and private sector employees, the parties may, by mutual agreement, amend (a) above.

17.3 Holiday Falling on a Day of Rest

(a) When a paid holiday falls on an employee's day of rest, the employee will be entitled to a day off with pay in lieu.

(b) If an employee is called in to work on the day designated as the lieu day pursuant to (a) above, they will be compensated at double-time rate.

17.4 Holiday Falling on a Scheduled Workday

An employee who works on a designated holiday which is a scheduled workday will be compensated at the rate of double-time for hours worked, plus a day off in lieu of the holiday; except for Christmas and New Year's when the compensation will be at the rate of double-time and one-half for hours worked, plus a day off in lieu of the holiday.

17.5 Holiday Coinciding With a Day of Vacation

Where an employee is on vacation leave and a paid holiday falls within that period, the paid holiday will not count as a day of vacation.

17.6 Christmas or New Year's Day Off

The Employer agrees to make every reasonable effort to ensure that employees required to work shift will have at least Christmas Day or the following New Year's Day off.

17.7 Paid Holiday Pay

Payment for paid holidays will be made at an employee's basic pay, except if an employee has been working in a higher paid position than their regular position for a majority of the 60 workdays preceding a paid holiday, in which case they will receive the higher rate. For employees who work in excess of seven hours per day, they will receive the higher rate if they have been working in a higher paid position for a majority of the 420 working hours preceding a paid holiday.

17.8 Administrative Services Recognition Day

Administrative Services Recognition Day is the Wednesday of the last full week of April of each year.

ARTICLE 18 - ANNUAL VACATIONS**18.1 Annual Vacation Entitlement****(a) Definitions:**

"*Vacation year*" - for the purposes of this article a vacation year will be the calendar year commencing January 1 and ending December 31.

"*First vacation year*" - the first vacation year is the calendar year in which the employee's first anniversary falls.

(b) A regular full-time employee who has received at least 10 days pay at straight-time rates for each calendar month will have an annual vacation entitlement as follows:

Vacation Years	Workdays
1 st to 2 nd	15
3 rd	16
4 th	17
5 th	19
6 th to 7 th	21
8 th	23
9 th	24
10 th	25
11 th	26
12 th	27
13 th to 15 th	28
16 th to 19 th	29
20 th	31
21 st	32
22 nd	33
23 rd and 24 th	34
25 th and thereafter	35

(c) *Conversion of Hours* - where an employee is granted vacation pursuant to this article, and where the regularly scheduled workday is greater than seven hours per day, the annual vacation entitlement will be converted to hours on the basis of a seven hour day and deducted accordingly.

(d) Employees engaged on a part-time basis will be entitled to annual vacation on a pro rata basis as above.

18.2 Vacation Earnings for Partial Years

- (a) (1) During the first partial year of service a new employee will earn vacation at the rate of one and one-quarter days for each month for which they earn 10 days' pay.
- (2) Subject to Clause 18.6, any unused vacation earned during the first partial year will be paid to the employee on the final payday of that year.
- (b) During the first and subsequent vacation years an employee will earn one-twelfth of the annual entitlement for each month in which the employee has received at least 10 days' pay at straight-time rates. Where an employee has taken more vacation than earned, the unearned portion taken will be charged against future earned credits or recovered upon termination whichever occurs first.

18.3 Vacation Scheduling

- (a) With the exception of authorized vacation carryover under Clause 18.6, the scheduling and completion of vacations will be on a calendar-year basis.
- (b) The calendar year in which an employee's first anniversary falls will be the first vacation year. For the purpose of additional leave entitlement, the calendar year in which the fifth anniversary falls will be the fifth vacation year; in which the sixth anniversary falls will be the sixth vacation year; etc.
- (c) During the first six months of continuous employment an employee may, subject to mutual agreement at the local level, take vacation leave that has been earned.
- (d) *Prime Time Vacation Period*
 - (1) Subject to the provisions of this article, it is the intent of the parties that no employee will be restricted in the time of year they choose to take their vacation entitlement. However, all employees will be allowed to take at least four weeks of their vacation entitlement during the period May 1 to September 30, inclusive, which will be defined as the prime time vacation period.
 - (2) For those employees who have more than four weeks' vacation entitlement, the Employer will make every reasonable effort to allow such employees to take their complete vacation entitlement during the prime time period if they so desire.
- (e) *Vacation Preference*
 - (1) Preference in the selection and allocation of vacation time will be determined within each work unit on the basis of service seniority. Where an employee chooses to split their vacation, their second choice of vacation time will be made only after all other employees concerned have made their initial selection.
 - (2) Regular vacations will have priority over carried over vacation time during the prime time vacation period.
- (f) *Vacation Schedules*
 - (1) Vacation schedules will be circulated and posted by January 31 of each year. This date may be altered at the local level by mutual agreement of the parties to the agreement, but not later than March 1 of each year.
 - (2) An employee who does not exercise their seniority rights within one week of receiving the vacation schedule will not be entitled to exercise those rights in respect to any vacation time previously selected by an employee with less seniority.

(3) An employee who voluntarily transfers to another work location where the vacation schedule has already been completed will not be entitled to exercise their seniority rights with respect to that vacation schedule. However, every effort will be made to grant vacation at the time of the transferred employee's choice.

(4) An employee transferred by the Employer will maintain their vacation period and no other employee's vacation time will be affected thereby.

(5) The Employer will make every reasonable effort to contact employees who are absent in order to establish such employees' preference for vacation.

(g) *Vacation Relief*

Where vacation relief is required, the Employer will give regular employees the opportunity to substitute in higher paying positions and arrange for staff replacement at the lowest paying category.

(h) Vacation schedules, once approved by the Employer, will not be changed, other than in cases of emergency, except by mutual agreement between the employee and the Employer.

18.4 Vacation Pay

(a) Payment for vacations will be made at an employee's basic pay, except if an employee has been working in a higher paid position than their regular position for a majority of their regularly scheduled hours in the 60 workdays preceding their vacation, in which case they will receive the higher rate.

(b) When a payday falls during a regular employee's vacation, the employee will be entitled to have the paycheque forwarded to a mailing address supplied by the employee in writing.

18.5 Approved Leave of Absence With Pay

When an employee is hospitalized or under a physician's care and in receipt of the Short-Term Illness and Injury Plan benefits or on leave with pay in accordance with Clauses 20.1, 20.5, 20.7 and 20.8 during their vacation period, there will be no deduction from the vacation credits for such leave. The period of vacation so displaced will be taken at a mutually agreed time. An employee intending to claim displaced vacation leave must advise the Employer and provide necessary documentation within seven days of returning to work.

18.6 Vacation Carryover

(a) An employee may carry over up to 10 days' vacation leave per vacation year except that such vacation carryover will not exceed 10 days at any time. Employees in their first partial year of service, who commenced prior to July 1 of that year, may carry over up to five days' vacation leave into their first vacation year. Except as provided in Clause 18.2(a)(2), an employee will not receive cash in lieu of vacation time except upon termination, resignation or retirement.

(b) A single vacation period which overlaps the end of a calendar year (December 31) will be considered as vacation for the vacation year in which the vacation commenced. The portion of vacation taken subsequent to but adjoining December 31 will not be considered as vacation carryover, nor as a seniority choice for the subsequent vacation year.

18.7 Callback From Vacation

(a) Employees who have commenced their annual vacation will not be called back to work, except in cases of extreme emergency.

(b) When, during any vacation period, an employee is recalled to duty, they will be reimbursed for all expenses incurred by themselves, in proceeding to their place of duty and in returning to the place from which they were recalled upon resumption of vacation, upon submission of receipts (except for meals) to the Employer. Where an employee's spouse and/or dependant children also return from vacation due to the recall of the employee, they will be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in returning home.

(c) Time necessary for travel in returning to their place of duty and returning again to the place from which they were recalled will not be counted against their remaining vacation entitlement.

18.8 Vacation Leave on Retirement

An employee scheduled to retire and to receive a pension allowance under the Union Pension Plan, or who has reached mandatory retiring age, will be granted full vacation entitlement for the final calendar year of service.

18.9 Vacation Credits Upon Death

Earned but unused vacation entitlement will be made payable, upon termination due to death, to the employee's dependant, or where there is no dependant, to the employee's estate.

ARTICLE 19 - SHORT-TERM DISABILITY AND LONG-TERM DISABILITY

19.1 Short-Term Disability

(a) Employees will be entitled to coverage for short-term disability in accordance with the plan that was mutually agreed between the parties.

(b) Employees will be entitled to a benefit of 100% of pay for the first 14 days of illness or injury and coverage under the Short-Term Disability Plan thereafter.

19.2 Long-Term Disability

Employees will be entitled to coverage for long-term disability in accordance with the plan that was mutually agreed between the parties.

ARTICLE 20 - SPECIAL AND OTHER LEAVE

20.1 Bereavement Leave

(a) In the case of death in the immediate family an employee not on leave of absence without pay will be entitled to special leave, at their regular rate of pay. The leave will include the date of the funeral or the date of death with, if necessary, an allowance for immediate return travelling time. Such leave will normally not exceed five workdays.

(b) Immediate family is defined as an employee's parent, spouse, child, grandchild, grandparent, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, and any other relative permanently residing in the employee's household or with whom the employee permanently resides.

(c) In the event of the death of the employee's son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, the employee will be entitled to special leave for one day for the purpose of attending the funeral.

(d) If an employee is on vacation leave at the time of bereavement, the employee will be granted bereavement leave and be credited the appropriate number of days to vacation leave credits.

(e) Where established ethno cultural or religious practices provide for ceremonial occasions other than the bereavement period in (a) above, the balance of the bereavement leave as provided in (a) above, if any, may be taken at the time of the ceremonial occasion.

20.2 Special Leave

(a) Where leave from work is required, an employee will be entitled to special leave at their regular rate of pay for the following:

- (1) wedding of the employee - three days;
- (2) attend wedding of the employee's child - one day;
- (3) birth of the employee's child - two days;
- (4) serious household or domestic emergency - one day;
- (5) moving household furniture and effects - one day;
- (6) attend their formal hearing to become a Canadian citizen - one day;
- (7) attend funeral as pallbearer or mourner - one-half day;
- (8) court appearance for hearing of employee's child - one day;
- (9) in the case of serious illness or hospitalization of a parent of the employee, when no one other than the employee can provide for the needs of the parent, and, after notifying their supervisor - three days per calendar year - this may be used in one-half shift increments.

(b) Two weeks' notice is required for leave under (a)(1), (2), (5) and (6).

(c) For the purpose of (a)(2), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9), leave with pay will be only for the workday on which the situation occurs.

(d) For the purpose of determining eligibility for special leave under (a)(5), an employee will qualify if they are maintaining a self-contained household and if they are changing their place of residence which necessitates the moving of household furniture and effects during their normal workday, and if they have not already qualified for special leave under (a)(5) on two occasions within the preceding 12 months.

20.3 Family Illness

(a) In the case of illness or hospitalization of a dependant child of an employee, and when no one at the employee's home other than the employee can provide for the needs of the ill child, the employee will be entitled, after notifying their supervisor, to use up to a maximum of two days paid leave at any one time for this purpose.

(b) In the case of a serious illness or hospitalization of a spouse of an employee, and when no one at the employee's home other than the employee can provide for the needs the ill spouse, the employee will be entitled, after notifying their supervisor, to use up to a maximum of two days paid leave at any one time for this purpose.

(c) The Employer may request a report from a qualified medical practitioner when it appears that a pattern of consistent absence is developing.

20.4 Full-Time Public Duties

The Employer will grant, on written request, leave of absence without pay:

- (a) for employees to seek election in a municipal, first nation, provincial, or federal election for a maximum period of 90 days;
- (b) for employees elected to a public office for a maximum period of five years.

20.5 Leave for Court Appearances

- (a) The Employer will grant paid leave to employees, other than employees on leave without pay, who serve as jurors or witnesses in a court action, provided such court action is not occasioned by the employee's private affairs.
- (b) In cases where an employee's private affairs have occasioned a court appearance, such leave to attend at court will be without pay.
- (c) An employee in receipt of their regular earnings while serving at court will remit to the Employer all monies paid to them by the court, except travelling and meal allowances not reimbursed by the Employer.
- (d) In the event an accused employee is jailed pending a court appearance, such leave of absence will be without pay.
- (e) For all the above leaves, the employee will advise their supervisor as soon as they are aware that such leave is required.

20.6 Leave for Writing Examinations

Leave of absence with pay will be granted to allow employees time to write examinations for courses approved by the Employer. Employees will advise the Employer of the time and place of the examination when they are made aware of the time and place.

20.7 Leave for Taking Courses

- (a) An employee will be granted leave with pay to take courses at the request of the Employer. The Employer will bear the full cost of the course, including tuition fees, entrance or registration fees, laboratory fees, and course-required books, necessary travelling and subsistence expenses, and other legitimate expenses where applicable. Fees are to be paid by the Employer when due.
- (b) A regular employee may be granted leave without pay, or leave with partial pay, to take courses in which the employee wishes to enrol.

20.8 Educational Leave

Educational leave granted by the Employer to regular employees requesting such leave will be in accordance with the following provisions:

- (a) The duration of educational leave granted to regular employees to take advanced or special training that will be of benefit to the employee or the Employer may be for varying periods up to one year, which may be renewed by mutual agreement.
- (b) In certain cases, educational leave may be approved for programs of independent study and/or research when the criteria for evaluating the employee's performance on such leave can be clearly established and can be shown to be of significant benefit to the employee and the Employer.
- (c) Applications for educational leave for periods of four months or longer must be submitted to the Society six months prior to the beginning of the requested leave period.

- (d) Applications for leave of periods of less than four months should be submitted to the Society with as much lead time as practical.
- (e) The employee will be informed of the decision no later than three months from the date of submission. If an application for leave is denied, the employee will be given the reasons in writing by the Employer. If an employee wishes to grieve the Society decision, the grievance will commence at Step 2 of the grievance procedure.
- (f) An employee granted educational leave under this clause will receive up to 100% of their basic pay.
- (g) An employee granted educational leave under this clause will be required to sign a statement with a copy to the employee to the effect that, on the completion of the training, they will remain in the service of the Society for a period equivalent to three times the length of their educational leave multiplied by the percentage of basic pay.
- (h) Should they leave the service of the Society before this period expires, they will refund to the Society the total cost of their training including allowances and expenses on a pro rata basis.
- (i) An employee granted educational leave without pay will be required to sign a statement to the effect that on completion of the training they will remain in the service for a period equivalent to the leave granted or refund any financial assistance granted under this clause on a pro rata basis.
- (j) Subject to operational requirements and budgetary considerations, educational leave will be granted to the maximum number of employees who make application.
- (k) Termination of employment by the employee or by the Employer for just cause will nullify any obligation of assistance by the Employer under this clause.
- (l) If an employee fails to return to work on the pre-arranged date without reasonable cause, the employee will be required to repay in full all monies paid under this clause.
- (m) In the event that an individual receives outside support, such as a scholarship, fellowship, or bursary, the total of outside support plus salary support will not exceed the individual's basic pay for the period of study leave. In the event of such combined support exceeding the basic pay, the excess amount will be deducted from the employee's salary. It is the responsibility of the employee to report all additional sources of support to the Employer.

20.9 Elections

Any employee eligible to vote in a federal, first nation, provincial, or municipal election or a referendum will have three or four consecutive clear hours, as prescribed by the applicable statute, during the hours in which the polls are open in which to cast their ballot.

20.10 General Leave

Notwithstanding any provision for leave in this agreement, the Employer may grant a leave of absence without pay to an employee requesting leave for an emergency or other unusual circumstances. A leave of absence may also be granted for any other reason in which case approval will not be unreasonably withheld. All requests and approvals for leave will be in writing. The Employer will give written reasons for withholding approval.

20.11 Leave for Medical and Dental Care

- (a) Where it is not possible to schedule medical and/or dental appointments or appointments with a registered midwife outside regularly scheduled working hours, reasonable time off for such

appointments for employees or for dependant children will be permitted, but where any such absence exceeds two hours, the full-time absence will be charged to the entitlement described in Clause 20.12. "*Medical, dental and/or registered midwife appointments*" include only those services covered by the BC Medical Services Plan, the Dental Plan, the Extended Health Benefit Plan and assessment appointments with the Employee Assistance Program.

(b) Employees in areas where adequate medical and dental facilities are not available will be allowed to deduct from their credit described in Clause 20.12 the necessary time including travel and treatment time up to a maximum of three days to receive medical and dental care at the nearest medical centre for the employee, their spouse, dependant child and a dependant parent permanently residing in the employee's household or with whom the employee permanently resides. The Employer may request a certificate of a qualified medical or dental practitioner, as the case may be, stating that treatment could not be provided by facilities or services available at the employee's place of residence. An employee on leave provided by this clause will be entitled to reimbursement of reasonable receipted expenses for accommodation and travel to a maximum of \$250 per calendar year.

20.12 Maximum Leave Entitlement

Leaves taken under Clauses 20.2, 20.3 and 20.11 will not exceed a total of 70 hours per calendar year, unless additional special leave is approved by the Employer.

20.13 Emergency Service Leave

Where employees' services are required for emergency operations by request from the Provincial Emergency Program or appropriate police authority, leave from work as required may be granted without loss of basic pay. If any remuneration, other than for expenses, is received, it will be remitted to the Employer.

20.14 Canadian Armed Forces

(a) Employees who participate in activities related to the Reserve Component of the Canadian Armed Forces may be granted leave of absence as follows:

- (1) *With Pay* - where an employee is required to take annual training with Her Majesty's reserve forces provided any remuneration from the Government of Canada is remitted to the Employer;
- (2) *Without Pay* - where an employee participates in a program of training for the purpose of qualifying for a higher rank; or
- (3) *Without Pay* - where an employee, as a delegate, attends meetings of service associations or conferences related to the Canadian Armed Forces.

(b) Any remuneration received from the Government of Canada for the purpose of activities related to the Canadian Armed Forces may be retained by the employee when on leave of absence without pay, or where they choose to use part or all of their annual vacation entitlement for these activities, or where they elect to take leave of absence without pay for annual training as stipulated in (a)(1) above.

20.15 Donor Leave

An employee will be granted the necessary leave of absence with pay for the purpose of donating bone marrow or an organ.

20.16 Other Religious Observances

- (a) Employees who are members of non-Christian religions are entitled to up to two days leave without pay per calendar year to observe spiritual or holy days. Such leave will not be unreasonably withheld.
- (b) A minimum of two weeks' notice is required for leave under this provision. Where two weeks' notice is not possible due to the unpredictable nature of the spiritual or holy days, then as much notice as possible will be provided.
- (c) Employees granted leave under this provision may utilize or reschedule CTO, ETO, unused vacation or lieu days.

20.17 Extended Child Care Leave

Upon completion of maternity, adoption and/or parental leave, including any extension to such leaves, a regular employee will be entitled, upon written application, to a leave of absence without pay to care for the child. Subject to Clause 11.3(a), the following conditions will apply:

- (a) The employee's application will be submitted to the Employer at least four weeks prior to the expiration of Article 21 - Maternity, Parental and Pre-Adoption Leave.
- (b) The combined length of leaves under this clause and under Article 21 will not exceed 18 months.
- (c) The employee's return to work requirements of Clauses 21.8(b) and 21.11 will be deferred until the expiration of this leave. Notification of return to work and return to work will be subject to Clause 21.9.
- (d) Upon return to work from this leave, the employee will be placed in their former position or in a position of equal rank and basic pay.

20.18 Compassionate Care Leave

Employees are permitted in accordance with the *Employment Standards Act* to take unpaid compassionate care leave of up to 27 weeks to provide care and support to a family member in situations where the family member is gravely ill with a significant risk of death within 26 weeks.

In order to qualify for the leave, an employee must provide the Employer with a certificate from a medical practitioner stating that the family member has a serious medical condition with a significant risk of death within 26 weeks.

An employee who is on compassionate care leave is considered to be continuously employed for the purposes of calculating annual vacation, seniority and termination entitlements, as well as for pension, medical or other plans of benefit to the employee.

The Employer will continue to make payments to any such plans, unless the employee chooses not to continue with their share of the cost of a plan. The employee is also entitled to all increases in wages and benefits that the employee would have received if the leave had not been taken.

ARTICLE 21 - MATERNITY, PARENTAL AND PRE-ADOPTION LEAVE**21.1 Maternity Leave**

- (a) An employee is entitled to maternity leave of up to 17 weeks without pay.

- (b) An employee will notify the Employer in writing of the expected birth date of their pregnancy. Such notice will be given at least 16 weeks prior to the expected date of the actual birth date.
- (c) The period of maternity leave alone or in combination with the leave period of Clause 21.3 will commence no earlier than 13 weeks prior to the expected date of the birth and end no later than 17 weeks after the leave begins. The commencement of leave may be deferred for any period approved in writing by a duly qualified medical practitioner or registered midwife.

21.2 Parental Leave

- (a) Upon written request an employee will be entitled to parental leave of up to 35 consecutive weeks ("*Standard Parental Leave*") without pay or leave of up to 61 weeks ("*Extended Parental Leave*") without pay. At time of written request the employee must choose Standard Parental Leave or Extended Parental Leave.
- (b) Where both parents are employees of the Employer, the employees will determine the apportionment of the 35 weeks ("*Standard Parental Leave*") or up to 61 weeks ("*Extended Parental Leave*") between them. Both parents are required to choose the same parental benefit option, either Standard Parental Leave or Extended Parental Leave.
- (c) Such written request pursuant to (a) above must be made at least 16 weeks prior to the proposed leave commencement date.
- (d) Leave taken under this clause will commence:
- (1) in the case of a mother, immediately following the conclusion of leave taken pursuant to Clause 21.1 or 21.3;
 - (2) in the case of the other parent, immediately following the birth or placement of the adoptive child.

Such leave request must be supported by appropriate documentation.

21.3 Benefit Waiting Period

Where an employee is entitled to and takes leave pursuant to Clause 21.1 and/or 21.2 and is required by employment insurance to serve a two-week waiting period for Employment Insurance Maternity/Parental benefits, the employee will be entitled to a leave of two weeks without pay immediately before leaves pursuant to Clause 21.1 and 21.2 as the case may be. This leave is for the express purpose of covering the employment insurance benefit waiting period.

21.4 Benefit Waiting Period Allowance

An employee who qualifies for and takes leave pursuant to Clause 21.3, will be paid a leave allowance equivalent to two weeks at 85% of the employee's basic pay.

21.5 Maternity Leave Allowance

- (a) An employee who qualifies for maternity leave pursuant to Clause 21.1, will be paid a maternity leave allowance in accordance with the Supplementary Employment Benefit (SEB) Plan. In order to receive this allowance, the employee must have completed six consecutive months of employment with the Employer and must provide to the Employer, proof that they have applied for and is eligible to receive employment insurance benefits pursuant to the *Employment Insurance Act*. An employee disentitled or disqualified from receiving employment insurance benefits is not eligible for maternity leave allowance.

(b) Pursuant to the Supplemental Employment Benefit (SEB) Plan, the maternity leave allowance will consist of 15 weekly payments equivalent to the difference between the employment insurance gross benefits and any other earnings received by the employee and 85% of the employee's basic pay.

21.6 Parental Leave Allowance

(a) An employee who qualifies for parental leave pursuant to Clause 21.2, will be paid a parental leave allowance in accordance with the Supplemental Employment Benefit (SEB) Plan. In order to receive this allowance, the employee must have completed six consecutive months of employment with the Employer and must provide to the Employer proof of application and eligibility to receive employment insurance benefits pursuant to the *Employment Insurance Act*. An employee disentitled or disqualified from receiving employment insurance benefits is not eligible for parental leave allowance.

(b) Pursuant to the Supplemental Employment Benefit (SEB) Plan and subject to leave apportionment pursuant to Clause 21.2(b), the parental leave allowance will consist of a maximum of 35 weekly payments, equivalent to the difference between the employment insurance gross benefits and any other earnings received by the employee and 75% of the employee's basic pay, which can be spread out over 61 weeks.

21.7 Pre-Placement Adoption Leave

Upon request and with appropriate documentation, an employee is entitled to pre-adoption leave without pay of up to seven weeks (245 work hours) per calendar year with an allowance of 85% of their basic pay during the leave period.

The leave may be taken intermittently and only for the purpose of:

- (a) attending mandatory pre-placement visits with the prospective adoptive child;
- (b) to complete the legal process required by the child's or children's country for an international adoption while the employee is in that country.

Leave under this provision will end with the placement of the adoptive child(ren) and may not be used for an employee to travel.

Pre-placement visits are not normally required where the adoption is a direct placement. Examples of direct placement adoptions are:

- (1) adoptions by a family member;
- (2) adoptions by the partner of a birth parent; and
- (3) adoptions by foster parents if the child or children were living with the foster parents immediately before the adoption process.

21.8 Benefits Continuation

(a) For leaves taken pursuant to Clauses 21.1, 21.2, 21.3, and 21.7 the Employer will maintain coverage for medical, extended health, dental, group life and long-term disability, and will pay the Employer's share of these premiums.

(b) Notwithstanding (a) above, should an employee be deemed to have resigned in accordance with Clause 21.9 or fail to remain in the employ of the Employer for at least six months or a period equivalent to the leave taken at (a) above, whichever is longer, after their return to work, the Employer will recover monies paid pursuant to this clause, on a pro rata basis.

21.9 Deemed Resignation

An employee will be deemed to have resigned on the date upon which leave pursuant to Clauses 21.1, 21.2, 21.3 or 21.7 commenced unless they advised the Employer of their intent to return to work one month prior to the expiration of the leave taken pursuant to Article 21 - Maternity, Parental and Pre-adoption Leave or Clause 20.17 or if they do not return to work after having given such advice.

21.10 Entitlements Upon Return to Work

- (a) An employee who returns to work after the expiration of maternity, parental, or pre-adoption leaves will retain the seniority the employee had accumulated prior to commencing the leave and will be credited with seniority for the period of time covered by the leave.
- (b) On return from maternity, parental, or pre-adoption leaves, an employee will be placed in the employee's former position or in a position of equal rank and basic pay.
- (c) Notwithstanding Clauses 18.1(b) and 18.6, vacation entitlements and vacation pay will continue to accrue while an employee is on leave pursuant to Clause 21.1 and its waiting period providing:
 - (1) the employee returns to work for a period of not less than six months; and
 - (2) the employee has not received parental allowance pursuant to Clause 21.6; and
 - (3) the employee was employed prior March 28, 2001.

Vacation earned pursuant to this clause may be carried over to the following year, notwithstanding Clause 18.6.

- (d) Employees who are unable to complete the return to work period in (c) as a result of proceeding on maternity, parental or pre-adoption leave will be credited with their earned vacation entitlements and vacation pay providing the employee returns to work for a period of not less than six months following the expiration of the subsequent maternity, parental or pre-adoption leave.

21.11 Maternity and/or Parental and/or Pre-Adoption Leave Allowance Repayment

- (a) To be entitled to the maternity, parental, benefit waiting period and/or pre-adoption leave allowances pursuant to 21.4, 21.5, 21.6 and/or 21.7, an employee must sign an agreement that they will return to work and remain in the Employer's employ for a period of at least six months or equivalent to the leaves taken, whichever is longer, after their return to work.
- (b) Should the employee fail to return to work and remain in the employ of the Employer for the return to work period in (a) above, the employee will reimburse the Employer for the maternity, parental, benefit waiting period and/or pre-adoption leave allowance received under Clauses 21.4, 21.5, 21.6 and/or 21.7 above on a pro rata basis.

21.12 Benefits Upon Layoff

Regular employees who have completed three months of service and are receiving an allowance pursuant to Clause 21.4, 21.5 and/or 21.6 will continue to receive that allowance upon layoff, until the allowance has been exhausted, provided the notice of layoff is given after the commencement of the leave.

ARTICLE 22 - OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**22.1 Statutory Compliance**

The Union and the Employer agree to cooperate fully in matters pertaining to the prevention of accidents and occupational disease and in the promotion of the health and safety of all employees.

There will be full compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations pertaining to the working environment.

22.2 Working Environment

A safe and clean working environment is essential in order to carry out work assignments. The Employer will provide health and safety orientation before a new or young worker carries out their first shift.

The Employer will provide health and safety orientation or in-service which is necessary for safe techniques for lifting and supporting clients/residents, the safe performance of work, the safe use of equipment, and the safe handling of materials and products. The Employer will also make readily available information, manuals and procedures for these purposes.

In accordance with Section 5 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, the Employer agrees to establish a joint process for determining the content and provision of all training packages related to WHMIS 2015 with the full implementation of this system by December 31, 2018. The Employer commits to the use of environmentally friendly products.

22.3 Mental Health

The parties recognize the importance of supporting and promoting a psychologically healthy workplace and as such will adhere to all applicable statutes, policy, guidelines and regulations pertaining to the promotion of mental health. The Employer will support the provision of education and training in Mental Health First Aid for the health and safety representatives including stewards and members of the joint labour management committee. The course will be provided at the Employer's expense and participants will be given leave to attend with full pay, benefits and without loss of seniority.

In keeping with this objective, the Employer agrees to support a joint working committee to adopt and implement the Canadian Standard CAN/CSA-Z1003-13. The working committee will undertake required analysis and develop a plan for implementation of the standard, starting on December 31, 2018. It is the expectation that, when creating this plan, the Employer will consult extensively with the Union.

22.4 Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee

The parties agree that the intent of this agreement is to ensure that all employees will have the maximum possible access to the Occupational Health and Safety Committee structure. An Occupational Health and Safety Committee will be established and operated as outlined below:

- (a) Union representatives will be employees at the workplace appointed by the Union, and employer representatives will be appointed by the Employer.
- (b) The Committee will carry out all the functions and duties as per Part 3, Division 4, Section 130 of the *Workers Compensation Act*, and will participate in developing a program to reduce risk of occupational injury and illness. All minutes of the meetings of the Committee will be recorded on a mutually agreed to form and will be sent to the Union and the Employer.
- (c) (1) The Society will initiate and maintain, at the regular place of employment, an Occupational Health and Safety Committee where there is:
 - (i) a workforce of 10 or more workers in an operation or work area classified as "A" (high) or "B" (medium) hazard by WCB First Aid Regulations; or
 - (ii) a workforce of 25 or more workers in an operation or work area classified as "C" (low) hazard by WCB First Aid Regulations.

- (2) At any worksite where a committee has not been established pursuant to (1) above, a less formal program will be maintained in accordance with the Workers' Compensation Board Industrial Health and Safety Regulations, Section 4, Clause 4.02(3). For the purpose of assisting in the administration of this program, the Employer will recognize an employee at that worksite designated by the Union who will function as a safety representative of the employees. Records of the meetings and matters discussed will be forwarded to the Union.
- (d) The Committee will meet at least once per month or at the call of either party to make recommendations on hazardous, dangerous or unsafe conditions including workload.
- (e) Each worksite will have a Joint Health and Safety Committee and membership will be as follows:
- (1) The Committee will be comprised of a minimum of two worker representatives appointed by the Union and two employer representatives appointed by the Employer. In no case will the Employer's members outnumber those of the Union. Worker representative alternates will also be appointed to the Committee by the Union and will be afforded the same rights and responsibilities as a regular member of the Committee.
- (2) A worker co-chair will be elected from the worker representatives of the Committee and the employer co-chair will be appointed by the Employer.
- (f) Employees who are representatives of the Committee will not suffer any loss of basic pay for the time spent attending a committee meeting, job site inspection or accident investigation in accordance with WCB Regulations. This includes mileage and any other reasonable costs.
- (g) Committee meetings will be scheduled during normal working hours whenever practicable. Time spent by designated committee members attending meetings held on their days of rest or outside their regularly scheduled hours of work will not be considered time worked, but such committee members will receive equivalent time off at straight-time. Worker representatives will be granted up to one hour to meet together to prepare for each committee meeting.
- (h) Other committee business in accordance with (f) above will be scheduled during normal working hours whenever practicable. When no other union designated committee member or union designated employee is available, time spent by employees attending to this committee business on their days of rest or outside their regularly scheduled hours of work will not be considered time worked but such employees will receive equivalent time off at straight-time.

22.5 Unsafe Work Conditions

No employee will be disciplined for refusal to work on an assignment which, in the opinion of:

- (a) a member of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee; or
- (b) a person designated by a safety committee; or
- (c) a safety officer; or
- (d) a steward at a worksite where there is no safety committee;

after an on-site inspection and following discussion with a representative of the Employer, does not meet the standards established pursuant to the *Workers Compensation Act*.

Where an employee acts in compliance with Section 8.24 of the Workers' Compensation Board Industrial Health and Safety Regulations, they will not be subject to disciplinary action.

22.6 Investigation of Accidents

- (a) Pursuant to the Workers Compensation Act, Part 3, Division 10, governing Accident Reporting and Investigation, all accidents will be investigated jointly by at least one representative designated by the BCGEU and one management representative.
- (b) Reports will be submitted on a mutually agreed accident investigation form which may be amended by mutual agreement and copies sent to:
- (1) Workers' Compensation Board;
 - (2) Occupational Health and Safety Committee;
 - (3) Employer Designate(s);
 - (4) BCGEU Designate(s).

Nothing in this clause restricts the right of the Employer to require the management representative in (a) above, if a member of the bargaining unit, to complete other reports related to the accident under investigation.

- (c) In the event of a fatality, the Society will immediately notify the President, or designate, of the nature and circumstances of the accident and arrange as soon as possible for a joint investigation.

22.7 Occupational First Aid Requirements and Courses

- (a) The Union and the Employer agree that First Aid Regulations made pursuant to the *Workers Compensation Act* will be fully complied with.
- (b) Where the Employer requires an employee to perform first aid duties in addition to the normal requirements of the job, the cost of obtaining and renewing the Occupational First Aid Certificate will be borne by the Employer, and leave to take the necessary courses will be granted with pay.
- (c) Employees required to possess an Occupational First Aid Certificate and who are designated to act as the first aid attendant in addition to their normal job responsibilities will receive the following allowance on the basis of the level of certificate which they hold:
- Level 3 Occupational First Aid Certificate - \$51 per biweekly period or \$110.50 per month;
 - Level 2 Occupational First Aid Certificate - \$39 per biweekly period or \$84.50 per month.

Effective April 1, 2015:

- Level 3 Occupational First Aid Certificate - \$56 per biweekly period or \$121.33 per month;
- Level 2 Occupational First Aid Certificate - \$44 per biweekly period or \$95.33 per month.

Effective April 1, 2017:

- Level 3 Occupational First Aid Certificate - \$58 per biweekly period or \$125.67 per month;
- Level 2 Occupational First Aid Certificate - \$45 per biweekly period or \$97.50 per month.

The allowance will be prorated for partial months. For the purpose of calculating the hourly rate, the biweekly allowance will be divided by 70; however, no employee will receive more than the monthly allowance for the level of certificate which they hold.

Employees designated to act as the Occupational First Aid Attendant in addition to their normal job duties will receive their full monthly allowance while on approved leave with pay of up to 10 days or while on vacation leave with pay.

Where the Employer has an additional requirement for a First Aid Attendant on a temporary basis, then provided the employee acts as the First Aid Attendant for a minimum of 10 workdays in any month, they will receive the full monthly allowance.

- (d) (1) In order to meet the requirements of (a) above, the Employer will designate in order of seniority from among those regular employees holding an appropriate Occupational First Aid Certificate to act as the First Aid Attendant in addition to the normal requirements of the job.
- (2) Where no employee within the work unit possesses an Occupational First Aid Certificate, the opportunity to obtain a certificate will be offered to regular employees within the work unit in order of service seniority, provided the employee can meet the requirements of the WCB regulations to undertake the training in order to obtain an Occupational First Aid Certificate.
- (3) In the event that the procedures outlined above do not meet the requirements of (a), the Union will assist the Employer to meet their obligations by approaching regular employees in the work unit on behalf of the Employer.
- (4) Where (d)(1), (2) and (3) do not meet, within a reasonable period of time, the requirements of the Employer to achieve (a) above, the Employer may:
- (i) recall a qualified casual employee in order of seniority from those holding the appropriate Occupational First Aid Certificate; and/or
 - (ii) include an Occupational First Aid Certificate as a desirable qualification on a posting pursuant to Clause 12.1.
- (5) Failing (4) above, the Employer may require the most senior regular employee within the work unit who can meet the requirements of the WCB regulations to undertake Occupational First Aid training in order to obtain a certificate.
- (e) In facilities which require an Occupational First Aid Attendant and where employees are represented by more than one union and the percentage of BCGEU members is greater than 50% of the workforce, at least one Occupational First Aid Attendant will be a BCGEU member, provided the employee is qualified.

22.8 Injury Pay Provision

An employee who is injured on the job during working hours and is required to leave for treatment or is sent home for such injury will receive payment for the remainder of their shift without deduction from short-term disability leave.

22.9 Transportation of Accident Victims

Transportation to the nearest physician or hospital for employees requiring medical care as a result of an on-the-job accident will be at the expense of the Employer. The Employer will ensure that adequate arrangements are made for the employee to return to the job site, assembly point or current local accommodation whichever is most appropriate to the employee's condition. Transportation will be provided or paid by the Employer.

22.10 Video Display Terminals

- (a) When a majority of an employee's daily work time requires monitoring video display terminals, such employees will have their eyes examined by an ophthalmologist or optometrist of the employee's choice at the nearest community where medical facilities are available prior to initial assignment to VDT equipment and after six months, a further test and annually thereafter if requested. The

examination will be at the Employer's expense where costs are not covered by insurance. Where requested, the Employer will grant leave of absence with pay.

- (b) (1) Employees who are required to operate VDTs on a continuous basis will be entitled to two additional 10-minute rest breaks per workday to be scheduled by agreement at the local level.
- (2) Employees required to continuously operate VDTs for three and one-half consecutive hours or longer but less than their full shift will be reassigned to alternate work duties for one 10-minute period. Where alternate work duties are not available, employees will receive a 10-minute rest break.
- (c) When employees are required to monitor video display terminals which use cathode ray tubes, then:
- (1) Pregnant employees will have the following options:
- (i) not to continue monitoring video display terminals; or
- (ii) not working in the area of one meter of video display terminals which use cathode ray tubes; or
- (iii) to work at a shielded video display terminal should one be present in the worksite.
- (2) When a pregnant employee chooses not to monitor such video display terminals, or chooses not to work in such an area, if other work at the same or lower level is available within the Society, they will be reassigned to such work and paid at their regular rate of pay.
- (3) Where work reassignment in (2) above is not available, a regular employee will be considered to be on leave of absence without pay until they qualify for maternity leave.
- (d) Where employees are on leave of absence pursuant to (c) above, and opt to maintain coverage for medical, dental, extended health, group life, and long-term disability plans, the Employer will continue to pay the Employer's share of the required premiums.
- (e) The Employer will ensure that new equipment will:
- (1) have adjustable keyboards and screens;
- (2) meet the most stringent emission standards of the *Federal Radiation Emitting Devices Act* and other standards established by the federal Health and Welfare, the BC Workers' Compensation Board or the Provincial Ministry of Health.
- (f) The Employer will ensure that any new office equipment required for use in conjunction with VDTs will meet the standards recommended by the Workers' Compensation Board publication "*Working with Video Display Terminals*" or more stringent standards if adopted by the Workers' Compensation Board.
- The Employer will require that any new government owned facility, or newly leased facility undergoing renovation related to VDT use prior to occupancy, will be designed to meet the standards referenced in the above paragraph. Where the use of such a facility is altered so that the completed renovation is no longer consistent with these standards the provisions of (g) will apply.
- (g) The Employer will continue to upgrade all existing equipment and facilities to meet the standards referenced in (f) above.

22.11 Dangerous Goods, Special Wastes, Pesticides and Harmful Substances

Where employees are required to work with or are exposed to any dangerous good, special waste, pesticide or harmful substance, the Employer will ensure that the employees are adequately trained in the identification, safe handling, use, storage, and/or disposal of same.

22.12 Employee Check

Where employees are required to work alone or travel alone, they will have a pre-arranged "*employee check*" made at specified intervals and/or at specified locations.

22.13 Communicable Diseases

(a) The parties to this agreement share a desire to prevent acquisition and transmission of communicable disease where employees may come into contact with a person and/or possessions of a person with a communicable disease.

(b) In respect of communicable diseases, the Occupational Health and Safety Committee will consider, review and make recommendations to the Principals on issues including:

(1) preventative protocol measures, including education, hygiene, protective equipment/apparel and vaccinations;

(2) post-exposure protocols;

(3) measures necessary for the establishment of a work environment with minimal risk to exposure to or infection by communicable diseases.

(c) Officials of the BC Centre for Disease Control will be utilized for the purpose of accessing expertise in this area. Other consultants may be utilized, as deemed appropriate by the Committee.

(d) Where a communicable disease policy is established the Occupational Health and Safety Committee or union designated safety representative will be consulted regarding the worksite specific application of the policy.

(e) Where officials of the BC Centre for Disease Control recommend that a vaccination is required as a preventative measure, such vaccination will be made available to the employee at the Employer's expense.

22.14 Workplace Violence

(a) It is recognized that at certain worksites or in certain work situations employees may be at risk of physical violence or verbal abuse from clients, persons in care or custody, or the public.

(b) Where such potential exists:

(1) employees at those worksites or in those work situations will receive training in the recognition and management of such incidents;

(2) applicable physical and procedural measures to protect employees will be implemented.

(c) The Occupational Health and Safety Committee or union designated safety representative will be consulted regarding the curriculum of training and the applicable physical and procedural measures referred to in (b) above.

(d) Employees will be informed concerning the potential for physical violence or verbal abuse from a client, a person in care or custody, or another member of the public, subject to statutory limitation.

(e) Immediate critical incident stress debriefing and post traumatic counselling will be made available for employees who have suffered as a result of violence. Leave required to attend such debriefing or counselling sessions will be without loss of pay.

22.15 Pollution Control

The Employer and the Union agree to limit all forms of environmental pollution.

22.16 Training Program for Occupational Health and Safety Committee Members

In instances of joint training of Occupational Health and Safety Committee members, leave without loss of current pay and without loss of seniority will be granted to designated Occupational Health and Safety Committee members. The Employer agrees that two appointed employee representatives will be granted leave with pay for up to two days for the purpose of joint training.

22.17 Employee Safety Travelling To and From Work

In accordance with the regulations established by the Workers' Compensation Board, the parties will instruct their representatives on the Occupational Health and Safety Committee to review the matter of employee safety while travelling to or from their workplace. The Committees will make recommendations regarding the establishment of policies and/or procedures to eliminate or minimize such risk to employees. Where elimination of such risk is not reasonably possible, the Committees will make recommendations to either manage or avoid the risk.

22.18 Strain Injury Prevention

(a) The parties agree that there is a shared interest in minimizing and/or eliminating musculo-skeletal strain injuries or illnesses that are work related.

(b) The Occupational Health and Safety Committee (or union and employer designated safety representatives) will, in the performance of regular worksite inspections, identify the following risk factors which may contribute to risk:

- (1) the work methods and practices;
- (2) the layout and condition of the workplace and workstation;
- (3) the characteristics of objects or equipment handled;
- (4) the environmental conditions;
- (5) the physical demands of work.

(c) Where new equipment will be introduced to the workplace, or during the design and planning stages of new or renovated workplaces or workstations, the Employer will seek the appropriate advice with respect to the risk factors noted in (b). Such advice will be sought from resources that will, where appropriate, include an Occupational Health and Safety Committee member or designated safety representative.

ARTICLE 23 - TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

23.1

(a) Both parties acknowledge the overall advantages and necessity of technological change and the ongoing requirement to facilitate technological change in the Employer's operations.

(b) The parties recognize the need to develop orderly procedures to facilitate adjustments to and implementation of changes in technology.

- (c) In light of this mutual recognition the parties have agreed to the following:

23.2

- (a) For the purpose of technological change as defined in relevant legislation, the Employer agrees to provide the Union with as much notice as possible, but in any event not less than 60 days' notice of a technological change.
- (b) Upon receipt of a notice of technological change pursuant to Clause 23.2(a) the Joint Labour/Management Committee established under Article 29 will meet to consult on the impact of the proposed change.
- (c) The written notice identified in Clause 23.2(a) will provide the following information:
- (1) the nature of the change(s);
 - (2) the anticipated date(s) on which the Employer plans to effect change(s);
 - (3) the location(s) and number(s) of employees likely to be directly affected pursuant to (d) below.
- (d) Where notice of technological change has been given pursuant to Clause 23.2(a):
- (1) Regular employees who are assigned by the Employer to work with the new technology will receive a period of training and familiarization. Employees involved in training under this clause will receive their basic pay for the period of training. Where the employee cannot meet job requirements upon completion of the training and familiarization period, the employee will be offered either the vacancy options, early retirement or severance pay provisions of Article 13 - Layoff and Recall.
 - (2) To absorb those regular employees who are not assigned by the Employer to work with the new technology or who are displaced because of such technological change, the Society will endeavour to utilize normal turnover of employees within the Society to the extent that turnover occurs during the period in which a technological change is being implemented.
 - (3) When necessary to reduce staff due to technological change, it will be done as provided for in Article 13 - Layoff and Recall or Article 31 - Casual Employees, as appropriate.

23.3

For purposes of this article, "*Technological Change*" will not include normal layoffs resulting from a reduction of the amount of work required to be done.

23.4

The parties recognize the value of maintaining ongoing communication and consultation concerning changes to workplace technology, other than technological change as defined in relevant legislation and provided for in Clause 23.2(a). Accordingly, the parties agree, pursuant to Article 29, to meet to exchange information with respect to such changes at the request of either party.

ARTICLE 24 - CONTRACTING OUT

The Employer agrees not to contract out any work presently performed by employees covered by this agreement that would result in the laying off of such employees. If the Employer intends to contract out work, it will consult with the Union a minimum of 14 days prior and discuss whether the work could be performed by members of the bargaining unit.

ARTICLE 25 - HEALTH AND WELFARE

25.1 Basic Medical Insurance

All regular employees, whether full-time or part-time, may choose to be covered by the British Columbia Medical Plan. Benefits and premium rates will be in accordance with the existing policy of the Plan. The Employer will pay 100% of the regular premium.

25.2 Extended Benefits

- (a) The Society agrees to pay the monthly premium for employees entitled to coverage under a mutually acceptable extended health care plan.
- (b) The Society agrees to not change carriers without the consent of the Union.

Extended Health Information: Desjardins Booklet Supplement

See INFORMATION APPENDIX III Extended Health Benefits.

25.3 Benefits Description

- (a) The Society agrees to provide each employee with printed material comprehensively describing the benefits provided under the agreed upon Extended Benefits plan.
- (b) The Society agrees to provide the Union with a copy of the policy entered into between the Society and the carrier.

25.4 Pension

Pension benefits will be provided in accordance with Appendix 4 and Appendix 5.

25.5 Medical Examination

Where the Employer requires an employee to submit to a medical examination or medical interview, it will be at the Employer's expense and on the Employer's time.

25.6 Designation of Spouse

Where an employee has designated a common-law spouse for benefit coverage under this agreement and the employee wishes to designate another common-law spouse, a period of 12 months must elapse before the newly designated common-law spouse (and eligible dependant[s], if any) are entitled to benefit coverage.

25.7 Air Travel Insurance

- (a) In the event of death or disability incurred while travelling by aircraft on business of the Society, regular and casual employees will be covered by the terms and conditions of the Society's insurance policy. The existing benefits will not be decreased during the life of this agreement.
- (b) The amounts specified in the policy will be paid to employees in case of disability; and in the case of death, to the employee's beneficiary as designated under the Plan, if any, or in the absence of such beneficiary, to the employee's estate.
- (c) Coverage will commence from the place of employment or residence, whichever may last occur, and end upon returning to the regular place of employment or residence, whichever may occur first. Employees are not covered while piloting an aircraft in the course of their duties unless employed or paid as a pilot, or unless otherwise authorized.

ARTICLE 26 - WORK CLOTHING

Matters pertaining to the provision and maintenance of work clothing will be in accordance with the terms of the agreement, except those matters provided for in Article 26 herein.

26.1 Purchase of Work Clothing

(a) The Union and the Employer agree that preference will be given to BC suppliers when clothing or wearing apparel is purchased by the Employer. The aims of this policy are:

- (1) to encourage business operations within BC;
- (2) to foster new job-creating enterprises throughout the province; and
- (3) to promote growth and stability in BC.

(b) For the term of this agreement, where the Employer can demonstrate to the Union that where an article of clothing or wearing apparel:

- (1) is manufactured in BC; or
- (2) creates new jobs in BC at the provincial-industry standard rate of pay, the Union will consider the requirements of this clause have been met.

26.2 Replacement Provisions

(a) An employee who is in receipt of an issue of uniform/clothing will have replacement made when they surrender unserviceable items previously issued.

(b) Replacement will be made such that the number of said items in an employee's possession is equal to the number of said items provided for in the current component agreement.

ARTICLE 27 - PAYMENT OF WAGES AND ALLOWANCES**27.1 Equal Pay**

The Employer will not discriminate between male and female employees by employing a person of one sex for any work at a rate of pay that is less than the rate of pay at which a person of the other sex is employed for similar or substantially similar work.

27.2 Paydays

(a) Employees will be paid biweekly every second Friday. Casual employees will receive their pay no later than four weeks after they commence employment. Terminating employees will receive their final pay within eight days of the end of their final pay period.

(b) A comprehensive statement detailing all payments, allowances and deductions will be provided in each pay period. All premiums and allowances payable will be paid out no later than the payday at the end of the second biweekly pay period after the pay period in which the premium was earned.

(c) The Employer will provide for the direct deposit (electronic funds transfer) of the employee's pay in a participating chartered bank, trust company or credit union of the employee's choice on or before the appropriate payday. Employee participation will be compulsory except where access to a financial institution with capability of accepting direct deposit is not available.

(d) If the pay is not available on the payday, the Employer will arrange for the employee to be provided on the payday with an adequate advance on their salary.

27.3 Rates of Pay

- (a) Employees will be paid in accordance with the rates of pay negotiated by the parties to this agreement, in accordance with Appendix 7 and Letter of Understanding 2.
- (b) Employees will receive an increase of one step level after each 1827 hours of pay at straight-time rate until they have reached the maximum step within their classification. Such increase may be withheld only in the event of an adverse appraisal presented to the Employee within 30 days prior to the usual date of the increment. The withholding of such increment will be grievable discipline.

27.4 Substitution Pay

- (a) An employee will be granted substitution pay where the employee is:
 - (1) designated to perform the principal duties of or temporarily substitute in a higher paying position; or
 - (2) assigned to perform duties of a higher paying position which would warrant a higher classification.
- (b) The employee will receive the rate for the job, where a single rate is established. If a salary range is established, they will receive the minimum rate of the new salary range or the rate in the new salary range which is the closest step to 8% above their current rate, whichever is greater, but not more than the top of the new salary range. Employees on short-term disability leave, special leave, or any other paid leave of absence will be entitled to the basic rates of pay they received prior to substituting in a higher position.
- (c) Substitution pay is not payable when an employee has not been designated or assigned by the Employer to substitute, pursuant to (a)(1) or (2) above, or where an employee's current position normally requires periodic substitution in the higher position as defined in the functional job description.
- (d) Where this job description requires periodic substitution:
 - (1) substitution pay will not be payable for periods of substitution of 70 consecutive work hours or less in the higher position;
 - (2) substitution in excess of the 70 consecutive work hours will be payable from the commencement of the first shift of substitution;
 - (3) substitution is not payable for any period of substitution during vacation relief in the higher position.
- (e) Payment for leave under Clauses 20.1 and 20.2 will be made at an employee's basic pay, except if an employee has been working in a higher paid position than their regular position for a majority of their regularly scheduled hours in the four pay periods preceding their leave, in which case they will receive the higher rate.
- (f) If an employee substitutes in a higher paying classification where the salary placement in the salary range is less than the salary they would have received if substituting in a classification between their current classification and the substituting classification, then the salary placement will be equivalent to the higher rate. This will only apply to classifications in the same classification series or the classification series in which the employee is substituting. An employee will not receive a salary greater than the maximum of the range of the classification in which the employee is substituting.

27.5 Rate of Pay on Reclassification or Promotion

- (a) When an employee is promoted or reclassified to a higher-paying position in the salary schedule, the employee will receive the rate for the position if a single salary, or, in the case of positions on a salary range, will receive the rate in the salary range which is the closest step to 8% above their previous rate, or the minimum of the new range, whichever is greater, but not more than the top of the new salary range.
- (b) If an employee is promoted or reclassified to a higher-paying classification where the salary placement in the salary range is less than the salary they would have received if substituting in a classification between their current classification and the new position, then the salary placement will be equivalent to the higher rate. This will only apply to classifications in the same classification series or the classification series to which the employee is reclassified or promoted. An employee will not receive a salary greater than the maximum of the range of the classification to which the employee is promoted or reclassified. Future increments, if any, will be to the next higher step in the range of the classification to which the employee has been promoted or reclassified.
- (c) The above does not apply to new classifications established pursuant to Clause 28.2.

27.6 Pay on Temporary Assignment

A regular employee temporarily assigned by the Employer to a position with a rate of pay lower than their regular rate of pay will maintain their regular rate of pay.

27.7 Salary Protection and Downward Reclassification of Position

- (a) An employee will not have their salary reduced by reason of:
- (1) a change in the classification of their position; or
 - (2) placement into another position with a lower maximum salary;

that is caused other than by the employee.

That employee will not receive negotiated salary increases until the salary of the employee's new classification equals or exceeds the salary which the employee is receiving.

When the salary of the employee's new classification equals or exceeds the salary which the employee is receiving, the employee's salary will be implemented at the maximum step of their new classification.

That employee will receive the full negotiated salary increases for their new classification thereafter.

- (b) Such changes in classifications or placements made pursuant to Article 13 - Layoff and Recall, and/or Clause 29.4(b) are covered by (a) above.

27.8 Vehicle Allowances

Vehicle allowances for all distances travelled on Society business will be paid to employees required to use their own vehicles in the performance of their duties. The allowance will cover distance to and from the employee's place of residence up to a total maximum of 32 kilometres, only when the employee is required to have their vehicle at work for use in the performance of their duties.

Vehicle allowance will be:..... 53¢ per km
Effective January 1, 2013 54¢ per km

The vehicle allowance rate will be increased as per any increases determined by the Canada Revenue Agency.

27.9 Meal Allowances

Employees on travel status away from the headquarters will be entitled to a meal allowance for the time spent away from the Society.

Meal	Amount	Effective April 1, 2015	Effective April 1, 2017
Breakfast	\$11.50	\$12.00	\$12.00
Lunch	\$13.25	\$13.80	\$14.00
Dinner	\$22.25	\$23.25	\$24.00

27.10 Transportation for Employees

Transportation will be provided to employees who are required to work other than their normal working hours, and who must travel to or from their home during the hours between 11:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. and when convenient public transportation or other transportation facilities are not available. An employee will be reimbursed for the cost of commercial transportation within their headquarters area, upon presentation of receipts.

27.11 Cashier Policy

Cashiers who make excessive and too frequent financial transaction errors will be:

- (a) provided with further training as a cashier; or
- (b) provided retraining with a view to placement in a more suitable position; or
- (c) liable for disciplinary action provided there was no success in (a) or (b).

27.12 Upgrading Qualifications

Where the Employer requires an employee to upgrade their skills or qualifications in order to operate or maintain new equipment, the cost of training and normal living and travel expenses as laid down in this agreement will be borne by the Employer.

27.13 Accommodation, Board and Lodging

Accommodation, board and lodging allowances for employees required to work away from headquarters will be paid in accordance with Memorandum of Understanding 2 - Board and Lodging and Relocation Expenses.

27.14 Relocation Expenses

- (a) Except as provided in (b) below, regular employees and eligible (casual) employees who have to move from one geographic location to another after winning a competition or at the Employer's request, will be entitled to relocation expenses in accordance with Memorandum of Understanding 2. Employees will not be entitled to relocation expenses where their new worksite is closer to their current residence.
- (b) Where an employee receives relocation expenses as a result of winning a competition, and subsequently resigns within the two-year period immediately following the relocation, they will be required to reimburse the Employer expenses paid on a pro rata basis.
- (c) The provision of (b) above do not apply to employees who resign in order to care for a dependant child or who resign or are deemed to have resigned pursuant to Clause 12.8, Article 13.

27.15 Retirement Allowance and Pre-Retirement Leave

Upon retirement from service, an employee who has completed 20 years of continuous service is entitled to an amount equal to their salary for one month, and for each full year of service exceeding 20 years but not exceeding 30 years, is entitled to an additional one week.

27.16 Salary Rate upon Employment

The hiring rate of pay for a new employee will not be higher than the rate of pay for an existing employee in the same classification with similar work experience, training, and education.

27.17 Telephone Allowance

Employees on travel status who are required to obtain overnight accommodation will be reimbursed upon production of receipts for one five minute telephone call home, to or within British Columbia, for each night away.

27.18 Salary Rate on Demotion

When an employee is demoted, the employee will receive the rate for the position if a single salary. If a salary range is established, the maximum reduction will be the closest step to 8%, but where the differential between the employee's salary before demotion and the maximum salary of the lower position is greater than 8%, the new salary will be the maximum of the new position.

27.19 Hourly, Daily and Partial Month Calculations

The formula for paying a biweekly or hourly salary is as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Annual Salary}}{26.0892857} = \text{Biweekly Salary}$$

$$\frac{\text{Monthly Salary} \times 12 \text{ mos.}}{26.0892857} = \text{Biweekly Salary}$$

$$\frac{\text{Biweekly Salary}}{70} = \text{Hourly Rate}$$

The daily rate will be determined by multiplying the number of regularly scheduled hours in the employee's day shift by the hourly rate. For the purposes of converting a biweekly rate to a monthly rate, the formula will be as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Biweekly Rate} \times 26.0892857}{12}$$

The formula for paying a partial salary to employees paid on a biweekly basis is:

Salary = hours worked and paid holidays x biweekly salary divided by hours scheduled and paid holiday (paid holiday equals seven hours).

When an article in this agreement has a reference to payments at the "end of the month following the month" in which an event occurs, payment will be "at the end of the second pay period following the pay period" in which the event occurs.

Similarly, a reference to payments on specified dates will mean payment on the closest pay period payday to the specified date.

27.20 Child Care Expenses

(a) Where an employee is requested or required by the Employer to attend:

- (1) employer endorsed education, training and career development activities; or
- (2) employer sponsored activities;

which are not included in the normal duties of the employee's job, and are outside their headquarters or geographic location, such that the employee incurs additional child care expenses, the employee will be reimbursed for the additional child care expense up to \$50 per day upon production of a receipt.

(b) Where an employee, who is not on leave of absence, attends a course approved by the Employer outside the employee's normal scheduled workday such that the employee incurs additional child care expenses, the employee will be reimbursed for the additional child care expense up to \$25 per day upon production of a receipt. This reimbursement will not exceed 15 days per calendar year.

(c) Reimbursement in (a) or (b) will only apply where no one else at the employee's home can provide the child care.

(d) The receipt will be a signed statement including the date(s), the hourly rate charged, the hours of care provided and will identify the caregiver/agency.

27.21 Lodging Allowance

Employees on travel status who stay in non-commercial lodging will be entitled to claim \$30 per day except where the lodging is supplied by the Employer. An employee submitting a lodging allowance claim will not be entitled to reimbursement for commercial lodging costs for the same period.

27.22 Qualified Registered Professional Fees

Regular full-time employees who have completed their probationary period and who are required as a condition of employment to maintain membership in an association as a qualified registered professional will be reimbursed for membership or licensing fees to a maximum of \$200 annually.

27.23 Expenses Within Headquarters Area

An employee in performing their duties within their headquarters area may claim unusual and/or extraordinary out-of-pocket expenses, subject to approval by the Employer. It is agreed that payment for out-of-pocket expenses is intended to include payment for meals where the situation warrants. It is not the intention to pay meal allowances where the employee can be reasonably expected to provide their own meal.

27.24 Entertainment Expenses

When employees have occasion to entertain non-service personnel in the course of their duties, they will, subject to prior approval, be reimbursed for reasonable expenses.

ARTICLE 28 - CLASSIFICATION AND RECLASSIFICATION**28.1 Classification Plan**

(a) The Employer and the Union recognize the need to maintain the principles of Pay Equity to evaluate jobs. The parties also agree to apply a Job Evaluation Plan in accordance with those principles to all bargaining unit positions using gender neutral plan factors and degrees.

- (b) The Employer agrees to supply the President of the Union or their designate with the job evaluation plan and benchmarks/reference jobs for those classifications in the bargaining unit.
- (c) The former classification plan specifications are redundant for evaluation purposes and will be utilized solely for descriptive purposes to assist in the orderly management of the Society including staffing and collective agreement purposes.

28.2 Changes to the Job Evaluation Plan and Benchmarks/Reference Jobs

- (a) The Employer agrees that no changes to the job evaluation plan and benchmarks/reference jobs pertaining to positions covered by this agreement will be introduced without the mutual agreement of the parties.
- (b) To facilitate the orderly change in the job evaluation plan, a joint technical working committee will be used. There will be equal representation of technical experts from the Employer and the Union on this committee, and total membership from each side will not exceed four.
- (c) The Committee will formulate any necessary changes or new benchmarks/reference jobs in the job evaluation plan and will make joint recommendations to the bargaining Principals for ratification.
- (d) When a new or substantially altered benchmark/reference job covered by this agreement is introduced, the factor ratings will be subject to agreement between the Employer and the Union.
- (e) Where the Joint Technical Working Committee is unable to agree to benchmark(s)/reference job(s) and/or agree on a factor rating, the matter may be referred to an agreed upon classification referee. The benchmark rating will be effective on the date agreed to by the parties or the date set by the referee but, in any event, not earlier than the date of implementation.

28.3 Classification Appeal Procedure

An employee will have the right to appeal, through the Union, the classification of the position they occupy. Such an appeal will be in accordance with the provisions of this clause and will not be considered a grievance under Article 8 - Grievances, of this agreement.

- (a) If an employee believes that the position they occupy is improperly classified, they will complete and forward to their immediate supervisor and to the Union Part 1 of the Classification Appeal Form requesting a written job description describing duties and responsibilities, which will be provided within 30 days of the request. Such job descriptions will be consistent with the employee's assigned duties.
- (b) The employee and their immediate supervisor will review the job description and identify in writing any areas where the job description is not consistent with the assigned duties.
- (c) If the employee believes that the position they occupy is improperly classified, the employee will complete Part 2 of the Classification Appeal Form and forward it to the President and CEO and the Union within 30 days of receipt of the written job description or when the response was due at Clause 28.3(a) or will be deemed to have been abandoned. The President and CEO will respond with a written classification rationale within 60 days of the receipt of such a request. The Union will be advised of the time and location of on-site interviews in order that a staff representative may attend. Differences between the employee and the supervisor respecting any areas in the job description not being consistent with the assigned duties may be clarified, and where possible, resolved at the "on-site" interview or telephone conference.
- (d) If the above procedure does not lead to a satisfactory resolution, the Union may submit the matter to Step 2 of the grievance procedure by providing the Employer with written notification. Any

such notification will be transmitted within 60 days of receipt of the response from the Employer or when the response was due. The appeal will be deemed abandoned in the event that the appeal is not submitted at Step 2 of the grievance procedure within the required time period.

28.4 Effective Dates

For appeals received after the date of signing of the agreement, the effective date of any resulting change in classification level will be the first day of the biweekly pay period following the date of receipt by the employee of the written job description or when the response was due pursuant to Clause 28.3(a).

ARTICLE 29 - JOINT LABOUR/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

29.1 Establishment of Joint Committee

There will be an established joint labour/management committee composed of members equal in number, represented by the Employer and the Union to meet at the request of either party. The minimum size of this committee will be one union representative and one employer representative, and the maximum size will be two union representatives and two employer representatives. This committee may call upon additional persons for technical information or advice. The Committee may establish subcommittees or ad hoc committees as it deems necessary and will set guidelines and operating procedures for such committees. Employees appointed to the Joint Committee will be from the Society.

29.2 Meetings of Committee

The Joint Committee will meet at least once every 60 days or at the call of either party at a mutually agreeable time and place. Employees will not suffer any loss of basic pay for time spent on this committee.

29.3 Chairperson of Committee

An employer representative and a union representative will alternate in presiding over meetings.

29.4 Responsibilities of Committee

- (a) The Committee will not have jurisdiction over wages or any other matter of collective bargaining, including the administration of this agreement. The Committee will not supersede the activities of any other committee of the Union or of the Employer and will not have the power to bind either the Union or its members or the Employer to any decisions or conclusions reached in their discussions.
- (b) In the event of any substantial re-organization in the Society that results in redundancy, relocation or reclassification, the Committee will meet in order for the Employer to consult with the Union.
- (c) The Committee will also have the power to make recommendations to the Union and the Employer on the following general matters:
 - (1) reviewing matters, other than grievances, relating to the maintenance of good relations between the parties;
 - (2) correcting conditions causing grievances and misunderstanding;
 - (3) reviewing ways in which the Employer can reduce workplace consumption of non-renewable and renewable resources, increase the amount of material that is reused in the workplace and implement recycling programs;
 - (4) reviewing and making recommendations regarding the effective use of human resources, including approaches to enhance career growth for employees;

- (5) reviewing and making recommendations regarding the recruitment and development of a well-qualified and efficient workplace that is representative of the diversity of the people of British Columbia and the training and development of employees to foster career development and advancement;
- (6) functioning as an occupational health and safety committee where no separate occupational health and safety committee has been established;
- (7) reviewing matters unresolved and referred to it by the Occupational Health and Safety Committee;
- (8) the Committee may make recommendations on the criteria for the approval of applications pursuant to Clause 20.8(e);
- (9) reviewing and making recommendations regarding the use of employment agencies and contractors.

ARTICLE 30 - SECONDMENT

30.1 Definition

"*Secondment*" means a process by which the Employer may assign an employee to another agency, board, society, commission, or employer.

30.2 Notice of Secondment

The Employer agrees to make every effort to provide an employee with four weeks written notice of secondment. Where possible, the written notice of secondment will indicate the term of secondment.

30.3 Provisions of BCGEU Agreements to Apply

The provisions of the applicable current Union/Employer collective agreements will apply to seconded employees. The agency, board, society, commission, or employer to which the employee is seconded will receive written notice of this article and will be provided with copies of relevant agreements.

30.4 Employer's Representative Designated to Handle Grievances at the 2nd Step

The Employer will inform the employee of the Employer's representative designated to handle grievances at the second step. Where a seconded employee has a grievance and their supervisor is not an employee of the Society, the employee will discuss the grievance with their supervisor. Failing resolution, the employee may submit a written grievance, through a steward nominated by the Union, to the second step of the grievance procedure.

ARTICLE 31 - CASUAL EMPLOYEES

31.1 Casual Employees

- (a) A casual employee will receive a letter of appointment clearly stating their employment status and expected duration of employment.
- (b) Casual employees who have worked 1827 hours in 33 pay periods and who are employed for work which is of a continuous full-time or continuous part-time nature, will be converted to regular status effective the beginning of the month following the month in which they attain the required hours.

(c) For the purposes of (b) above and Clauses 31.6 - Application of Agreement, 31.9 - Medical, Dental and Group Life Insurance, 31.11 - Annual Vacations and 31.12 - Eligibility Requirements for Benefits, hours worked will include:

- (1) hours worked at the straight-time rate;
- (2) hours compensated in accordance with Clause 31.10 - Designated Paid Holidays;
- (3) hours that a seniority rated casual employee cannot work because they are on a recognized WCB claim arising from their employment with the Society to a maximum of 210 hours of missed work opportunity within eight calendar weeks from the beginning of the claim;
- (4) annual vacation pursuant to Clause 31.11(d) - Annual Vacations;
- (5) compensatory time off provided the employee has worked 1827 hours in 33 pay periods;
- (6) missed work opportunities during leaves pursuant to Clause 2.10(a) - Time Off for Union Business-Without Pay, except that during the first 15 months of employment such credit will be limited to 105 hours;
- (7) leaves pursuant to Clause 2.10(b) - Time Off for Union Business-With Pay.

Notwithstanding (3) above, a casual employee eligible for conversion to regular status will not be converted until the employee has returned to active employment for 140 hours. The effective date of such conversion will be the first of the month following the date on which eligibility for conversion occurs.

(d) For the purposes of (b) above and Clauses 31.6 - Application of Agreement, 31.9 - Medical, Dental and Group Life Insurance, 31.11 - Annual Vacations and 31.12 - Eligibility Requirements for Benefits, hours beyond the 210 hours in (c)(3) above, that a casual employee cannot work because they are on a recognized WCB claim arising from their employment with the Society are not added to the 1827 or 1200 hours nor are the days charged against the 33 or 26 pay periods.

31.2 In-Service Status for Applying for Regular Positions

- (a) Casual employees who have successfully completed their initial probationary period, will be recognized as in-service applicants when applying for regular positions.
- (b) Subject to Clause 31.4 - Loss of Seniority, a casual employee who has successfully completed their initial probationary period prior to application for a regular position, or a casual employee who is on layoff status and who has successfully completed their initial probationary period prior to being laid off, will have their length of service as a casual employee recognized.

31.3 Seniority

- (a) (1) For the purpose of layoff and recall and other seniority related provisions of this agreement, a casual employee who has worked in excess of 30 days will accumulate service and classification seniority, on the basis of:
 - (i) all hours worked at the straight-time rate;
 - (ii) designated paid holidays or days off in lieu in accordance with Clause 31.10 - Designated Paid Holidays;
 - (iii) annual vacation in accordance with Clause 31.11(d) - Annual Vacations;

- (iv) leave pursuant to Clause 31.12 - Eligibility Requirements for Benefits or Clause 31.6(c) - Application of Agreement;
 - (v) compensatory time off provided the employee has worked 1827 hours in 33 pay periods;
 - (vi) missed work opportunities during leaves pursuant to Clause 2.10(a) - Time Off for Union Business-Without Pay except that during the first 15 months of employment such credit will be limited to 105 hours;
 - (vii) leaves pursuant to Clause 2.10(b) - Time Off for Union Business-With Pay.
- (2) The total hours above will be converted to a seven hour shift to establish seniority.
- (3) Upon completing 30 workdays (seven hour shifts), a casual employee's seniority will include the accumulated 30 workdays.
- (b) Casual employees who are on a claim recognized by the Workers' Compensation Board which arises out of a work-related injury while employed by the Society, will earn seniority for all hours the employee would have worked had they not been injured and been able to stay on the job.
- (c) A current service seniority list will be posted in the seniority unit by December 31, March 31, June 30 and September 30. Upon request, a copy of the service seniority list will be provided to the steward.

31.4 Loss of Seniority

A casual employee will lose their service and classification seniority when:

- (a) they are terminated for just cause;
- (b) they voluntarily terminate or abandon their position;
- (c) they are on layoff for more than nine months;
- (d) they are unavailable for, or decline, four offers of re-employment as provided in Clause 31.5 - Layoff and Recall; or
- (e) they become a regular employee.

31.5 Layoff and Recall

- (a) Layoff of casual employees will be by classification in reverse order of service seniority.
- (b) Casual employees on layoff will be recalled in order of service seniority provided the casual employee is qualified to carry out the work which is available.
- (c) Notwithstanding (a) above, casual employees hired for seasonal work or a term certain will be laid off upon completion of the season or term and will be subject to recall procedures in accordance with (b) above.
- (d) Casual employees hired pursuant to Article 34 - Cooperative Education Training Program, or for special projects, as mutually agreed to between the Employer and the Union, will be considered terminated for cause in accordance with Clause 31.4(a) - Loss of Seniority upon completion of their project or program. The Employer will provide the Union with a copy of each appointment letter for employees hired under Clause 31.5(d) - Layoff and Recall, within 30 days of the appointment.

(e) The Society will schedule time periods during which casual employees on layoff will be contacted as work is available. These scheduled time periods will be established by seniority based on the scheduling patterns, such that casual employees will not be required to be available more than three hours on any one day or for more than one period per shift, at their contact point established pursuant to (g) below.

Calls made to casual employees outside of the scheduled time periods will be treated in accordance with the applicable sections of this article.

(f) Casual employees will be advised, in writing, of the scheduled time periods and of any changes thereto. Casual employees, on layoff, are required to be personally available at their contact point during these scheduled time periods. The exceptions to this provision are detailed in (h) and (j) below.

(g) Casual employees will provide a direct communication link that will give them personal contact with their work unit/recall section. This communication link must be appropriate to the Society's operation and may include telephone, radio telephone, pager, public media, on call boards, written communication, etc.

(h) (1) Where a written communication link is established, a single attempt by registered mail will be made to contact casual employees.

(2) Where telephone/radio telephone communication is used, two attempts, at least five minutes apart, will be made to contact the casual employee.

(3) Where a pager is used, a single attempt will be made and the casual employee must respond to the Employer within five minutes of the page.

Notwithstanding the above, in the case of an emergency situation, a single verbal attempt will be made to contact the casual employee.

(i) Casual employees are responsible for advising the Society, in writing, of their current phone number, address, radio call numbers, etc., as established in (g) above, and for the accuracy and completeness of the information provided. Casual employees are responsible for maintaining the necessary equipment required to receive notice, in an operable condition, except where such maintenance is beyond their control.

(j) Casual employees on layoff who experience problems with their communication link established under (g) above, or who will not be available at their contact point during the scheduled time period for those reasons outlined in (n) below, are required to contact the Society in advance of the scheduled time periods. Casual employees may be required to contact the Society during the scheduled time period to obtain a specific work schedule, etc.

(k) If the Society is unable to contact casual employees during the scheduled time periods established in (e) above, the Society will immediately advise the employees by certified mail of the date, time and result of the contact attempt(s), and that they are considered to have been unavailable for work for purposes of Clause 31.4(d) - Loss of Seniority. If the Society is unable to contact casual employees outside of the scheduled time periods will not count such unavailability for purposes of Clause 31.4(d) - Loss of Seniority except as specified in (l) below.

(l) Where casual employees are contacted outside of the scheduled time periods and decline work in an emergency situation, other than for reasons outlined in (n) below, they will be considered to have declined work for purposes of Clause 31.4(d) - Loss of Seniority.

(m) Where casual employees are contacted during the scheduled time periods established in (e) above, and decline the work offered, such decline will be considered to be a decline for purposes of Clause 31.4(d) - Loss of Seniority.

(n) Casual employees who are unavailable in the following circumstances, and who call in to the Society at the times designated will not have the decline or unavailability count as an occurrence for purposes of Clause 31.4(d) - Loss of Seniority:

- (1) absence on a WCB claim;
- (2) maternity leave, parental leave or adoption leave;
- (3) absence on bereavement as per Clause 31.6(c) - Application of Agreement;
- (4) leave to participate in activities of a Reserve Component of the Canadian Armed Forces;
- (5) illness; proof of illness may be required if the absence is greater than five days or where it appears a pattern of consistent or frequent absence is developing;
- (6) illness of, or inability to obtain child care for a dependant child of a casual employee, where no one other than the employee can care for the child. Proof of illness or inability to obtain child care may be required if a pattern of consistent absence is developing. Such leave will not exceed two days;
- (7) union leave per Clause 2.10 - Time Off for Union Business;
- (8) jury duty;
- (9) medical or dental appointments;
- (10) approved leave under Clause 31.11(b) - Annual Vacations;
- (11) an offer of work which is less than three and a half hours duration;
- (12) an offer of work which would constitute a short changeover (Clause 15.4 - Short Changeover Premium).

Employees who decline work pursuant to (11) or (12) will remain eligible to be recalled for other available work on the same day and to accept or decline that work in accordance with the terms of this agreement.

(o) Casual employees subject to recall will lose their service and classification seniority and will be considered terminated for just cause where they are unavailable for or decline work on four separate occasions in the calendar periods between January 1 and June 30 inclusive or July 1 and December 31 inclusive.

- (1) It is understood that only one decline/unavailability may be counted per calendar day and when an employee declines or is unavailable for recall for work during a calendar day, the Employer will not be required to make further offers of work to the employee for the calendar day which the employee has declined or been unavailable for.

(p) (1) Casual employees, with the agreement of the Employer, may specify days and/or times of availability. Such agreed to days and/or times and any agreed to alterations thereto, will be in writing and include the days and/or times, and effective date.

- (2) Where a recall for work on such days and/or times occurs, it will be made on the basis of seniority and in accordance with the provisions of (b) and (e) through (n) above.

- (3) Should a casual employee wish to revert from having specified days and/or times of availability to full availability, the employee may do so by providing the Employer with 10 days written notice.
- (q) Casual employees unavailable for, or declining work offered to them, will not accumulate service or classification seniority for the hours that might have been worked. This may result in changes in ranking on the seniority list as junior employees work these hours.
- (r) The Society is not required to recall casual employees who have already accumulated 1827 hours in 26 pay periods.
- (s) (1) Casual employees who report for work at the call of the Employer will be paid for all hours worked with a minimum of two hours pay at their regular rate unless the employee is unfit to perform their duties or has failed to comply with the Industrial Health and Safety Regulations of the Workers' Compensation Board.
- (2) Where an employee commences work they will receive three and one-half hours pay at their regular rate unless:
- (i) their work is suspended for reasons completely beyond the control of the Employer;
 - or
 - (ii) the duration of the work assignment is known in advance by the employee;
- in which instances the provisions of (s)(1) will apply.

31.6 Application of Agreement

- (a) Except as otherwise noted in this article, the provisions of Article 11 - Seniority, Article 13 - Layoff and Recall, Article 17 - Paid Holidays, Article 18 - Annual Vacations, Article 19 - Short-Term and Long-Term Illness & Injury and Long-Term Disability, Article 20 - Special and Other Leave, Article 21 - Maternity, Parental and Pre-Adoption Leave, and Article 25 - Health and Welfare, do not apply to casual employees. The provisions of other articles apply to casual employees, except as otherwise indicated.
- (b) Any casual employee who is eligible to vote in a federal, provincial, first nation or municipal election or a referendum will have three or four consecutive clear hours, as prescribed by the applicable statute, during the hours in which the polls are open in which to cast their ballot.
- (c) Where leave from work is required, casual employees will be entitled to the provisions of Clause 20.1 (Bereavement Leave).
- (d) Maternity and parental leave for casual employees with less than 1827 hours worked in 33 pay periods will be in accordance with the *Employment Standards Act*.

31.7 Health and Welfare

In lieu of health and welfare benefits, casual employees will receive compensation of 61¢ per working hour, up to a maximum of \$42.70 per biweekly pay period.

Effective April 1, 2015:

- 72¢ per working hour, up to a maximum of \$50.20 per biweekly pay period.

Effective April 1, 2017:

- 74¢ per working hour, up to a maximum of \$51.45 per biweekly pay period.

31.8 Weekly Indemnity

- (a) Casual employees are eligible for weekly indemnity benefits upon accumulation of 400 hours of casual seniority. Once established, eligibility for weekly indemnity is retained unless the casual employee loses casual seniority. Weekly indemnity benefits are payable for each period of illness up to a maximum of 15 weeks at 60% of the casual employee's normal average earnings. Normal average earnings are calculated by averaging the total of the straight-time compensation and the compensation paid in accordance with Clause 31.7 - Health and Welfare in the six most recent biweekly pay periods in which earnings occurred.
- (b) The benefit waiting period in each case of illness will be 14 calendar days. This means that benefits will be paid from the fifteenth day of illness.
- (c) Subject to Clause 31.8(b) - Weekly Indemnity, full benefits will be reinstated:
- (1) in the case of new illness, after the casual employee returns to active employment following the most recent absence due to illness and accumulates 150 more hours of casual seniority;
 - (2) in the case of a recurrence of a previous illness, after the casual employee returns to active employment following the most recent absence due to that illness and accumulates 400 more hours of casual seniority.
- (d) The payment of benefits to a person who is laid off or separated prior to termination of their illness will be continued after the layoff or separation until the total number of weeks for which benefits have been paid in respect of that illness is 15 weeks or the duration of the illness, whichever occurs first, except that benefits will cease on the effective date of a scheduled layoff or separation, if the illness occurs two months (or less) before that layoff or separation, provided that notice of the layoff or separation was given prior to the occurrence of the illness.
- (e) The benefits described in this clause will not be available to a casual employee whose illness, injury, or personal circumstances may be described by any one of the following conditions:
- (1) who is not under the care of a licensed physician;
 - (2) whose illness is occupational and is covered by Workers' Compensation;
 - (3) whose illness is intentionally self-inflicted;
 - (4) whose illness results from service in the Armed Forces;
 - (5) whose illness results from riots, wars or participation in disorderly conduct;
 - (6) who is ill during a period of paid vacation;
 - (7) whose illness is sustained while they are committing a criminal offence;
 - (8) who is engaged in an employment for a wage or profit;
 - (9) who is ill during a strike or lockout at the place where they were employed if that illness commences during the strike or lockout;
 - (10) who is serving a prison sentence;
 - (11) who would not be entitled to benefits payable pursuant to Part I of the *Employment Insurance Act* because they are not in Canada;

(12) who is absent from work because of plastic surgery performed solely for cosmetic purposes except where the need for surgery is attributable to an illness or injury.

(f) The parties agree that the complete premium reduction from the Human Resources Development Canada accruing through the improved sick leave plan and the weekly indemnity plan will be returned to the Employer. This is in exchange for the implementation of the above-mentioned plans.

31.9 Medical, Dental and Group Life Insurance

(a) Casual employees will be eligible for coverage under Clauses 25.1 - Basic Medical Insurance, 25.2 - Extended Benefits after completion of 1827 hours worked in 33 pay periods or after working three consecutive years without loss of seniority and maintaining 1200 hours worked at the straight-time rate within the previous 26 pay periods. Such casual employees eligible for benefits under this clause will not receive the payment under Clause 31.7 - Health and Welfare.

(b) A casual employee will cease to be entitled to coverage under (a) above when they lose their seniority in accordance with Clause 31.4(a), (b), (c) or (d) - Loss of Seniority.

(c) Casual employees qualified under (a) above will be entitled to maintain coverage under such plans for a maximum period of three consecutive months immediately following the month in which the layoff occurs by paying the premium themselves.

(d) When a casual employee on layoff, who has previously qualified under (a) above and has not ceased to be entitled under (b) above, is recalled, the employee will immediately be entitled to the benefits under (a) above.

31.10 Designated Paid Holidays

(a) Casual employees will be compensated for the paid holiday who have:

- (1) worked the day before and the day after a paid holiday; or
- (2) worked 15 of the previous 30 days; or
- (3) worked at least 105 hours at the straight-time rate in the previous 30 days.

This clause will not apply to employees who have been terminated and not on layoff status.

(b) A casual employee who is qualified under (a) to receive compensation for the paid holiday but does not work on the paid holiday, will receive compensation for the day based on the following formula:

Straight-time hours worked in the previous 30 calendar days divided by the straight-time hours of work of a full-time employee for the same 30 calendar day period multiplied by the hourly rate multiplied by seven.

(c) A casual who is qualified in (a) to receive compensation for the holiday and who works on that day will be compensated at the same rate as regular employees in the same situation, as outlined in Article 17 - Paid Holidays. The day off in lieu provided through the application of Article 17 - Paid Holidays will be compensated on the basis of the formula in (b) above.

(d) Casual employees who work on the designated holiday, but do not meet the conditions of (a) above will receive straight-time for hours worked on the holiday.

31.11 Annual Vacations

(a) Casual employees will be entitled to receive vacation pay at the rate of 6% of their regular earnings. Casual employees will receive their earned vacation biweekly.

- (b) Casual employees after six months from their date of hire, may elect to take a leave of absence without pay of up to 15 workdays, not to exceed 105 hours, in any calendar year. An employee seeking such unpaid leave will make application, in writing, a minimum of seven workdays prior to the requested leave.
- (c) The granting and scheduling of any such leave will be subject to operational requirements, the vacation schedules of employees and provided there is no increased cost to the Employer. The days need not be consecutive.
- (d) Casual employees who have completed 1827 hours worked in 33 pay periods will be eligible for annual vacation leave in accordance with the provisions of this clause and Clause 18.1 - Annual Vacation Entitlement, except that the first vacation year is the calendar year in which the anniversary of eligibility occurs. Casual employees eligible for annual vacation will not be entitled to vacation pay as in (a) above or leave in accordance with (b) above.
- (e) The calendar year in which an employee qualifies for vacation leave under (d) will be considered the first partial year of service for purposes of vacation entitlement and subject to Clause 18.6 - Vacation Carryover any unused vacation entitlement earned during that year will be paid to the employee on the final payday of that year.
- (f) Upon qualifying for vacation leave a casual employee will be paid any earned vacation pay owing to that date and thereafter will earn vacation leave in accordance with Clause 18.2 - Vacation Earnings for Partial Years.
- (g) Vacation leave will be scheduled in accordance with the provisions of the agreement, except that employees hired for vacation relief or for seasonal operations may be restricted as to the time of year they may schedule vacation.
- (h) Vacation schedules, once approved by the Employer, may be rescheduled if it is displaced by an emergency or because the employee is absent on an approved WCB claim.
- (i) Casual employees who qualify for vacation leave will be covered by the provisions of Clauses 18.4 - Vacation Pay, 18.6 - Vacation Carryover, 18.7 - Callback From Vacation, 18.8 - Vacation Leave on Retirement and 18.9 - Vacation Credits Upon Death.

31.12 Eligibility Requirements for Benefits

Casual employees will qualify for Short-Term Disability, Clauses 20.2 - Special Leave, 20.3 - Family Illness, 20.4 - Full-Time Public Duties, 20.5 - Leave for Court Appearances, 20.9 - Elections, 20.11 - Leave for Medical and Dental Care, 20.12 - Maximum Leave Entitlement, 20.13 - Emergency Service Leave and Article 21 - Maternity, Parental and Pre-Adoption Leave as follows:

- (a) An employee will be entitled to benefits under this clause after completion of 1827 hours worked in 33 pay periods.
- (b) A casual employee will cease to be entitled to coverage when they:
- (1) fail to maintain 1200 hours worked at the straight-time rate within the previous 26 pay periods except as provided under Article 21 - Maternity, Parental and Pre-Adoption Leave;
 - (2) lose their seniority in accordance with Clause 31.4(a), (b), (c), or (d) - Loss of Seniority.
- (c) Benefits will not be paid on layoff except as provided in Appendix 4.

- (d) Casual employees on layoff or subject to recall will not be eligible for benefits until after their return to work and subject to meeting the eligibility requirements. ("Return to work" is understood to mean the employee completed at least one-half of a scheduled workday or shift.)
- (e) Where there is no established work schedule the calculation of hours for the purposes of Short-Term Disability benefits will be based on the average number of hours worked during the six pay periods immediately preceding absence due to illness.

ARTICLE 32 - GENERAL CONDITIONS

32.1 Tools and Equipment

- (a) The Employer will supply all tools and equipment required to perform the work.
- (b) A regular employee will not suffer any loss in salary in the event that they cannot carry out their normal duties by reason of the Employer failing to furnish or properly maintain equipment, machinery, or supplies or by reason of power failure or other circumstances occurring at the place of work.

32.2 Commuting

- (a) The Employer will actively participate in environmentally sustainable employee transit programs which encourage employees to use public transit and/or to carpool to their worksites. These programs will be reviewed annually by a joint labour management committee.
- (b) The Employer and the Union agree that there will be no change in parking policies except by mutual agreement of the parties.

32.3 Comprehensive Insurance

The Employer agrees to provide comprehensive insurance covering tools, reference texts, and instruments owned by the employees and required to be used in the performance of their duties at the request of the Employer.

32.4 Indemnity

- (a) *Civil Action* - except where there has been flagrant or wilful negligence on the part of an employee, the Employer agrees not to seek indemnity against an employee whose actions result in a judgement against the Employer. The Employer agrees to pay any judgement against an employee arising out of the performance of their duties. The Employer also agrees to pay any legal costs incurred in the proceedings including those of the employee.
- (b) *Criminal Actions* - where an employee is charged with an offence resulting directly from the proper performance of their duties and is subsequently not found guilty, the employee will be reimbursed for reasonable legal fees.
- (c) At the option of the Employer, the Employer may provide for legal services in the defence of any legal proceedings involving the employee (so long as no conflict of interest arises between the Employer and the employee) or pay the legal fees of counsel chosen by an employee.
- (d) Where an employee is required to defend their professional actions arising out of the proper performance of their duties, in a proceeding before their professional licensing body, the Employer will provide either legal counsel or, at the Employer's option, reimbursement of reasonable legal fees incurred in such defence.

(e) In order that the above provisions will be binding upon the Employer, the employee will notify the Employer immediately, in writing, of any incident or course of events which may lead to legal action against them, and the intention or knowledge of such possible legal action is evidenced by any of the following circumstances:

- (1) when the employee is first approached by any person or organization notifying them of intended legal action against them;
- (2) when the employee themselves require or retain legal counsel in regard to the incident or course of events;
- (3) where any investigative body or authority first notifies the employee of any investigation or other proceeding which might lead to legal action against the employee;
- (4) when information first becomes known to the employee in the light of which it is a reasonable assumption that the employee would conclude that they might be the object of legal action; or
- (5) when the employee receives notice of any legal proceeding of any nature or kind.

32.5 Payroll Deductions

An employee will be entitled to have deductions from their salary assigned for the purchase of Canada Payroll Savings, BC Bonds or an RRSP of the employee's choice.

32.6 Political Activity

(a) Municipal and School Board Offices

- (1) Employees may seek election to municipal and school board offices, provided that:
 - (i) the duties of the municipal or school board office other than regular council or board meetings do not impinge on normal working hours as an employee;
 - (ii) there is no conflict of interest between the duties of the municipal or school board office and the duties of the position.
- (2) Where the municipal council, the school board or committees of the council or board hold meetings during the employee's normal working hours, the Society will grant leave without pay to attend such meetings.
- (3) Where leave without pay is granted to attend committee meetings, such leave will be in accordance with Clause 20.10, and provided that such leave will not exceed one-half shift per week.
- (4) The employee will provide at least one week's written notice to the Society.

(b) Federal and Provincial Offices

There are no restrictions other than the oath of office on employees engaging in political activities on their own time as campaign workers. If an employee is nominated as a candidate for election, the employee will be granted leave without pay in accordance with Clause 20.4(a) to engage in the election campaign. If elected, the employee will be granted leave of absence in accordance with Clause 20.4(b). If not elected, the employee will be allowed to return to their former position.

32.7 Copies of Agreements

(a) The Union and the Employer desire every employee to be familiar with the provisions of this agreement, and their rights and obligations under it. For this reason, sufficient copies of the agreement will be printed for distribution to employees. The cost of such printing and distribution will be borne equally by the parties.

The Union will distribute the collective agreements to its members and the Employer will reimburse the Union for 50% of the distribution costs.

(b) All agreements will be printed in a union shop and will bear a recognized union label.

32.8 Travel Advance

Regular employees not covered by a work party advance, and who do not qualify to obtain a corporate card, will be provided with an adequate travel advance if they are required to proceed on travel status. The amount of advance will be determined by such factors as time away from headquarters and the frequency of reimbursement.

32.9 Private Vehicle Damage

Where an employee's vehicle is damaged by a client, customer, or other person doing business with the Employer or as a direct result of the employee being employed by the Employer, the Employer will reimburse the employee the lesser of actual vehicle damage repair costs, or the cost of any deductible portion of insurance coverage on that vehicle up to a maximum of \$500.

32.10 Personal Property Damage

(a) Where an employee's personal possession(s) is/are damaged by a client, customer, or other person doing business with the Employer will pay, up to a maximum of \$100, the replacement costs or personal deductible insurance, provided such personal possessions are of a type suitable for use while on duty. This provision will not apply to articles of clothing or eye-wear.

(b) On request, and with reasonable notice, the Employer will provide a secure space for employees to store such personal possessions, wallets and/or purses when the employees are at their worksite.

32.11 Disclosure of Information

The Employer and the Union recognize that it is in the public interest for employees to be able to disclose information regarding breaches of a statute, danger to public health and safety or a significant danger to the environment.

No employee will be disciplined for bringing forth in good faith an allegation of wrongdoing in accordance with the following procedure:

(a) An employee will direct their concern or allegation to the employee's immediate supervisor.

(b) If the employee feels that their allegation has not been adequately addressed at this level or if the allegation relates directly to the immediate supervisor, the employee may refer the matter in writing to the next level of excluded management not directly involved in the matter.

(c) The written notice should provide full particulars of the allegation including the name(s) of individual(s) involved, the date(s) the wrongdoing is alleged to have occurred and any supporting documentation in the employee's possession, or of which the employee is aware.

(d) The excluded manager will acknowledge, in writing, receipt of the employee's notice and will investigate and take such action as may be required respecting the allegation. If the employee feels that their allegation has not been adequately addressed at this level, they will so advise the excluded manager prior to proceeding to the next level of this process.

(e) Where the employee is not satisfied that the allegation has been resolved or is not satisfied with the timeliness of the response at any level, the employee may refer the matter in writing to the Board of Directors.

32.12 Electronic Monitoring

(a) Monitoring equipment may be used to protect the safety of employees, clients and persons in the care or custody of the Society or to protect the assets or property of the Society.

(b) Monitoring equipment will not be installed by the Employer in staff washrooms or lunch rooms.

32.13 Misuse of Managerial/Supervisory Authority

Misuse of managerial/supervisory authority takes place when a person who supervises or is in a position of authority exercises that authority in a manner which serves no legitimate work purpose and which ought reasonably be known to be inappropriate.

Misuse of managerial/supervisory authority does not include action occasioned through the exercise, in good faith, of the Employer's managerial/supervisory rights and responsibilities. Nor does it include a single incident of a minor nature where the harm, by any objective standard is minimal.

Where the allegation is based on a matter for which another dispute resolution mechanism exists, then this process will not be utilized.

Procedures

(a) If there is an allegation of misuse of managerial/supervisory authority, the employee will approach their supervisor or the first level of excluded manager, not involved in the matter, for assistance in resolving the issue within 30 days of the alleged occurrence. The supervisor/manager will investigate the allegation and take steps to resolve the concern as appropriate within 30 days of the issue being raised by the employee. The supervisor/manager will discuss the proposed resolution with the employees directly involved. The employees directly involved may have a steward present during these discussions.

(b) If the proposed resolution is not acceptable, the complainant may refer the matter through the Union in writing to the designated member of the Board of Directors within 30 days of receiving the supervisor's/manager's response or when the response was due. The written statement will provide full particulars of the allegation including:

- the name(s) of individual(s) involved; and
- the specific actions and dates of the alleged misuse of managerial/supervisory authority; and
- names of witnesses; and
- an explanation as to why it should be considered misuse of authority; and
- the remedy sought; and
- an outline of the steps which have been taken to resolve the matter in (a) above.

These particulars will form the basis of the designated member of the Board of Director's consideration and/or investigation. The designated member of the Board of Directors will provide the respondent with a copy of the complaint.

(c) The designated member of the Board of Directors will acknowledge, in writing, receipt of the written statement, including the particulars, and when required, will have the matter investigated and will take such steps as may be required to resolve the matter. The Union and the employees involved in the allegation will be advised in writing of any proposed resolution or other response within 30 days of providing notice to the designated member of the Board of Directors.

(d) Where the complaint is found to be frivolous, vindictive or vexatious, the Employer may take appropriate action that may include discipline.

(e) Pending the determination of the complaint, the designated member of the Board of Directors may take interim measures to separate the employees concerned, if deemed necessary. Any such action taken under this section will not be deemed disciplinary in nature, or seen as presumption of guilt or innocence.

32.14 Workload

(a) The Employer agrees that that an employee's workload will not be increased as a result of positions being temporarily vacant due to illness, vacation, leave of absence, or any other reason. In case of emergency, an employee's workload may be temporarily increased to a maximum of 7 consecutive work days.

(b) In such instances, the Employer will give regular employees the opportunity to substitute in higher-paying positions and arrange for staff replacements at the lowest paying category.

(c) Approval for release to a temporary assignment, where that assignment is a promotion, will not be unreasonably withheld.

32.15 Assignment of Work

(a) The parties agree that it is essential to ensure that all employees be advised of their job expectations, duties and responsibilities.

(b) Where an employee is concerned that they cannot complete assignments and/or their work obligations, it is their responsibility to seek advice and direction from their local supervisor. The local supervisor will then provide direction to the employee, as necessary, on how to complete the assigned duties. This may include instructions on the priorities of the assigned duties.

Workload review process

The employee may have a union representative present during these discussions.

Step 1

The employee will advise their direct supervisor, in writing, with the specific reasons and details of the work demands in which they are unable to meet the obligations of their job.

The direct supervisor will develop in collaboration with the employee written direction within 14 days as to how the employee is to proceed in order to fulfil their obligations. Timelines may be extended by mutual agreement.

Step 2

Should the employee continue to be unable to fulfil their obligations after the completion of Step 1, the employee may refer the matter, in writing, to their Senior Manager and Human Resources Manager.

The Employer will provide a response within 30 days of the matter in writing. Timelines may be extended by mutual agreement.

Step 3

Where there is a further disagreement between management and the employee(s) over the issue of workload or the proposed remedy, the matter may be referred to the Grievance Procedure as per Article 8.

32.16 Safe Working Conditions

The Employer undertakes to maintain office furniture, equipment, etc., in a practical and safe condition in order to avoid injury to employees or damage to their attire. Employees, for their part and in their own interest, are expected to advise the Employer of any such potentially injurious equipment.

32.17 Damage to Personal Property

Where an employee's personal property, excluding private automobiles utilized in the performance of their duties, is damaged by a client while the employee is carrying out their duties, and the damages are not covered by Workers' Compensation or insurance, the Employer will reimburse the employee for the necessary repairs or replacement.

ARTICLE 33 - EMPLOYMENT EQUITY

- (a) The Society is committed to providing a work environment free of any form of adverse discrimination.
- (b) The parties hereto subscribe to the principles of the *Human Rights Code* of British Columbia.
- (c) The parties recognize the need to implement an employment equity program.
- (d) The goals of employment equity are to create a workforce which, at all levels, is representative of the diverse population it serves; and to ensure that individuals are not denied employment, advancement or training opportunities within the Society for reasons unrelated to ability to do the job.
- (e) Regulations, policies and procedures with respect to recruitment, selection and promotion will facilitate:
 - (1) opportunities for external recruitment and internal advancement to develop a workforce that is representative of the diversity of the people of British Columbia; and
 - (2) the long-term career development and advancement of employees.
- (f) There will be a Union/Management Steering Committee on Employment Equity (UMSCEE).
- (g) The Steering Committee is authorized to:
 - (1) advise the Employer on employment equity issues and initiatives;
 - (2) review Society action plans to ensure they comply with the mandatory procedures and are consistent with government-wide employment equity goals;
 - (3) monitor progress of Society action plans.
- (h) Employees representing the Union on this Steering Committee will be on leave of absence without loss of basic pay for time on this committee.

ARTICLE 34 - COOPERATIVE EDUCATION TRAINING PROGRAM

The purpose is to establish the salary rate and working conditions for students hired under the Cooperative Education Training Program within the Society.

- (a) Employees hired under the Cooperative Education Training Program will be considered casual employees and receive the appropriate benefits as per this agreement.
- (b) The program will be restricted to persons registered in a recognized cooperative education program at a participating post-secondary institution. The length of appointment for students under this article will correspond to the requirements of their academic program.
- (c) Coop education will be considered supernumerary to the established workforce. As such, Clause 31.5(d) will apply to these programs.
- (d) No employees hired under this program will be employed where it would result in a layoff or failure to recall a qualified employee.
- (e) Employees hired under this program will be classified and paid in accordance with Appendix 7 at Grid 3, Step 3 for students enrolled in full-time studies at an accredited educational institution within the past six months at a post-secondary level; and at Grid 5, Step 1 for employees without a post-secondary degree or certificate working in their initial work term.
- (f) The standard hours of work for employees under this program will be seven hours per day and 35 hours per week.
- (g) The standard hours of work may be varied by mutual agreement at the local level, consistent with local hours of work agreements, provided that no employee works more than 10 hours in one day and 70 hours in a biweekly period.
- (h) Employees hired under the Cooperative Education Training Program will be assigned work that augments their field of study.

ARTICLE 35 - TERM OF AGREEMENT**35.1 Duration**

This agreement will be binding and remain in effect to midnight March 31, 2024.

35.2 Notice to Bargain

- (a) This agreement may be opened for collective bargaining by either party giving written notice to the other party on or after January 1, 2024, but in any event not later than midnight, January 31, 2024.
- (b) Where no notice is given by either party prior to January 31, 2024, both parties will be deemed to have given notice under this clause on January 31, 2024, and thereupon Clause 35.3 applies.
- (c) All notices on behalf of the Union will be given by the President of the Union and similar notices on behalf of the Employer will be given by the President and CEO of the Society.

35.3 Commencement of Bargaining

Where a party to this agreement has given notice under Clause 35.2, the parties will, within 14 days after the notice was given, commence collective bargaining.

35.4 Change in Agreement

Any change deemed necessary in this agreement may be made by mutual agreement at any time during the life of this agreement.

35.5 Agreement to Continue in Force

Both parties will adhere fully to the terms of this agreement during the period of bona fide collective bargaining.

35.6 Effective Date of Agreement

The provisions of this agreement, except as otherwise specified, will come into force and effect on the date of signing.

**SIGNED ON BEHALF OF
THE UNION:**

DocuSigned by:
Stephanie Smith
6B01B367B8FF46D...

Stephanie Smith
President

DocuSigned by:
Amy Elgie
F2E7100B9587478...

Amy Elgie
Bargaining Committee

DocuSigned by:
Darren Dunne
8923A327DBE749B

Darren Dunne
Bargaining Committee

DocuSigned by:
Anne D
508983AF6534437...

Anne Dodington
Staff Representative

**SIGNED ON BEHALF OF
THE EMPLOYER:**

DocuSigned by:
Shubhangi Jain
CF31192882684E5...

Shubhangi Jain
Manager, Human Resources

DocuSigned by:
Joshua Ludgate
0641B188686B4ED...

Joshua Ludgate
Vice President of Operations

Date: May 18, 2022

APPENDIX 1
Establishing Job Share Arrangements

A job share arrangement may be to the Employer's advantage if:

- (a) it assists in meeting workforce equity and diversity objectives; or
- (b) the organization would otherwise lose a valuable employee whose circumstances prevent full-time work; or
- (c) a mix of backgrounds/experience would enhance the operation; or
- (d) an employee wishes to phase into retirement; or
- (e) a pool of experienced workers can be kept for full-time positions in the future.

REVIEW OF PROPOSALS AND EVALUATION OF CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS

Some issues to consider in reviewing job sharing proposals, or evaluating existing agreements include:

- (a) Are the partners qualified to do the job? Are they performing their duties satisfactorily?
- (b) Will efficiency, productivity, timeliness, and level of service be maintained or enhanced?
- (c) Will the productivity of the work group be adversely affected?
- (d) If this is a supervisory position, will the employees who report to the position know who to contact for various matters?
- (e) Can a practical and appropriate communication arrangement be established and maintained between the partners, the supervisor, clients and others?
- (f) How will the supervisor assess the quality of the work if both partners are accountable for all duties of the position?
- (g) Are the partners compatible in approach and outlook?
- (h) Can an acceptable work schedule be worked out?
- (i) Are both partners prepared to cover off for each other when requested for extended absences?
- (j) Will the supervisor's job become more difficult because of this job sharing arrangement? In what way?
- (k) Does the benefit outweigh the potential for extra supervisory time costs?
- (l) Is this a stable employment environment? Is there any possibility of layoffs in the foreseeable future?

APPENDIX 2
Regular Part-Time Employees Service, Benefits, Paid Time Off and Other Allowances

Entitlement is Prorated

- Service Seniority (one years' service seniority for every 1827 hours completed)
- Vacation
- Paid Holidays

- Other Paid Leaves:
 - 20.2 Special Leave
 - 20.3 Family Illness
 - 20.11 Leave for Medical and Dental Care
- Short-Term Disability*
- Long-Term Disability*
- Pension Plan*
- Canada Pension Plan*
- Unemployment Insurance*
- Workers' Compensation Board*
- Group Life* (only entitled to minimum)

Entitlement is not Prorated

- Basic Medical Insurance
- Extended Health Care Plan
- Dental Plan
- Air Travel Insurance

Others

- Overtime (paid in accordance with Clause 16.10 of the agreement)
- Annual Increment

* is only prorated to the extent that the benefit is based on the employee's part-time salary.

APPENDIX 3 List of Arbitrators

The parties agree that arbitrations pursuant to Clause 9.2, Clause 9.3 and Clause 9.9 will be assigned to the following arbitrators in rotation, subject to availability within 45 calendar days of the request for an arbitrator. If an arbitrator is not available within the 45 calendar day period, the next arbitrator in rotation will be selected.

The list can be modified at any time with mutual agreement of the parties to the agreement.

Arbitrators List:

Mark Brown
Marguerite Jackson
John Steeves
Wayne Moore
Judi Korbin
Vince Ready

APPENDIX 4 Pensions

The parties agree to the following pension plans for employees of the Canada/British Columbia Business Services Society:

1. BC Public Service Pension Plan

For employees who are currently members of the BC Public Service Pension Plan, they will remain in the Plan as long as they remain employees of the Canada/British Columbia Business Services Society.

2. Registered Retirement Savings Plan

All other employees will participate in a retirement savings plan as follows:

- (a) The Society and the BCGEU agree that each employee will participate in a retirement savings plan. The Employer will remit employer and employee contributions each pay period to a personal and/or spousal RRSP identified by the employee.
- (b) The Employer contribution will be 9% of an employee's gross wages. The employee contribution will be 6% of the employee's gross wages.
- (c) Where the employee selects both a personal and a spousal RRSP, the Society agrees to contribute to both plans using the percentage allocation determined by the employee. The employee will be permitted to change the designation of the RRSP plans once each 12 months, however where a change in marital status occurs, the employee will be permitted to change the designation more frequently to reflect the change in marital status.

APPENDIX 5
Employees Covered by Pension

1. Re-Employment

A regular employee who resigns their position and within 90 days is re-employed as a regular employee will be granted leave of absence without pay covering those days absent and will retain, effective the date of re-employment, all provisions and rights in relation to seniority and other fringe benefits provided they have not withdrawn their pension contributions.

2. Early Retirement

A regular employee who is age 55 years or older and is entitled to receive a pension under the Public Service Pension Plan Rules, as of the effective date of layoff, and who has opted for and is entitled to severance pay pursuant to this article will, upon application, be entitled to additional pensionable service equivalent in value, as determined by the Pension Commissioner, to the severance pay compensation. Benefits under this provision will not exceed the time that would be required to reach the employee's maximum retirement age.

3. Vacation Leave on Retirement

An employee scheduled to retire and to receive a pension allowance under the Public Service Pension Plan Rules or who has reached the mandatory retirement age will be granted full vacation entitlement for the final calendar year of service.

4. Retirement Allowance and Pre-Retirement Leave

- (a) Upon retirement from service, and an employee who has completed 20 years of service with the Employer and who under the provisions of the Public Service Pension Plan Rules is entitled to receive a Pension allowance on retirement, is entitled to an amount equal to an amount equal to the salary for one month, and for each full year of service exceeding 20 years but not exceeding 30 years, is entitled

to an additional amount equal to one-fifth of their monthly salary. The employee may opt to take the allowance as equivalent paid leave of absence to be taken immediately prior to retirement.

(b) Where an employee is permitted to purchase a period of war service under the Public Pension Plan Rules at retirement, they may use all or part of their entitlement for the purchase of war service.

APPENDIX 6 Additional Benefits

The Union and the Society agree that the following provisions apply to all classifications identified in Appendix 7.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

1. Professional Development

(a) In order that each employee will have the opportunity for an exchange of knowledge and experience with colleagues in the private and public sectors, regular employees will be entitled to up to 10 days leave with pay per year for the following purposes:

(1) To attend conferences or conventions related to the employee's field or specialization.

(2) To participate in seminars, workshops, symposia, or similar out-service programs to keep up-to-date with knowledge and skills in their respective field.

(3) A maximum of two of the 10 Professional Development Days will be available to undertake research of work related topics approved by the supervisor. Approval will not be unreasonably denied. Scheduling will be by mutual agreement.

(4) A maximum of two of the 10 Professional Development Days will be allocated for "*All Staff Days*" training. The "*All Staff Days*" Training will take place over the course of two days while the Centre is closed which will allow all staff to participate.

(b) Professional development leave will not be cumulative.

(c) Employees wishing to proceed on professional development leave will submit a request, in writing, to the Employer indicating the leave required and the relevance of the particular event to the employee's job. On their return, the employee will submit a summary of the symposium/seminar to the Employer for distribution to other employees.

(d) The Employer will reimburse an employee, proceeding on approved professional development leave, all or part of their expenses.

(e) An employee who attends a conference, convention, seminar, staff meeting, or meeting of a similar nature, at the request of the Employer, will be deemed to be on duty and, as required, on travel status; however, such time will not be counted as part of the professional development leave.

(f) Where an employee participates in pre-approved professional development activity, pursuant to this clause, on a day of rest, they will be allowed the equal time off at a mutually agreed time. This clause is not intended to include time spent on travel.

2. Exchange Programs

The Employer agrees that exchange programs between the Society and other jurisdictions, public and private, will be encouraged. Employees will be given the opportunity to participate in exchange programs at full pay and allowances.

3. Equipment Demonstrations

Where an employee is, or will be, required to operate technical equipment or use new methods during the course of their duties, and where seminars, demonstrations, or conferences are held pertaining to such technical equipment or new methods, the employee will, upon approval of their application, be entitled to attend such demonstrations, conferences or seminars. Time spent in travel and in attendance will be considered as time worked.

4. In-Service Examinations

Employees will be permitted to write any in-service examinations required by the Employer upon completion of the necessary terms of service and/or upon completion of the required in-service training program. Employees who fail to successfully complete any in-service examination will, upon request, receive a copy of their examination paper and will be eligible to be re-examined at the first available opportunity after completion of a further six months service.

5. Preparation for Examination

Where workloads permit, employees will be granted reasonable time during the regular workday to prepare for examinations held by the Employer and to complete courses offered by the Employer. The parties recognize, however, that the employees who avail themselves of the provisions of this clause have a responsibility to devote some of their own time to prepare themselves for examinations and to complete courses.

WORK CLOTHING**1. Uniforms**

- (a) Where the Employer requires the employee to wear distinctive or identifying clothing, the Employer will provide such clothing.
- (b) Female employees required to wear uniforms will be provided with appropriately tailored pantsuits at the employee's request.
- (c) The Employer agrees that for all clothing and equipment required pursuant to (a) above, replacement will be issued upon presentation of worn-out items. Any dispute regarding the need for replacement of any item will be resolved by local union and management representatives.

2. Union Label

All uniforms and clothing issued by the Employer will, wherever possible, be union made and bear a recognized union label.

3. Maintenance of Work Apparel

- (a) The Employer will be responsible for the laundering, dry cleaning and maintenance of all apparel supplied by the Employer. Where an employee is required to maintain, clean or repair the uniform or clothing issued, the employee will receive an allowance of \$24.00 per month effective March 31, 2002, and \$24.50 per month effective March 31, 2003, for such maintenance and repair.

- (b) Dry clearing or laundering which is required as a result of an unusual incident occurring while on duty will be the responsibility of the Employer.

GENERAL CONDITIONS**1. Personal Research**

Subject to approval by the Employer, an employee may use facilities normally used in the course of their duties to carry out personal research or projects. The cost of materials will be borne by the employee. Such approval will not be unreasonably withheld by the Employer.

2. Copyrights

- (a) (1) The Employer and the Union agree that original articles, technical papers, information reports and/or instructional notes prepared by the employee in the course of their duties for the Employer, will be retained by the Employer.
- (2) The Employer further agrees that the employee may be granted permission to quote selected portions of such material in a larger work or to publish the material in related journals.
- (b) The Employer agrees that the employee may prepare articles, technical papers and/or instructional notes on their own time, and copyright for such material will be vested in the employee.
- (c) Confidential information will not be disclosed without written permission of the Ministry head.

3. Temporary Assignment Travel

- (a) When an employee is assigned temporarily to a worksite within the province that is so far removed that they are unable to return to their designated headquarters at the end of each workday, the following conditions apply:
- (1) Travel between their place of temporary accommodation and the worksite will be considered as time worked.
- (2) Employees will be provided with return economy airfare in order to allow them to return to their place of residence and return to the worksite at the end of each workweek on the employee's time.
- (3) Employees who choose not to return to their place of residence will not receive the return airfare.

4. Travel Conditions

- (a) Employees required to travel outside the province will be reimbursed for receipted expenses incurred in the course of their duties. Receipts will not be required for expense categories currently paid without receipts within British Columbia. Types and amounts of receipted expenses that will be reimbursed outside the province will be pre-authorized.
- (b) Employees will be provided reasonable stopover time, where required, in view of fatigue occasioned by international travel.
- (c) Hours of work for employees on travel will not be more than seven hours per day exclusive of meal periods, or not more than 70 hours per two-week period, except that working hours need not be prescribed within set periods on the clock but should meet the requirements of the assignments.

HOT PRODUCTS

1. No employee who falls within the classification of Archivist, Economist, Librarian or Research Officer will be required to handle any product declared by the BC Federation of Labour to be a "Hot Product".

**APPENDIX 7
Wage Table**

Grid Level	Step	Effective April 1, 2020		Effective April 1, 2021 (3%)		Effective April 1, 2022 (1.5%)		Effective April 1, 2023 (3%)	
		Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly
1	1	1,346.04	19.23	1,386.70	19.81	1,407.70	20.11	1,449.70	20.71
	2	1,417.35	20.25	1,460.20	20.86	1,481.90	21.17	1,526.70	21.81
	3	1,511.69	21.60	1,557.50	22.25	1,580.60	22.58	1,628.20	23.26
2	1	1,380.21	19.72	1,421.70	20.31	1,442.70	20.61	1,486.10	21.23
	2	1,454.49	20.78	1,498.00	21.40	1,520.40	21.72	1,565.90	22.37
	3	1,552.55	22.18	1,599.50	22.85	1,623.30	23.19	1,672.30	23.89
Coop Student (Step 3) 3	1	1,417.35	20.25	1,460.20	20.86	1,481.90	21.17	1,526.70	21.81
	2	1,493.86	21.34	1,538.60	21.98	1,561.70	22.31	1,608.60	22.98
	3	1,594.15	22.77	1,641.50	23.45	1,666.00	23.80	1,715.70	24.51
4	1	1,454.49	20.78	1,498.00	21.40	1,520.40	21.72	1,565.90	22.37
	2	1,533.98	21.91	1,579.90	22.57	1,603.70	22.91	1,652.00	23.60
	3	1,637.97	23.40	1,687.00	24.10	1,712.20	24.46	1,763.30	25.19
Coop Student (Step 1) 5	1	1,493.86	21.34	1,538.60	21.98	1,561.70	22.31	1,608.60	22.98
	2	1,576.32	22.52	1,624.00	23.20	1,648.50	23.55	1,698.20	24.26
	3	1,683.29	24.05	1,733.90	24.77	1,759.80	25.14	1,812.30	25.89
6	1	1,533.98	21.91	1,579.90	22.57	1,603.70	22.91	1,652.00	23.60
	2	1,618.66	23.12	1,666.70	23.81	1,691.90	24.17	1,743.00	24.90
	3	1,730.09	24.72	1,782.20	25.46	1,808.80	25.84	1,863.40	26.62
7	1	1,576.32	22.52	1,624.00	23.20	1,648.50	23.55	1,698.20	24.26
	2	1,662.49	23.75	1,712.20	24.46	1,738.10	24.83	1,789.90	25.57
	3	1,777.63	25.39	1,830.50	26.15	1,857.80	26.54	1,913.80	27.34
8	1	1,618.66	23.12	1,666.70	23.81	1,691.90	24.17	1,743.00	24.90
	2	1,709.29	24.42	1,760.50	25.15	1,787.10	25.53	1,841.00	26.30
	3	1,827.40	26.11	1,882.30	26.89	1,910.30	27.29	1,967.70	28.11
9	1	1,662.49	23.75	1,712.20	24.46	1,738.10	24.83	1,789.90	25.57
	2	1,756.83	25.10	1,809.50	25.85	1,836.80	26.24	1,892.10	27.03
	3	1,878.66	26.84	1,935.50	27.65	1,964.20	28.06	2,023.00	28.90
10	1	1,709.29	24.42	1,760.50	25.15	1,787.10	25.53	1,841.00	26.30
	2	1,805.11	25.79	1,859.20	26.56	1,887.20	26.96	1,943.90	27.77
	3	1,931.40	27.59	1,989.40	28.42	2,019.50	28.85	2,080.40	29.72
Client Services Representative 11	1	1,756.83	25.10	1,809.50	25.85	1,836.80	26.24	1,892.10	27.03
	2	1,855.63	26.51	1,911.70	27.31	1,940.40	27.72	1,998.50	28.55
	3	1,987.11	28.39	2,046.80	29.24	2,077.60	29.68	2,139.90	30.57
12	1	1,805.11	25.79	1,859.20	26.56	1,887.20	26.96	1,943.90	27.77
	2	1,908.37	27.26	1,965.60	28.08	1,995.00	28.50	2,055.20	29.36
	3	2,042.83	29.18	2,104.20	30.06	2,135.70	30.51	2,200.10	31.43

Grid Level	Step	Effective April 1, 2020		Effective April 1, 2021 (3%)		Effective April 1, 2022 (1.5%)		Effective April 1, 2023 (3%)	
		Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly
13	1	1,855.63	26.51	1,911.70	27.31	1,940.40	27.72	1,998.50	28.55
	2	1,908.37	27.26	1,965.60	28.08	1,995.00	28.50	2,055.20	29.36
	3	1,962.60	28.04	2,021.60	28.88	2,051.70	29.31	2,113.30	30.19
	4	2,018.31	28.83	2,078.30	29.69	2,109.80	30.14	2,172.80	31.04
	5	2,101.51	30.02	2,164.40	30.92	2,196.60	31.38	2,262.40	32.32
Business Advisor Regional Development Coordinator Business Development Coordinator Program Coordinator Education Services Coordinator 14	1	1,908.37	27.26	1,965.60	28.08	1,995.00	28.50	2,055.20	29.36
	2	1,962.60	28.04	2,021.60	28.88	2,051.70	29.31	2,113.30	30.19
	3	2,018.31	28.83	2,078.30	29.69	2,109.80	30.14	2,172.80	31.04
	4	2,075.51	29.65	2,137.80	30.54	2,170.00	31.00	2,235.10	31.93
	5	2,162.42	30.89	2,227.40	31.82	2,261.00	32.30	2,328.90	33.27
15	1	1,962.60	28.04	2,021.60	28.88	2,051.70	29.31	2,113.30	30.19
	2	2,018.31	28.83	2,078.30	29.69	2,109.80	30.14	2,172.80	31.04
	3	2,075.51	29.65	2,137.80	30.54	2,170.00	31.00	2,235.10	31.93
	4	2,135.68	30.51	2,200.10	31.43	2,233.00	31.90	2,300.20	32.86
	5	2,224.82	31.78	2,291.10	32.73	2,325.40	33.22	2,395.40	34.22
16	1	2,018.31	28.83	2,078.30	29.69	2,109.80	30.14	2,172.80	31.04
	2	2,075.51	29.65	2,137.80	30.54	2,170.00	31.00	2,235.10	31.93
	3	2,135.68	30.51	2,200.10	31.43	2,233.00	31.90	2,300.20	32.86
	4	2,197.34	31.39	2,263.10	32.33	2,296.70	32.81	2,365.30	33.79
	5	2,289.45	32.71	2,358.30	33.69	2,394.00	34.20	2,466.10	35.23
17	1	2,075.51	29.65	2,137.80	30.54	2,170.00	31.00	2,235.10	31.93
	2	2,135.68	30.51	2,200.10	31.43	2,233.00	31.90	2,300.20	32.86
	3	2,197.34	31.39	2,263.10	32.33	2,296.70	32.81	2,365.30	33.79
	4	2,261.22	32.30	2,328.90	33.27	2,363.90	33.77	2,434.60	34.78
	5	2,355.56	33.65	2,426.20	34.66	2,462.60	35.18	2,536.80	36.24
Client Services Coordinator Research Coordinator Content Coordinator Project Analyst Market Research Analyst Business Analyst Trade Analyst Marketing & Communications Coordinator Outreach Coordinator Business Planning Advisor	1	2,135.68	30.51	2,200.10	31.43	2,233.00	31.90	2,300.20	32.86
	2	2,197.34	31.39	2,263.10	32.33	2,296.70	32.81	2,365.30	33.79
	3	2,261.22	32.30	2,328.90	33.27	2,363.90	33.77	2,434.60	34.78
	4	2,326.59	33.24	2,396.80	34.24	2,432.50	34.75	2,505.30	35.79
	5	2,426.13	34.66	2,499.00	35.70	2,536.80	36.24	2,613.10	37.33

Grid Level	Step	Effective April 1, 2020		Effective April 1, 2021 (3%)		Effective April 1, 2022 (1.5%)		Effective April 1, 2023 (3%)	
		Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly
Events Coordinator 18									
19	1	2,197.34	31.39	2,263.10	32.33	2,296.70	32.81	2,365.30	33.79
	2	2,261.22	32.30	2,328.90	33.27	2,363.90	33.77	2,434.60	34.78
	3	2,326.59	33.24	2,396.80	34.24	2,432.50	34.75	2,505.30	35.79
	4	2,394.93	34.21	2,466.80	35.24	2,503.90	35.77	2,578.80	36.84
	5	2,498.19	35.69	2,573.20	36.76	2,611.70	37.31	2,690.10	38.43
20	1	2,261.22	32.30	2,328.90	33.27	2,363.90	33.77	2,434.60	34.78
	2	2,326.59	33.24	2,396.80	34.24	2,432.50	34.75	2,505.30	35.79
	3	2,394.93	34.21	2,466.80	35.24	2,503.90	35.77	2,578.80	36.84
	4	2,466.99	35.24	2,541.00	36.30	2,578.80	36.84	2,656.50	37.95
	5	2,573.22	36.76	2,650.20	37.86	2,690.10	38.43	2,770.60	39.58
Client Services Manager Education Services Manager 21	1	2,326.59	33.24	2,396.80	34.24	2,432.50	34.75	2,505.30	35.79
	2	2,394.93	34.21	2,466.80	35.24	2,503.90	35.77	2,578.80	36.84
	3	2,466.99	35.24	2,541.00	36.30	2,578.80	36.84	2,656.50	37.95
	4	2,541.27	36.30	2,617.30	37.39	2,656.50	37.95	2,736.30	39.09
	5	2,651.22	37.87	2,730.70	39.01	2,772.00	39.60	2,855.30	40.79
22	1	2,394.93	34.21	2,466.80	35.24	2,503.90	35.77	2,578.80	36.84
	2	2,466.99	35.24	2,541.00	36.30	2,578.80	36.84	2,656.50	37.95
	3	2,541.27	36.30	2,617.30	37.39	2,656.50	37.95	2,736.30	39.09
	4	2,617.79	37.40	2,696.40	38.52	2,737.00	39.10	2,818.90	40.27
	5	2,730.70	39.01	2,812.60	40.18	2,854.60	40.78	2,940.00	42.00
23	1	2,466.99	35.24	2,541.00	36.30	2,578.80	36.84	2,656.50	37.95
	2	2,541.27	36.30	2,617.30	37.39	2,656.50	37.95	2,736.30	39.09
	3	2,617.79	37.40	2,696.40	38.52	2,737.00	39.10	2,818.90	40.27
	4	2,696.53	38.52	2,777.60	39.68	2,819.60	40.28	2,904.30	41.49
	5	2,814.64	40.21	2,899.40	41.42	2,942.80	42.04	3,031.00	43.30
24	1	2,541.27	36.30	2,617.30	37.39	2,656.50	37.95	2,736.30	39.09
	2	2,617.79	37.40	2,696.40	38.52	2,737.00	39.10	2,818.90	40.27
	3	2,696.53	38.52	2,777.60	39.68	2,819.60	40.28	2,904.30	41.49
	4	2,778.24	39.69	2,861.60	40.88	2,904.30	41.49	2,991.10	42.73
	5	2,900.07	41.43	2,986.90	42.67	3,031.70	43.31	3,122.70	44.61
25	1	2,617.79	37.40	2,696.40	38.52	2,737.00	39.10	2,818.90	40.27
	2	2,696.53	38.52	2,777.60	39.68	2,819.60	40.28	2,904.30	41.49
	3	2,778.24	39.69	2,861.60	40.88	2,904.30	41.49	2,991.10	42.73
	4	2,862.93	40.90	2,949.10	42.13	2,993.20	42.76	3,082.80	44.04
	5	2,988.47	42.69	3,077.90	43.97	3,124.10	44.63	3,217.90	45.97

Grid Level	Step	Effective April 1, 2020		Effective April 1, 2021 (3%)		Effective April 1, 2022 (1.5%)		Effective April 1, 2023 (3%)	
		Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly	Biweekly	Hourly
26	1	2,696.53	38.52	2,777.60	39.68	2,819.60	40.28	2,904.30	41.49
	2	2,778.24	39.69	2,861.60	40.88	2,904.30	41.49	2,991.10	42.73
	3	2,862.93	40.90	2,949.10	42.13	2,993.20	42.76	3,082.80	44.04
	4	2,949.84	42.14	3,038.00	43.40	3,083.50	44.05	3,175.90	45.37
	5	3,080.58	44.01	3,173.10	45.33	3,220.70	46.01	3,317.30	47.39
27	1	2,778.24	39.69	2,861.60	40.88	2,904.30	41.49	2,991.10	42.73
	2	2,862.93	40.90	2,949.10	42.13	2,993.20	42.76	3,082.80	44.04
	3	2,949.84	42.14	3,038.00	43.40	3,083.50	44.05	3,175.90	45.37
	4	3,039.72	43.42	3,130.40	44.72	3,177.30	45.39	3,272.50	46.75
	5	3,174.92	45.36	3,270.40	46.72	3,319.40	47.42	3,418.80	48.84
28	1	2,862.93	40.90	2,949.10	42.13	2,993.20	42.76	3,082.80	44.04
	2	2,949.84	42.14	3,038.00	43.40	3,083.50	44.05	3,175.90	45.37
	3	3,039.72	43.42	3,130.40	44.72	3,177.30	45.39	3,272.50	46.75
	4	3,134.07	44.77	3,227.70	46.11	3,276.00	46.80	3,374.00	48.20
	5	3,272.98	46.76	3,371.20	48.16	3,421.60	48.88	3,524.50	50.35
29	1	2,949.84	42.14	3,038.00	43.40	3,083.50	44.05	3,175.90	45.37
	2	3,039.72	43.42	3,130.40	44.72	3,177.30	45.39	3,272.50	46.75
	3	3,134.07	44.77	3,227.70	46.11	3,276.00	46.80	3,374.00	48.20
	4	3,229.89	46.14	3,326.40	47.52	3,376.10	48.23	3,477.60	49.68
	5	3,373.26	48.19	3,474.80	49.64	3,526.60	50.38	3,632.30	51.89
30	1	3,039.72	43.42	3,130.40	44.72	3,177.30	45.39	3,272.50	46.75
	2	3,134.07	44.77	3,227.70	46.11	3,276.00	46.80	3,374.00	48.20
	3	3,229.89	46.14	3,326.40	47.52	3,376.10	48.23	3,477.60	49.68
	4	3,331.66	47.60	3,432.10	49.03	3,483.90	49.77	3,588.20	51.26
	5	3,477.26	49.68	3,581.90	51.17	3,635.80	51.94	3,745.00	53.50
31	1	3,134.07	44.77	3,227.70	46.11	3,276.00	46.80	3,374.00	48.20
	2	3,229.89	46.14	3,326.40	47.52	3,376.10	48.23	3,477.60	49.68
	3	3,331.66	47.60	3,432.10	49.03	3,483.90	49.77	3,588.20	51.26
	4	3,437.15	49.10	3,539.90	50.57	3,593.10	51.33	3,700.90	52.87
	5	3,587.20	51.25	3,695.30	52.79	3,750.60	53.58	3,863.30	55.19
32	1	3,229.89	46.14	3,326.40	47.52	3,376.10	48.23	3,477.60	49.68
	2	3,331.66	47.60	3,432.10	49.03	3,483.90	49.77	3,588.20	51.26
	3	3,437.15	49.10	3,539.90	50.57	3,593.10	51.33	3,700.90	52.87
	4	3,545.60	50.65	3,651.90	52.17	3,706.50	52.95	3,817.80	54.54
	5	3,701.60	52.88	3,812.90	54.47	3,870.30	55.29	3,986.50	56.95

INFORMATION APPENDIX I
Advance Payment of Group Life Benefits

The guidelines regarding payment of group life benefits for terminally ill employees pursuant to Clause 25.2 are as follows:

1. Death must be "*expected*" within 12 months. The employee's attending physician will be required to provide sufficient medical information, including the employee's diagnosis and prognosis, to allow the group life insurance carrier to assess the life expectancy.

2. Requests for advance payments must be in writing and should be accompanied by evidence of financial need.
3. Authorization from the Employer must be submitted with the employee's request.
4. The amount of the payment will be 50% of the life insurance coverage, subject to a maximum of \$40,000.
5. A signed release will be obtained from the insured employee prior to payment being made. A release is not required from designated revocable beneficiaries as they have no legal rights to life insurance proceeds until after the insured's death. Situations involving irrevocable beneficiaries or divorce judgements will require special releases.

INFORMATION APPENDIX II Job Sharing Policy Directive 6.1

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this policy directive is to outline the terms and conditions of job sharing and the circumstances under which job share arrangements may occur.

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This policy directive applies to all regular employees.

PRINCIPLES

The Employer is committed to flexible work arrangements that are advantageous to both the Employer and employees.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Definitions

"*job share proposal*" is a written request by two employees to job share as detailed under paragraph 8 of this policy directive.

"*job share arrangement*" is an arrangement between two employees (partners) who perform the duties of a position previously performed by one full-time employee.

"*extended absence*" means absences of more than 10 working days.

General

Job share situations are not promotional opportunities; therefore half of a job share cannot be posted or advertised as a promotional opportunity. Partners in a job share proposal must both be at the same or higher classification level as the position to be shared. The partners are appointed to and paid at the classification level of the shared position.

The Society should ensure that a mechanism is in place to track the number of job sharing arrangements, the nature and classification of the shared positions, and the gender of the partners.

Job Share Proposals

The job share proposal must be presented to the first level excluded manager for consideration and is to include:

- (a) the names and classifications of both partners;
- (b) a request by both partners for part-time employment;
- (c) the qualifications and experience of the partners;
- (d) the partners most recent performance appraisals;
- (e) identification of the position and confirmation that it is either vacant or occupied by one of the partners;
- (f) a description of how job duties and responsibilities will be shared;
- (g) details on arrangements to share information with each other, clients, colleagues and the supervisor;
- (h) a proposal of how workload priorities will be determined by the partners on an ongoing basis;
- (i) a proposal of how extended absences may be covered;
- (j) a preferred start date; and
- (k) a preferred work schedule (subject to the provisions of the applicable collective agreement for bargaining unit employees).

Approval of the job sharing proposal is at the discretion of the excluded manager. Appendix 1 outlines some of the considerations to be reviewed. Before approving a proposal, the manager must ensure that employees and the Employer have a clear understanding of each partner's duties and responsibilities.

The proposal may be approved on a trial basis for a three-month period to enable the Employer and the job share partners to assess whether the job-share arrangement is suitable.

Some positions can be more easily job shared; for example if there is "*on-the-spot*" service and little follow-through is required, if there are discrete duties, if work can be scheduled in advance, if different staff can perform functions interchangeably, or if little interaction is required with other employees. Other positions may require more careful planning to accommodate an effective job share arrangement; for example if there are supervisory responsibilities then the people supervised must know which partner is responsible for their supervision; if there are budget or planning responsibilities then the partners must be able to agree to divide responsibilities or reach consensus.

Eligible Partners

The partners must be:

- (a) qualified for the position to be shared;
- (b) covered as regular employees;
- (c) at the same or higher classification level than the position to be shared; and
- (d) performing current duties satisfactorily according to confirmation from their supervisor(s).

Appointment of Job Sharing Partners

If approved, the job share proposal is confirmed in writing and becomes the job share agreement. A copy of the agreement should be provided to the appropriate human resources/personnel office. The job share partners are appointed as part-time employees with the proviso that their work hours may be increased up to full-time to cover their partner's extended absence. Appointments are subject to applicable policy directives (for example, Lateral Transfer and Demotion, and Probation).

The appointment letter states:

- (a) terms and conditions of employment, including the statement that benefits are those approved for part-time employees;
- (b) terms of the job share arrangement, including hours of work;
- (c) that, due to operational requirements, partners' hours may be increased to full-time to cover the other partner's extended absence; and
- (d) that the agreement may be terminated, in writing, by either partner or the Employer.

Acceptance of the appointment must be in writing.

Benefits

The partners' benefits are those approved for regular part-time employees. Most benefits are prorated based on the number of hours the partner works; some benefits are paid in full to both partners.

Extended Absence

The supervisor may, due to operational requirements, increase one partner's work hours up to full-time to cover the other's extended absence (for example, leaves or resignation). This is not a permanent change in hours of work unless requested by the employee and approved by the excluded manager, nor is it meant to limit management's responsibility to determine how operational requirements will be met on each occasion.

Partners will give as much notice as possible of an extended absence so that the supervisor can give reasonable notice before increasing a partner's hours of work.

Termination of Job Share Arrangement by Employer

The Society may terminate a job share arrangement for bona fide operational reasons. If so, it is the Society's responsibility to find part-time work for those employees who do not wish regular full-time work. Alternatively, the Employer may move both partners into a new job share if:

- (a) there is an available vacancy;
- (b) the vacant position is appropriate for job-sharing;
- (c) the vacant position is at an equivalent or lower classification level; and
- (d) the supervisor and/or manager of the vacant position agrees to the new job-share.

Termination of Job Share Arrangement by Employee(s)

If either partner terminates the job share arrangement, the remaining partner may request to fill the position full-time or find a new job share partner and submit a new job share proposal. Half of a job share cannot be posted as a promotional opportunity. However the remaining partner may distribute a notice asking for expressions of interest from employees at the same level or higher than the position to be shared. They may then develop a new job share proposal for consideration by the excluded manager.

The excluded manager has the option of creating two part-time positions and posting one of them. In this case, the manager would not have the ability to increase the part-time employees' hours up to full-time to cover extended absences unless agreed to by the part-time employee.

If the above options are not successful, the remaining partner must find alternate employment. The onus is on the employee to find alternate employment, although the ministry will try to assist. The employee has no right to part-time work.

If both partners leave a job share arrangement, the excluded manager may approve a subsequent job share proposal or fill the position on a full-time basis.

INFORMATION APPENDIX III
Memorandum of Agreement - Extended Health Benefits

The following reflects agreement between the parties for the amounts and percentages shown. The information has been appended to the collective agreement for information purposes.

Plan provisions not specifically addressed in this document will be based on the provisions of the insurance provider / group policy and all applicable articles within the Collective Agreement. Insurance policies must not contain any clause that restricts an employee who satisfies the eligibility requirements of the Collective Agreement from accessing the Plan or the provisions specified in this document.

Dental:

Reimbursement percentage

- | | |
|---|------------|
| • Preventative | 100% |
| • Basic Services, endodontics, periodontics | 100% |
| • Major restorative services | 80% |
| • Orthodontics | 50% |
| • Examinations | 1/6 months |

Maximum Benefit

Preventative services, basic services, endodontics, periodontics and major restorative services:

- \$1,500 per calendar year per insured person, for all of these services

Orthodontics:

- Lifetime maximum of \$1500 per insured person

Health Care:

Reimbursement percentage (\$3 deductible)

- | | |
|---|------|
| • Drugs | 80% |
| • Paramedical services (see table below) | 80% |
| • Hospitalization (semi-private room) | 100% |
| • Travel Insurance (lifetime max \$5,000,000) | 100% |
| • Eyeglasses, contact lenses | 100% |

Further break down:

*No Referral required for any of the below practitioners

Psychologist	\$500
Acupuncturist, Chiropractor, Physiotherapist, Psychiatrist, Occupational Therapist, Ergotherapist, Sport Therapist, Physical Rehab Therapist	\$500 per specialty max and \$800 combined overall max
Massage / Kinesiologist / Orthotherapist	\$500 combined

Naturopath / Naturotherapist / Homeopath /Dietician	\$500 combined
Chiropracist & Podiatrist	\$500 combined
Speech Therapist / Hearing Therapist / Audiologist / Speech Pathologist	\$500 combined
Orthopedic Shoes	1 pair / \$400 per calendar year
Orthotics	\$200 / calendar year
Vision Care	\$300 per 24 months
Eye Exam	\$50 per 24 months

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING 1
Stewards at Step 2 of the Grievance Procedure

The parties agree to the following provisions concerning the number of stewards, their jurisdiction and mandate at Step 2 of the grievance procedure:

1. The Union is entitled to at least one steward to represent employees at Step 2 of the grievance procedure.
2. In the absence of a steward, another steward at the worksite will represent the employee at Step 2.
3. The mandate of the steward at Step 2 is to:
 - (a) Present the grievance at Step 2.
 - (b) Conduct the Step 2 meeting with the Step 2 designate. Where it is not feasible for the steward and Step 2 designate to meet personally, the Step 2 meeting may be conducted by phone.
 - (c) Attempt to conclude the grievance at Step 2. It is understood that settlements reached in this process are without prejudice to the positions of either party respecting the issue in dispute.
4. When a steward is required to leave their worksite to present grievances at Step 2, permission to leave their work will be obtained as required by Clause 2.6(c).
5. Nothing in this memorandum is meant to prevent or discourage the settlement of grievances at Step 1 of the grievance procedure.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING 2
Board and Lodging and Relocation Expenses

Definitions

For the purpose of these regulations:

"stationary employees" are employees who occupy positions that require them to:

- (a) carry out their duties on a day-to-day basis at their headquarters; and/or
- (b) travel from their headquarters for short periods of time; and/or
- (c) travel from their headquarters more or less on a continuous basis, but whose assignments are of sufficiently short duration so that temporary headquarters cannot be practically assigned.

"*mobile employees*" are those that occupy positions requiring assignment to a "*temporary*" headquarters for a significant period of time for each specific project and who are required to carry out their duties on a day-to-day basis from their assigned temporary headquarters; these employees are usually required to change their temporary headquarters on a continual basis and would not be domiciled at a permanent headquarters;

"*field status employees*" are those who are normally required to work away from their point of assembly and who, on a day-to-day basis, do not work in an office, institution, plant, or other similar fixed location which is their normal point of assembly;

"*seasonal field employees*" are those employees who occupy positions which permit them to be normally domiciled at their permanent headquarters but who are assigned field duties on a seasonal basis, returning to their permanent headquarters when not working in the field;

"*permanent camp*" is a camp which will be established and occupied continuously for more than one year;

"*seasonal camp*" is a camp that will be established and occupied less than five months and is usually comprised of tents and, where feasible, trailers;

"*fly or sub-base camp*" is a camp that will be established and occupied on a very temporary basis, is mobile in nature, and is generally isolated with very restricted access;

"*local hire*" is a person who is hired or is domiciled within 80 kilometres of the job site by means of the shortest road route;

"*travel status*" with respect to an employee means absence of the employee from the employee's designated headquarters or geographic location on Society business with the approval of the Employer, but travel status does not apply to employees temporarily assigned to a position outside of the designated headquarters or to field status employees;

"*headquarters or geographic location*" is that area within a radius of 32 kilometres where employees ordinarily perform their duties. When employees are relocated, the headquarters area may be redefined where exceptional circumstances such as unusual road conditions exist;

"*dependants*" for the purpose of definition, dependants are spouse, dependant children and anyone for whom the employee claims exemption on Federal Income Tax returns;

"*private dwelling house*" refers to the single family residence of the employee on a reasonable amount of property required to support such a house, owned by the employee and/or the spouse, and for which evidence of title can be provided. "*House*", "*residence*" and "*property*" refer solely to the property occupied as the principal residence of the employee at the time of relocation, including mobile homes;

"*reasonable amount of property*" where an employee elects to purchase a dwelling house on a piece of property that would not be considered a "*reasonable amount*" (i.e., hobby farm, etc.), the following formula will be used to determine the value of the private dwelling house for legal fee reimbursement purposes:

- (a) value of an average serviced lot in or close to the nearest town;
- (b) assessed value of actual house on site;
- (c) total added value in (a) and (b).

Part I - Board and Lodging Regulations

1.1 Board and Lodging Allowances

(a) *Local Hire:*

No board and lodging will be supplied or no living allowance will be paid to persons hired locally for a project. Should such persons be transferred to another project where the distance involved requires the persons to reside away from their original point of domicile, then board and lodging allowances will apply.

(b) *Employees at Their Headquarters:*

No board and lodging will be supplied, or living allowance or meals and/or accommodation paid to employees while at their permanent place of residence or to "stationary" or "seasonal field" employees while at their permanent headquarters, except as specifically authorized by this agreement.

(c) *Travel Status:*

The following class of employees, under the stated conditions, will be entitled to the current meal allowance and accommodation reimbursement, or the current private accommodation allowance in lieu of accommodation reimbursement:

- (1) "stationary" employees who are required to travel away from their permanent headquarters up to a maximum of 60 days at one location on a continuous basis;
- (2) "mobile" employees who are required to travel away from their temporary headquarters, or, who are moving from one assigned temporary headquarters to another, and for a period up to 30 days at the beginning of each assignment to enable them to arrange suitable longer term accommodation;
- (3) "seasonal field" employees who are required to travel away from their permanent headquarters up to a maximum of 60 days at one location on a continuous basis, or, who are required to travel away from their assigned temporary headquarters for short periods up to a maximum of 30 days at one location on a continuous basis, or, who are moving from one assigned temporary headquarters to another, for a period up to 30 days at the beginning of each assignment to enable them to arrange suitable longer term accommodation, or until the Employer makes other arrangements such as providing board and lodging using community services or camp facilities;
- (4) Notwithstanding any provisions contained in (c)(1), (2), or (3) above, travel status will not apply where the Employer decides to provide for or supplies free board and lodging.

(d) *Board and Lodging:*

The following class of employees, when not on travel status, and under the conditions stated, will be entitled to board and lodging supplied by the Employer in either employer-operated camps or by means of local community services:

- (1) "stationary" employees assigned to a temporary headquarters;
- (2) "mobile" employees assigned to a temporary headquarters;
- (3) "seasonal field" employees assigned to a temporary headquarters.

(e) *Per Diem Living Allowance:*

The per diem living allowance is intended to cover only those living costs which are considered over and above normal for those employees whose positions require mobility or require that the employee live in the field thereby making it impractical to establish a relatively permanent residence or reside at their permanent residence.

(1) Where employees would otherwise be entitled to travel status under Subsection (c) or board and lodging supplied under (d) above, employees may elect a per diem living allowance in lieu of travel status or board and lodging supplied, in which case employees will be responsible to find and pay for their own accommodation and make and pay for their own board arrangements; however, where the Employer establishes a camp, employees will be obligated to receive board and lodging using camp facilities at the Employer's option.

(2) The election of the per diem allowance by employees will not result in greater transportation costs to the Employer than would have resulted if board and lodging was supplied by the Employer.

(3) Where employees are entitled, the per diem living allowance will be \$32.50 per day for each calendar day in the month. This will be paid via the payroll (subject to income tax) one month in arrears to enable the pay offices to calculate the correct entitlement. This allowance will be paid for the periods employed on the job and will include days of rest, statutory and declared holidays, short-term illness and injury absence, approved WCB leave with pay, other approved leave of absence with or without pay for periods up to five days. Without limiting or extending the provisions of this section, the per diem allowances will not be payable during the following periods:

- (i) non-approved unpaid absences from the job including abutting weekends;
- (ii) unpaid WCB leave and unpaid absence due to illness or injury in excess of five days, except that where such conditions occur and the employee remains at the job area, then board and lodgings will be supplied by the Employer, but not beyond the period of hire or 20 days, whichever is the lesser;
- (iii) while on educational leave with or without pay;
- (iv) termination pay for vacation and pre-retirement leave upon retirement;
- (v) while employees are moving from one job site to another or from one headquarters to another and on travel status.

(4) Where employees have elected free board and lodging it is understood and agreed that 50% of the per diem living allowance will be payable where the Employer is unable to supply board but lodging is supplied.

(5) Where employees have elected the per diem allowance, it is understood and agreed that, in the following situations, 50% of the per diem allowance will be payable where the employee and the Employer mutually agree that it is necessary to retain employees' accommodation at designated headquarters, and in such cases the Employer's agreement will not be unreasonably withheld:

- (i) where employees are temporarily assigned away from designated headquarters and are on travel status or supplied with free board and lodging;

- (ii) where employees are on annual holidays, banked holidays, or compensatory time off with pay; for the purposes of calculating the allowance, holiday, or compensatory time off will be considered to commence on the first working day off the job, and will end the day before the employee's return to work;
- (iii) where employees are on leave with pay for union business;
- (iv) where employees are in receipt of Short-Term Disability in excess of five consecutive days, on approved WCB leave with pay in excess of five consecutive days or on other approved leaves of absence with or without pay for periods in excess of five consecutive days.

Where the employee and Employer do not find it necessary to retain accommodation at the employee's headquarters under the circumstances outlined in this section, then no per diem allowance is payable.

(6) It is understood that the Employer will advise employees in advance as to what type of board and lodging facilities are or will be made available, and employees will advise in writing if requested, prior to final arrangements being made, whether or not they wish to accept board and lodging supplied or elect the per diem living allowance. The decision reached will remain in effect for the duration of the project, except that changes may be made by mutual agreement.

(7) Where employees have elected the per diem living allowance, it is understood and agreed that the Employer will be required to provide sufficient notice in writing of the termination date of the project to enable employees to avoid possible duplication of accommodation payments. In the event the project terminates earlier than the notice date given, employees will be entitled, upon production of receipts, to any duplication accommodation costs incurred directly resulting from the insufficient notice. Where the project terminates later than the notice date given, employees will be entitled, upon production of receipt, to any abnormal increase of costs in accommodation, or any duplication of accommodation costs, directly resulting from extending the termination date of the project. This would not include normal increases in rent that may be experienced during the extended period.

1.2 Moving of Trailers and Household Effects

It is understood and agreed that it is necessary for some "*mobile*", "*seasonal field*", and "*stationary*" employees to move from one assignment to another to carry out their normal duties. In these cases, the regular relocation expenses will not apply, instead, the Employer will be responsible for arranging and paying for the moving of an employee's single wide mobile trailer or home up to the maximum width allowed on the highway with a permit, and one vehicle, and/or household effects.

1.3 Type of Accommodation

It is agreed and understood that where the Employer supplies lodging using community services whenever possible, the employee will be entitled to single accommodation, and the sharing of a room with other employees will not be required except under unusual circumstances, such as where sufficient accommodation is not available. Where employees are sharing accommodation with persons other than employees entitled to lodging, or where an employee chooses to use accommodation in excess of single accommodation, the employee will be responsible for all lodging costs in excess of the single accommodation rate.

1.4 Permanent Camp

Where a "stationary" employee's permanent headquarters is at a permanent camp, the employee will be required to pay for board and lodging supplied. The rate will be \$230 per month or proportion thereof for a partial month. Where lodging only is supplied, the rate will be \$70 per month or \$2.35 per day. Where board only is supplied, the rate will be \$156 per month, or \$5.20 per day, or \$1.75 per meal. This regulation, however, will not alter any existing arrangements whereby the employee bids on a posted competition with the proviso that free board and lodging would be supplied at the permanent headquarters.

Part II - Relocation Expenses

2.1 Policy

(a) Relocation expenses will apply:

(1) to regular employees and to casual employees who qualify pursuant to Clause 31.2 who have to move from one headquarters or geographic location to another after completing their probation period and after winning an in-service competition where the position is permanently located at another headquarters or geographic location;

(2) to employees who have to move from one headquarters or geographic location to another at the Employer's request to fill a position which is permanently located at another headquarters or geographic location.

(b) Relocation expenses will not apply, but instead the applicable travelling, living and moving expenses provided under the Treasury Board Order on Board and Lodging will apply to the following groups of employees who will not be considered to be on relocation:

(1) to field status, mobile and other employees whose normal duties require moves from one temporary headquarters to another or from one assignment to another;

(2) to field status, mobile and other employees who are successful applicants for posted positions, where such positions are not permanently located at one headquarters or geographic location, such as is the usual case with field crew positions;

(3) to apprentice employees when there is a pre-programmed change in their headquarters or geographic location.

(c) To employees entitled to relocation expenses, the Employer will pay travelling, living and moving expenses on relocation in accordance with the following provisions.

2.2 Travel Expenses on Relocation

(a) *Initial Trip to Seek New Accommodation*

The Employer will grant, with no loss of basic pay, prior to relocation, at a time mutually agreeable to the Employer and the employee, up to five days plus reasonable travel time, to an employee being relocated and will reimburse the employee for travel expenses for the employee and spouse in accordance with Treasury Board Order on Travel Expenses.

Any time beyond specified time may be charged against the employee's annual vacation credits, however, expenses will not be payable. This leave must be for the specific purpose of locating accommodation, with the intent, in as many instances as possible, that furniture and household effects may be delivered directly to the new residence.

(b) *Travelling Expenses Moving to New Location*

The Employer will provide reimbursement of travel expenses incurred during relocation for employees and dependants for the actual travel time, plus accommodation and meals up to seven days at the new location when employees are unable to move into the new accommodation. Such expense allowances will be in accordance with the current Treasury Board Order on Travel Expenses.

Meals: Adults - full rate
 Children 12 and under - one-half rate
 Motel or Hotel - on production of receipts

Private lodging: at old or new location at current rate

(c) Where dependants of an employee relocate at a time different than the employee, the Employer will reimburse the employee for their dependants' travel expenses, meals and accommodation incurred while travelling to the new headquarters area. In such cases where the employee remains eligible for benefits pursuant to Section 2.3, the employee will be reimbursed for their dependants' meals at the new location for a period of up to seven days.

The above allowances will be in accordance with the current Treasury Board Order on Travel Expenses.

2.3 Living Expenses Upon Relocation at New Location

After the first seven days has expired at the new location and the employee can establish to the satisfaction of the Employer that there is no suitable housing available, then:

- (a) the Employer will pay an employee not accompanied by dependants at the new location, a living allowance of \$20 per day up to a maximum of 30 days; or
- (b) the Employer will pay an employee accompanied by dependants at the new location, a living allowance of \$25 per day up to a maximum of 60 days;
- (c) where an employee is receiving the payment in (a) above and is later joined by their dependants at the new location and the employee is still eligible for payment under this section, the payment will be as in (b) above. However, the maximum period of payment under (a) and (b) will not exceed 60 days.

2.4 Moving of Household Effects and Chattels

On relocation, the Employer will arrange and pay for the following:

- (a) moving of household effects and chattels up to 8,165 kg. including any item(s) which the contracted mover will accept as part of a load which includes household appliances and furniture, hobbies, boats, outboard motors and pianos;
- (b) comprehensive insurance to adequately protect the employee's household effects and chattels during the move up to a maximum of \$50,000;
- (c) where necessary, insured storage up to two months, upon production of receipts;
- (d) the packing and unpacking of the employee's household effects and chattels;
- (e) when an employee is being relocated and opts to move their own household effects and chattels, the employee will receive one of the following allowances:
 - (1) \$450 for a move not exceeding a distance of 240 kilometres;
 - (2) \$750 for a move which exceeds a distance of 240 kilometres;
 - (3) \$200 where the employee is entitled to receive the amount pursuant to Section 2.7(d).

(f) where the employee exercises an option pursuant to (e) above then the provisions of (a) and (d) above will not apply.

2.5 Moving of Mobile Homes

(a) On relocation, an employee who owns a mobile home may opt to have their mobile home moved by the Employer in either of the following circumstances:

(1) where the employee's new headquarters area is on the list of isolated areas, providing no suitable accommodation is available; or

(2) where an employee is living in a mobile home which was moved to its present location by the Employer, and the employee's headquarters prior to the impending relocation is named on the list of isolated locations.

(b) Where an employee's mobile home is moved by the Employer under this section then the Employer will also arrange and pay for the following:

(1) moving of single wide mobile trailer or home up to the maximum width allowed on the highway with a permit including any skirting, cabanas or attachments. Where mobile homes in excess of the above are involved, the Employer will pay:

(i) the equivalent cost of moving a single wide mobile trailer or home up to the maximum width allowed on highways with a permit; or

(ii) the real estate and legal fees involved in selling the extra wide trailer up to a maximum of \$4,000.

(2) comprehensive insurance to adequately protect the employee's household effects, chattels and trailer during the move up to a maximum of \$50,000;

(3) the setting up and levelling of a mobile home or double wide, at the new location to a maximum of \$500 upon production of receipts;

(4) the packing and unpacking of the employee's household effects and chattels if required.

(c) Where an employee is living in a mobile home and is not included in (a) above, and chooses to move the mobile home to the new headquarters area, the employee will be entitled to reimbursement for costs covered in (b) above up to a maximum of \$2,000 upon production of receipts.

(d) Where the employee opts under this section to have a mobile home moved, there will be no entitlement to the provisions of Sections 2.4 and 2.10.

2.6 Moving of Personal Vehicles Upon Relocation

The Employer will reimburse employees for the cost of transporting one personal vehicle and one trailer towed by the personal vehicle.

The vehicle and trailer, where applicable, may be driven in which case current vehicle allowance rates for the vehicle only will apply, or, vehicle and trailer, where applicable may be shipped by rail or boat, in which case the cost of the least expensive method will be paid.

In addition, the Employer will pay for any additional transportation charges such as ferry fares for the vehicle and trailer with or without load.

2.7 Incidental Expenses on Relocation

The Employer will pay to the employee upon relocation only one of the following amounts, to cover incidental expenses on relocation, and once the employee has claimed one allowance no alternate further claim may be made:

- (a) when an employee purchases a private dwelling house in the new location - \$550;
- (b) when the employee is moving to rental accommodation in the new location - \$250;
- (c) when an employee is moving with a mobile home - \$175;
- (d) when the employee is moving to room and board - \$125.

The application for incidental expenses on relocation must be made by the employee on the appropriate form within 60 days of the employee's arrival at the new location, unless there is no available suitable housing, in which case application must be made within 60 days of suitable housing becoming available.

2.8 Notice to Employee Upon Relocation

It is understood and agreed that the Employer will provide employees with reasonable notice of the relocation effective date, and wherever possible, at least one month's notice will be given. Where less than one month's notice is given, or the relocation date is altered either earlier or later than the relocation effective date given which directly results in duplication of rent costs to the employee, then the Employer agrees to reimburse the employee, upon production of receipts, for the duplicate rent payments at the new location.

2.9 Requested Relocation by Employee

Where an employee requests a relocation from one headquarters or geographic location to another, all travelling and living expenses incurred in such a move are the responsibility of the employee.

2.10 Real Estate and Legal Fees

On relocation or within one year of the effective date of relocation, an employee who purchases and/or sells their private dwelling house, will be entitled to claim for the following expenses upon production of receipts:

- (a) Reimbursement of fees to a maximum of \$7,500 (effective April 1, 2001), charged by a real estate agency for the selling of the employee's private dwelling home in which they resided immediately prior to relocation.
- (b) An employee who has sold their own home without the aid of a realtor will be entitled to claim \$1,000.
- (c) Allowance for legal fees encumbered upon the employee because of the purchase of their private dwelling house in which they live after relocation will be paid in accordance with the following:
 - 1% of the first \$40,000 of the purchase price;
 - one-half of 1% of any amount of the purchase price above \$40,000;
 - the total cost to the Employer under Part (c) will not exceed \$900.
- (d) Where an employee purchases a reasonable amount of property, secures a joint mortgage (land and private dwelling) and begins construction within six months of relocation (i.e., foundation poured), they will be entitled to reimbursement of legal fees not to exceed the amount specified in (c) above. In these circumstances, the reimbursement will be for one transaction only.
- (e) The employee may only claim legal fee reimbursement in either (c) or (d) above, not both.

Part III

Where a regular employee is required to relocate:

- (a) as a result of the Employer moving its operation from one geographic location to another (see collective agreement Clause 12.8);
- (b) as a result of accepting a placement pursuant to Article 13, provided the employee is in receipt of layoff notice;
- (c) as a result of a placement pursuant to Article 36;

the employee will be entitled to the following reimbursements in addition to the provisions of MOU 2 Part II, upon production of receipts:

- (a) real estate commission fees not to exceed \$15,000. Where a claim is made under this section, there will be no entitlement to MOU 2 Part II, 2.10(a);
- (b) except where the terms of the employee's mortgage allow the employee to transfer the mortgage to a new residence without penalty, the mortgage discharge fee not to exceed \$100 and mortgage pre-payment penalty, if any;
- (c) survey certificate fee as required for the acquisition of a mortgage/purchase of a private dwelling at the new location;
- (d) interim financing fees and/or interest charges incurred for the purchase of the private dwelling house in the new location for a maximum period of 60 days. The employee will provide the necessary documentation to demonstrate that such interim financing arrangements were incurred and/or duplicate mortgage payments have been made.

Part III does not apply where the employee's private dwelling in which they resided immediately prior to relocation is not sold.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING 3
Regular Part-Time Employees

The parties acknowledge that as a general principle regular part-time employees should have access to continuous full-time employment prior to casual employees.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING 4
Modified Workweek

Extended Hours of Operation

The parties agree to utilize a Modified Workweek schedule to provide extended hours of operation to clients. The Modified Workweek will be three days at nine hours per day and one day at eight hours per day for a total of 35 hours per week. The workday will be scheduled between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday and between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Fridays.

- The minimum staff required will be three employees.
- The work schedule will be four days on with three days off.

- The additional scheduled day off will be based on the agreed upon schedule between the Employer and the Union's designate.
- Offers to work the modified workweek will be made to the senior employee in each required classification. Should the senior employee refuse the opportunity, the offer will be made to the next senior employee in that classification. In any event, the junior employee will be required to work the new workday.
- There will be no increased cost to the Employer due to the short changeover of shifts as the result of implementation of this modified workweek schedule.
- The provisions of Clause 14.7 (Modified Workweek) will apply.

The parties agree to meet to discuss any issues the Union may have with respect to this schedule. The Employer agrees to consider any reasonable proposals submitted by the Union that will improve the extended hours of operation.

The Employer will monitor the extended hours of operation and depending upon usage may cancel the arrangement with 30 days notice to the Union and employees affected. If the arrangement is cancelled, employees affected will revert to their former work schedule.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING 5 Modified Work Schedules

The parties agree to utilize a Modified Work Schedule to provide extended hours of operation to clients. The Modified Work Schedule will be the standard workweek consisting of any five consecutive days from Monday to Saturday, inclusive. The workday will be seven hours per day scheduled between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

The parties agree to meet to discuss any issues the Union may have with respect to this schedule. The Employer agrees to consider any reasonable proposals submitted by the Union that will improve the modified work schedule.

The Employer will monitor the modified work schedule and, depending on usage, may cancel the arrangement with 30 days notice to the Union and employees affected. If the arrangement is cancelled, employees affected will revert to their former work schedule.

- The Modified Work Schedule will be first offered to regular employees based on service seniority on a voluntary basis.
- If no regular employee volunteers for the Modified Work Schedule, then the junior employee who has the ability to perform the duties of the position will be required to accept the Modified Work Schedule.
- In recognition of any work performed on Saturday, all hours will be paid at the appropriate afternoon shift premium under Clause 15.1(b) (Shift Premiums).

It is agreed that the Employer will not withdraw its mutual agreement for the operation of the Modified Workweek under Clause 14.7 (Modified Workweek) during the life of this collective agreement in return for this memorandum of understanding on the operation of Modified Work Schedules.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING 6
Bullying in the Workplace

(a) Employees have the right to work in an environment free from bullying and the parties agree that there is a need to take responsible action to prevent bullying and whenever they become aware of such behaviour, put a stop to it. Bullying refers to vexatious behaviour taking the form of repeated hostile conduct, comments, actions, or gestures that affects an employee's dignity and that results in a harmful work environment; or a single incident of such behaviour that has a lasting harmful effect on an employee may also constitute bullying.

Informal Process

(b) Before proceeding to the formal complaint mechanism an employee who believes they have a complaint of bullying may approach their supervisory personnel, union steward, or other contact person to discuss potential means of resolving a complaint and to request assistance in resolving the matter. This may include direct dialogue or assistance from a supervisor, manager, or steward. If the matter is resolved to the complainant's satisfaction the matter is deemed to be resolved. If not, an employee may choose to pursue the matter through the formal process in (d) below.

(c) During all informal processes, confidentiality will be maintained to the fullest extent possible, subject to requirements of law. Participants are expected to respect the privacy and confidentiality of all discussions, both during the informal process and afterwards. Only those who must be informed of the details will be involved.

Formal Investigation

(d) (1) Where a formal complaint of bullying is brought to the attention of the Employer, within 30 days of the most recent alleged occurrence, it will be investigated by the appropriate supervisor or manager and, if substantiated, appropriate action will be taken to remedy the complaint. Details of the complaint will be provided to the respondent. The investigation will be completed within 30 days of receiving the complaint. Any proposed resolution will be issued within 14 days of receiving the results of the investigation.

(2) If the disposition of the complaint is disputed by the complainant or respondent, either one of them may pursue the matter further with the excluded manager within 21 days of having received notification or resolution referenced in (d)(1). The excluded manager will investigate this matter and, if substantiated, take appropriate action within 30 days to resolve the complaint.

(3) A steward may be utilized to assist members at any point in this procedure.

(4) If the disposition of the complaint is still disputed by either employee, the complaint may be referred within 21 days to the Employer and the Union for resolution by the bargaining Principals. Their decision regarding the complaint will be issued within 45 days and will be final and binding.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING 7
Domestic Abuse

1.1 Exception to Entitlements

Entitlements to accommodation and leave in this article do not apply with respect to domestic violence or sexual violence committed by the employee.

1.2 Place of Work Accommodation

- (a) If an employee or the employee's child has experienced domestic violence or sexual violence, and as a result the employee needs to work at a place of work other than where the Employer has assigned the employee, the Employer will accommodate the employee's need unless it would cause the Employer undue hardship.
- (b) The Employer may require an employee who needs accommodation under Clause 1.2(a) to provide evidence reasonable in the circumstances that the employee needs accommodation.

1.3 Hours of Work Accommodation

- (a) If an employee or the employee's child has experienced domestic violence or sexual violence, and as a result the employee needs fewer hours of work or needs to work at different times than the Employer has assigned the employee, the Employer will accommodate the employee's need unless it would cause the Employer undue hardship.
- (b) The Employer may require an employee who needs accommodation under Clause 1.3(a) to provide evidence reasonable in the circumstances that the employee needs accommodation.

1.4 Domestic Violence Leave

- (a) An employee is entitled to a leave of absence of a reasonable duration if the employee or the employee's child experienced domestic violence or sexual violence.
- (b) An employee is only entitled to a leave of absence under Clause 1.4(a) if the employee uses the leave of absence for one or more of the following purposes:
 - (1) to seek medical attention for the employee or the employee's child in respect of a physical or psychological injury or disability caused by the violence; or
 - (2) to obtain services for the employee or the employee's child in respect of the violence from a victim services organization, domestic violence shelter, rape crisis centre, sexual assault centre or other social services program or community agency; or
 - (3) to obtain psychological or other professional counselling for the employee or the employee's child in respect of the violence; or
 - (4) to relocate temporarily or permanently for the purpose of making future violence against the employee or the employee's child less likely; or
 - (5) to seek legal or law enforcement assistance for the employee or the employee's child, including preparing for or participating in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding related to or resulting from the violence.
- (c) If an employee has a physical or psychological injury or disability caused by the violence that requires accommodation or work absence, the employee follows the process outside this article that would apply to any injured or disabled employee under this collective agreement.
- (d) An employee who wishes to take leave under this section will advise the Employer in writing that the employee will be doing so. If the employee must begin the leave before advising the Employer, the employee will advise the Employer of the leave in writing as soon as possible after beginning it.
- (e) An employer may require an employee who takes a leave under this section to provide evidence reasonable in the circumstances that the employee is entitled to the leave.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING 8
Benefit Plan Survey

The parties recognize the importance of a sustainable and comprehensive health care plan that meets the needs of employees at SBBC. The Employer will conduct a benefits plan survey of employees on an annual basis. The results of the survey will be shared with the employees and Union.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING 1
Supplemental Employment Benefit Plan

1. *Supplemental Employment Benefit Plan - Maternity Leave*
 - (a) The objective of the Supplemental Employment Benefit (SEB) Plan is to supplement the employment insurance benefits received by eligible employees who are on approved maternity leave pursuant to the collective agreement Clause 21.1.
 - (b) The maximum number of weeks for which SEB Plan benefits are payable is 17 weeks.
 - (c) The duration of the plan will be from the date one month after the date compliance authorization for the Supplemental Employment Benefit Plan is received from Human Resources Development Canada to the date of expiration of this agreement.
 - (d) Employees do not have a right to SEB Plan payments except for supplementation of EI Benefits for the unemployment period as specified in this Plan.
 - (e) The Employer will inform the Human Resources Development Canada of any changes in the plan within 30 days of the effective date of the change.
 - (f) Payments in respect of guaranteed annual remuneration or in respect of deferred remuneration or severance pay benefits are not reduced or increased by payments received under the plan.
2. *Supplemental Employment Benefit Plan - Parental Leave*
 - (a) The objective of the Supplemental Employment Benefit (SEB) Plan is to supplement the employment insurance benefits received by eligible employees who are on approved parental leave pursuant to the collective agreement Clause 21.2.
 - (b) The maximum number of weeks for which SEB Plan benefits are payable is 35 weeks which can be spread out over 61 weeks. Notice period is laid out in Article 21.
 - (c) The duration of the plan will be from the date one month after the date compliance authorization for the Supplemental Employment Benefit Plan is received from Human Resources Development Canada to the date of expiration of this agreement.
 - (d) Employees do not have a right to SEB Plan payments except for supplementation of EI Benefits for the unemployment period as specified in this Plan.
 - (e) The Employer will inform the Human Resources Development Canada of any changes in the plan within 30 days of the effective date of the change.
 - (f) Payments in respect of guaranteed annual remuneration or in respect of deferred remuneration or severance pay benefits are not reduced or increased by payments received under the plan.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING 2
Performance Incentive Benefit

1. The objective of the Performance Incentive Benefit (PIB) is to provide motivation for employees to help increase the financial self-sustainability of the Society through the sale of products and services.
2. The maximum amount of PIB pay per employee is as follows:
 - (a) 2021-22 Fiscal Year, \$350
 - (b) 2022-23 Fiscal Year, \$400
 - (c) 2023-24 Fiscal Year, \$450
3. PIB pay is paid as a bonus and does not impact base pay rates.
4. In order for employees to be eligible for PIB pay in a given fiscal year, the Society must generate a total Gross Profit (Revenue less Cost of Goods Sold) on self-generated sales of 20% over the previous fiscal period. This is calculated by adding Small Business Revenue, plus name approvals, less cost of sales from audited financials.
 - (a) Self-Generated sales include all products, services and sponsorships sold by the Society but does not include "*Project Revenue*".
 - (i) Self-Generated sales include education and consulting products and services (registrations, BC Online, books, consignment kits, seminar fees, and advisory/consulting services) sponsorship, reseller agreements, event registrations, and room rentals (non-sublease).
 - (ii) Revenue excluded from self-generated sales includes tenant income (sublease, federal and provincial funding/grants, funding from government for special projects (i.e. TradeStart, WEPA).
5. Employees will be paid their PIB bonus pay after the end of each fiscal year upon completion of the third party audit of the Society's financial statements.
 - (a) PIB for part-time employees will be prorated.
 - (b) PIB for employees who worked less than 1826 hours in the fiscal year will be prorated based on hours worked in the applicable fiscal year.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING 3
Remote Work

The parties agree on the following guiding principles:

- An employee may, with the agreement of the Employer, work from a remote location.
- Remote work is voluntary.
- Remote work arrangements may be altered by either the employee, or the Employer with consultation and agreement of the Employer.
- When remote working an employee's normal weekly work schedule applies.

In order to investigate and implement directives and policies related to remote work. The parties will form a joint "*Remote work*" committee within 30 days of ratification, to discuss items including but not limited to the below considerations:

- (a) To investigate and implement sustainable options for remote work;
- (b) To ensure employees have a safe and healthy workspace as per WorkSafeBC;
- (c) To maximize opportunities for employees to access remote work options;
- (d) Relevant equipment and costs associated with remote working arrangements;
- (e) To review remote working arrangement yearly.

While joint committee is in progress and until the initial policy is deployed, current arrangements for remote work will be retained unless contractual obligations require in office presence.

Provincial or Federal Public health orders will supersede this if issued

* Committee composition: The joint committee will be composed of up to 3 union representatives and up to 3 employer representatives. This committee may call upon additional employees for departmental / technical information or advice.