



OH&S STEWARDS BULLETIN

WCB confirms wages paid to attend JOHS meetings must include benefits

An October 2015 WorkSafeBC (WCB) decision confirms that all Joint OH&S (JOHS) committee members are entitled to receive not just “straight time wages” to attend JOHS meetings outside their regular hours of work, but also benefits such as seniority, pension contributions, sick leave and vacation accrual.

This decision impacts workers whose employers may be coding their attendance at JOHS meetings under a different code which excludes benefits, seniority, service and pension accrual. Based on this decision, all B.C. employees, unionized or not, who are members of JOHS committees are entitled to receive wages with all benefits normally associated with their pay, when carrying out their duties, such as participating in inspections and investigations, and any other JOHS committee duties.

It is very important for permanent part-time or casual OH&S stewards to ensure that all time spent fulfilling their JOHS duties is treated and compensated as time worked.

For more information on JOHS members' rights, please check out the June 2013 OH&S Steward bulletin on the HEU website.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ana or Della.

For more information, check HEU's website at www.heu.org.

In solidarity,

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