

Machinists Strike Finning for the First time in BC !

Wednesday June 22, 2011

For Immediate Release

Vancouver, BC – Members of IAMAW Local Lodge 692 struck Finning International at 25 locations across British Columbia today at 4 PM Pacific Standard Time.

“We are working for a fair contract and so far Finning has not given us an offer that will get us a deal,” explained IAMAW District Lodge 250 Directing Business Representative Stan Pickthall. “We have been working hard on these negotiations over the past two days and Finning has moved only marginally from their previous position. Since no reasonable offer has come forward we have instructed our 700 members to be on picket lines at all Finning locations in British Columbia, as of 4 pm today.”

Wages, benefits, shifts and sub-contracting are the four major issues of concern for the workers who voted by a margin of 89.5 per cent in favour of strike action. “We have represented these workers at Finning since the mid 1960’s and until now we have never had to resort to strike action, but the company has left us with no alternative,” said Pickthall. The 700 mechanics, parts department and support personnel repair and overhaul heavy equipment for mining, forestry and construction industries in British Columbia.

“The bargaining team is available for further meetings with the employer but the strike will continue until Finning brings us a reasonable offer we can recommend to our membership,” added Pickthall.

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