

Press release - Union withdraws unfair labour complaint
January 31, 2017

(Halifax) - The unfair bargaining complaint against The Chronicle Herald has been withdrawn by the union representing its 55 striking newsroom workers.

The union officially withdrew its complaint at a labour hearing today (Tuesday) that was intended to outline witnesses and evidence that would be called during the five-day complaint scheduled to start next Monday.

"We've said all along that the company has been more than reasonable through the negotiations. The union's change in position makes that clear to everyone," said Ian Scott, the Herald's Chief Operating Officer.

The two sides have been negotiating over changes the company says are required to meet business challenges and are expected to return to face-to-face negotiations next Tuesday.

"We're pleased to see progress in the talks," said Scott, who said that the union also put forward new proposals to address remaining issues. The main outstanding points relate to achieving workplace efficiencies that have been agreed at other newspapers and severance amounts for laid off staff.

"The company is optimistic that the moves by the union signal a real willingness to broker a deal that allows us to get back to work and focus on the future of this business and of this province," said Scott.

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