

# **COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**8295140 CANADA LIMITED**

Doing Business As

**HAKAM'S YOUR INDEPENDENT GROCER #1877**

Langley, BC

**AND**



**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION,  
LOCAL NO. 247**

Chartered by the United Food and Commercial  
Workers International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC

**FIRST PRINTING**  
**Errors and Omissions Excepted**

**TERM OF AGREEMENT**

February 11, 2026 to February 10, 2032

Dear Union Member:

You are holding one of the most important documents you will receive at your job: your union Collective Agreement.

This document is a contract between your employer and our union that sets out the workplace rights and terms and conditions of employment for all union members at your workplace.

Every part of this agreement was negotiated with your employer by a bargaining committee comprised of your coworkers and fellow union members.

This document ensures you have better conditions than those found in non-union workplaces. Together, with engaged and empowered union members, we are committed to improving it at every opportunity.

Please help us give meaning to this agreement by reading it, asking questions about the rights it contains, and working with us to enforce it.

If you think there may be a violation of this agreement at your workplace, you have a legal right to contact a Shop Steward or Union Representative for help.

Help us build a stronger union – your union.

In Solidarity,

DAN GOODMAN  
President

CATHY SHANNON  
Secretary-Treasurer

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# COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

## **BETWEEN:**

**8295140 CANADA LIMITED**

Doing Business As

**HAKAM'S YIG #1877 (LANGLEY)**

(hereinafter referred to as the "Employer")

## **AND:**

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION,  
LOCAL 247**

(hereinafter referred to as the "Union")

## **WHEREAS:**

The general purpose of this Agreement is to establish mutually satisfactory relations between the Employer and its employees at the described unit and to provide guidelines for the prompt and equitable disposition of grievances and to establish and maintain satisfactory working conditions for all employees who are subject to the provisions of this Agreement.

## **NOW THEREFORE:**

The Union and the Employer mutually agree as follows:

## **ARTICLE 1 – PURPOSE**

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**1.01** The Employer and the Union each represents that the purpose and the intent of this Agreement is to promote co-operation and harmony, to recognize mutual interests, to provide a channel through which information and problems may be transmitted from one to the other, to formulate rules to govern the relationship between the Union and the Employer, to promote efficiency and service, to set forth herein the basic agreements covering rates of pay, hours of work and conditions of employment.

## **ARTICLE 2 – UNION SHOP**

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**2.01** 8295140 Canada Ltd. doing business as Hakam's Your Independent Grocer #1877, recognizes the Union as the sole and exclusive bargaining agency for all employees of Hakam's Your Independent Grocer, located at 20678 Willoughby Centre Dr., Langley, BC, save and except Store Owner, Store Manager, Assistant Store Manager, Department Managers, SAP Manager, Pharmacists, Registered/Regulated Pharmacy Technicians, Undergraduate Pharmacists, Community Room Supervisor and persons above the rank of Department Manager and office staff, and one management trainee.

## **ARTICLE 3 – UNION SECURITY**

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- 3.01** All employees shall, as a condition of employment, become and maintain active membership, as provided in the Constitution and bylaws of the Local Union. It is agreed that the Employer will have employees complete a Union membership application form within seven (7) days upon being employed and forward immediately to the Union office fully completed and signed.
- 3.02** The employer agrees to provide each new employee at the time of employment, with material outlining to the employee, their responsibility in regard to Union Membership as supplied by the Union.
- 3.03** It is the responsibility of the employee to maintain active membership as outlined in the International Constitution and the Local Union bylaws.
- 3.04** No employee shall be discharged, disciplined or discriminated against for any lawful Union activity, or for serving on a Union committee or for reporting to the Union the violation of any provisions of this Agreement. Instances of alleged violation of the foregoing will be brought to the attention of the Owner/Operator, and a full investigation by the parties will follow. The above will be subject to the grievance procedure. Any alleged harassment will be dealt with by the Company.

## **ARTICLE 4 – DEDUCTION OF UNION DUES**

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**4.01** The Employer agrees to automatically deduct from the wages of each employee covered by this Agreement, initiation fees, Union dues and assessments as may be adopted and designated by the Union. In the event of a change, the Union will give the Employer at least five (5) weeks prior notice of the effective date change or deduction as the case may be.

Such Union dues deducted shall be indicated on the employee's T-4.

**4.02** The Employer shall remit no later than fifteen (15) days after the preceding accounting period:

- a) monies deducted from the wages of its employees for Union initiation, fees, dues, assessments and hours paid;
- b) a statement showing each employee's name, employee number and social insurance number, department (and store number) from whom deductions were made, and the amount of the deduction(s) and an hourly rate of pay for each employee;
- c) a statement showing the names, employee number, and social insurance number of the employees terminated and hired during the preceding accounting period;

- d) a statement showing the name, home mailing address including postal code, landline and/or mobile telephone numbers, social insurance number of all bargaining unit employees.

Commencing with the first week of employment, Initiation Fees shall be deducted in ten (10) weekly instalments.

## **ARTICLE 5 – BASIC WORK WEEK AND TIME RECORDING**

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The Employer reserves the right to schedule hours of operations, employees' hours of work, rest periods, meal periods and overtime work, subject to the following provisions:

### **5.01 Basic Work Week**

- a) The basic work week of an employee working full-time shall be forty (40) hours consisting of five (5) eight (8) hour days;
- b) Daily hours of work shall be consecutive with the exception of rest and meal periods. No split shifts shall be worked;
- c) Employees shall not work longer than their regular, scheduled work day, unless requested to do so by Management; in which event, additional time will be paid at applicable regular or overtime rates. Employees are required to leave the store as soon as it is reasonable to do so.

## 5.02 Time Sheets/Time Clocks

- a) The Employer shall provide either time clocks or time sheets to enable employees to record their time for payroll purposes;

Employees shall record their own time at the time they start and finish work, and the time they commence and return from meal periods, and such other recordings as be required by the Employer. Where time sheets are used, the employees will record their time in a ballpoint pen.

- b) In the event the time to be paid is less than the time recorded, the employee shall be advised. An employee, who for any reason fails to record all time worked in the manner required by the Article shall be penalized upon authorization from the Union as follows:

- i) **1<sup>st</sup> violation** - three (3) days' suspension without pay;
- ii) **2<sup>nd</sup> violation** - one (1) weeks' suspension without pay.

Suspension shall be implemented within one (1) month of notification to do so, unless a longer period is mutually agreed upon by the Union and the Employer; or in the event that the requested suspension becomes subject to the grievance procedure.

- iii) **3<sup>rd</sup> violation** - two (2) weeks' suspension without pay.
- c) The Employer may elect to introduce other forms of time recording for payroll purposes and prior to doing so, shall meet with the Union in advance to advise of any changes. The Employer shall not use personal information obtained for any reason other than that of time recording for payroll purposes or door access.

**5.03** The Employer is committed to the early resolution of payroll disputes. If an employee believes that they were paid incorrectly, they should immediately bring it to the attention of their Department Manager. If the matter is not resolved to their satisfaction, then it should be brought to the attention of the Manager and the Union.

In the event that an employee is not paid the correct amount of pay as a result of an error made by the Employer, and is not remedied within three (3) working days, the Employee shall be compensated an additional ten percent (10%) of any shorted amount, provided the employee brings the matter to the attention of the Employer as determined above in the week following payday and the Employee has properly recorded their time (by TAS swipe where applicable).

## **ARTICLE 6 – OVERTIME**

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- 6.01** All time worked in excess of the basic work week or work day, as defined in Article 5.01 of this Agreement, shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half (1½) the regular hourly rate
- 6.02** Time off shall not be given in lieu of overtime pay.
- 6.03** All overtime work must be authorized in advance by the Employer.
- 6.04** When overtime of more than two (2) hours is to be worked, consecutive with the regular hours of work, the employee shall be entitled to a fifteen (15) minute paid rest period before commencing overtime.

## **ARTICLE 7 – MEAL PERIODS - FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES**

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- 7.01** Full-time employees working six (6) hours, up to and including eight (8) hours, shall be scheduled by the Employer for a meal period of either thirty (30) minutes or sixty (60) minutes without pay as determined by the Employer.
- 7.02** Meal period will be scheduled as near mid-shift as possible. Similarly, rest periods will be scheduled as near to midway between the meal period and the commencement and finish of a shift, as possible.

## **ARTICLE 8 – REST PERIODS - FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES**

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**8.01** An employee working six (6) hours, up to and including eight (8) hours, shall be scheduled by the Employer for two (2) rest periods not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes each; to commence not earlier than one (1) hour after the start of the shift nor less than one (1) hour before either the meal period or the end of the shift. If an employee abuses this provision they will be subject to discipline, as determined by the Employer, which shall be subject to the grievance procedure.

## **ARTICLE 9 – MEAL AND REST PERIODS - PART-TIME EMPLOYEES**

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**9.01** An employee working a daily shift of four (4) hours will have one (1) rest period not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes.

**9.02** A daily shift of more than five (5) hours, but less than seven (7) hours, will have two (2) paid rest periods of fifteen (15) minutes duration each which may be scheduled as follows, if mutually agreeable:

- a) combine the two (2) rest periods at mid-shift;
- b) two (2) rest periods as per usual practice with one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour for lunch break unpaid.

**9.03** An employee working a daily shift of seven (7) or more hours, up to and including eight (8) hours, shall be scheduled for two (2) rest periods not to exceed fifteen

(15) minutes and one (1) lunch period of either thirty (30) minutes or sixty (60) minutes without pay as determined by the Employer. If an employee abuses this provision they will be subject to discipline as determined by the Employer, which shall be subject to the grievance procedure. Rest periods, as described above, shall be with pay. Except in cases of emergency, meal and rest periods will be uninterrupted.

**9.04** Meal periods will be scheduled as near mid-shift as possible. Rest periods shall commence not earlier than one (1) hour after the start of the shift nor less than one (1) hour before either the meal period or the end of the shift. For shifts of five (5) hours or longer, the rest period shall not commence earlier than one and a half (1½) hours after the start of the shift nor less than one and a half (1½) hours before the end of the shift.

**9.05** If specifically agreed between the employee and the Department Manager, rest period may be paid at the employee's applicable rate of pay instead of taken.

## **ARTICLE 10 – SCHEDULING**

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**10.01** A minimum of twenty-four (24) hours' notice must be given by the Employer to reschedule an employee's work shift. Such notice is not required with respect to overtime work, absence of staff due to sickness or accident or in case of emergency.

**10.02** A copy of the completed master schedule with all changes and authorized time noted shall be posted by

6:00 p.m. Monday, following the end of the week, and shall remain posted until the new schedule is posted by 6:00 p.m. Wednesday.

Any changes to the posted schedule must be conveyed directly to the employee by the Department Manager.

- 10.03** An employee's schedule may be changed without notice in the event of absence of other staff due to sickness or accident, or in the event of an emergency.

An emergency shall be defined as: Any sudden or unusual occurrence or condition that could not, by the exercise of reasonable judgement, have been foreseen by the Employer.

- 10.04** Employees shall be allowed ten (10) hours rest between shifts except in an emergency or where by mutual agreement between the Employer and the employee, eight (8) hours of rest between shifts is allowed.

There will be a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours between the end of the employee's day shift and the beginning of the employee's night stocking shift and also between the end of the employee's night stocking shift and the beginning of the employee's day shift.

- 10.05** All employees who are scheduled to work twenty (20) or more hours per week shall be scheduled two (2) consecutive days off each week where it is consistent with the efficient operation of the department. This

may be altered by mutual agreement between the Employer and the Employee.

Where possible, full-time employees shall receive either a Saturday/Sunday or Sunday/Monday off once (1x) per four (4) week period calendar.

- 10.06** Employees will be required to work no more than four (4) hours on the express checkout or the U-Scan till in any one day, except in the case of an emergency or by mutual agreement.
- 10.07** Employees starting a shift between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. inclusive will be scheduled for shifts of not less than five (5) hours.
- 10.08** Where it is consistent with the efficient operation of the department, an employee will not be required to work more than seven (7) consecutive days.
- 10.09** Where it is deemed necessary to extend shifts on short notice, such extensions will be offered by seniority, subject to availability, to employees whose shift is ending at the time the extension is required by the Employer. This will not apply in cases where the extension of the senior employee(s) would result in overtime. Meal and rest periods will be subject to Articles 7, 8, and 9 if applicable.
- 10.10** In scheduling part-time employees in a department the most available part-time hours of work on a weekly basis shall be assigned to such employees within the

classification within the department on the basis of seniority, subject to their availability status and provided the employee has the qualification and ability to handle the work to be performed in a competent manner.

Senior available anytime employees will be scheduled as many or more hours than junior anytime employees on a weekly basis.

Within the department scheduling group, hours will be scheduled to restricted employees on a weekly basis subject to seniority and availability. Senior restricted employees will be scheduled as many or more hours than junior restricted employees on a weekly basis except when the senior restricted employee is not available or does not have the ability to work the shift(s) assigned to the junior restricted employee.

- 10.11** Due to business needs, part-time employees may be required to temporarily perform work outside of their department from time to time. In addition, part-time employees may be moved to a new department at any time by mutual agreement between the Employer and employee. Part-time employees moved between departments will maintain their rate of pay and will carry their full seniority.

## **ARTICLE 11 – WAGES AND LEAD HAND**

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### **11.01 Rate Schedule**

The Employer agrees to pay all persons covered by the terms of this Agreement, not less than the Wages outlined in Appendix “A” during such time as the Agreement is in force.

### **11.02 Night Shift Lead Hands**

When night stocking takes place, and a Department Manager is not on duty, one (1) employee on the night stocking shift, shall be designated a Lead Hand, and shall be paid a premium in addition to the regular rate of pay of one dollar (\$1.00) per hour.

When a Department Manager is on duty, they will be responsible for leading and directing the workforce.

## **ARTICLE 12 – GENERAL HOLIDAYS**

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### **12.01** The following days shall be paid General Holidays:

New Year's Day	Labour Day
Family Day	National Truth & Reconciliation Day
Good Friday	Thanksgiving Day
Victoria Day	Remembrance Day
Canada Day	Christmas Day
1 <sup>st</sup> Monday in August	

and, if and when proclaimed by Federal or Provincial Governments, Heritage Day and all other public holidays proclaimed by the Dominion, Provincial or Municipal Governments; provided, that all other major grocery stores close on any such holidays proclaimed.

- 12.02** General Holidays shall be observed on the day they actually occur. Such may be changed by mutual agreement, but shall be taken within two (2) weeks of said holiday.
- 12.03** In the case of a General Holiday proclaimed by a City or Municipality, only those stores of the Employer in that City or municipality shall be affected by the requirements of this Article.
- 12.04** Provided they work their regular scheduled full work day before and after the holiday, unless absent due to a bona fide illness or accident, a full-time employee regularly working shall receive eight (8) hours pay for each such holiday.
- 12.05** All employees required to work on a holiday shall be compensated at the rate of time and one half (1.5x) their regular hourly rate for each hour worked.
- 12.06** All part-time employees who have been employed thirty (30) calendar days or more and have worked an average of at least thirty-two (32) hours or more per week on the four (4) weeks preceding the week in which a General Holiday occurs, shall receive eight (8) hours pay at their regular rate for each holiday.

**12.07** All part-time employees who have been employed thirty (30) calendar days or more and have worked an average of at least twenty (20) hours a week, but less than thirty-two (32) hours per week in the four (4) weeks preceding the week in which a General Holiday occurs, shall receive six (6) hours pay at their regular hourly rate for each holiday.

**12.08** All part-time employees who have employed thirty (30) calendar days or more, and have worked at least ten (10) hours a week, but less than twenty (20) hours per week in the four (4) weeks preceding the week in which a General Holiday occurs, shall receive four (4) hours pay at their regular hourly rate for each holiday.

All part-time employees who work less than ten (10) hours per week will receive General Holiday pay as set out in the *Employment Standards Act*.

**12.10** In a week where one (1) general holiday occurs, as identified in Article 12.01, the basic work week for a full-time employee shall be thirty-two (32) hours. In a week where two (2) general holidays occur, the basic work week for a full-time employee shall be twenty-four (24) hours.

## **ARTICLE 13 – RATES FOR RELIEF WORK**

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**13.01** Any employee assigned to relieve a Departmental Manager for a period of more than two (2) days shall be paid a premium of one dollar (\$1.00) per hour for such position for all time employed.

**13.02** Premium pay for relieving the above Departmental Managers shall be over and above the employee's present regular rate of pay. In the case of an Assistant Department Manager, the difference between the Relief and Assistant Department Manager premium will be added to the Assistant's rate for the period of relief.

## **ARTICLE 14 – STAFF MEETINGS**

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**14.01** Staff meetings, whenever held, shall be considered as time worked, and compensated for, except where attendance by an employee is on a voluntary basis. Notices posted for staff meetings will clearly state whether the meeting is mandatory or voluntary.

## **ARTICLE 15 – CREDIT FOR PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE**

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**15.01** New Clerk Trainees may be classified according to previous experience to a maximum of eight thousand (8,000) hours on the Clerk Trainee Scale, provided

- i) it is comparable experience as determined by the owner in a retail store; and
- ii) twelve (12) months have not elapsed since their last day worked.

**15.02** It shall be the responsibility of the employee to supply reasonable proof of their previous experience within ninety (90) calendar days of employment. Otherwise,

all claims for credit for previous experience shall be forfeited by the employee. Reasonable proof will mean that if past employment records are not obtainable, the Union records, income tax records, or other similar documents will be acceptable. The hourly rate for recognized credit will be effective from the first day of employment to a maximum of sixty (60) calendar days from date of employment.

The Employer will have the right to demand proof of past experience from the employee affected in establishing their proper wage scale.

## **ARTICLE 16 – CALL-IN-TIME**

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**16.01** All employees called in, and who report for work shall, if requested to work less than four (4) hours, shall receive four (4) hours pay at their regular hourly rate.

## **ARTICLE 17 – VACATIONS**

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**17.01** Vacations shall be scheduled from April 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> (prime time) unless otherwise mutually agreed by the Employer and the employee. So far as is practical and consistent with the Employer maintaining an efficient operation, vacations shall be granted during the time requested by the employees. The application for vacations shall be granted on basis of, and in order of, respective employee's seniority in selection of vacation dates.

The Employer shall post a notice by January 17<sup>th</sup> advising employees seeking vacation time to submit requests to their Department Managers by February 14<sup>th</sup>. Vacation schedules will be confirmed and posted by March 17<sup>th</sup> after which changes will be by mutual agreement. If the request for vacation time is not made by February 14<sup>th</sup>, they will be granted at the Employer's discretion.

**17.02** All part-time employees who have completed one (1) year of continuous employment with the Employer will have the opportunity to schedule two (2) weeks' vacation. Part-time employees who have completed three (3) years of continuous employment with the Employer shall receive a third (3<sup>rd</sup>) week of vacation. Such time off will be without pay. Part-time vacation schedules will be completed following the selection by full-time employees.

The Parties agree that vacation pay accrued by part-time employees during a pay period may be paid out on the payday for that pay period. Part-time employees may elect to set-up a secondary bank account into which they may apportion an amount equal to all, or a portion, of their vacation pay via direct deposit.

**17.03** Where employees are entitled the three (3) weeks of vacation, the additional week of vacation may be scheduled consecutively, at the discretion of the Employer.

- 17.04** Employees entitled to four (4) or more weeks of paid vacation shall receive their additional two (2) or more weeks consecutively unless the employee and the Employer mutually agree otherwise, with such additional weeks to be scheduled at the description of the Employer.
- 17.05** All full-time employees, after one (1) calendar year (January 1 - December 31) of service as a full-time employee, shall receive two (2) weeks' vacation with pay.
- 17.06** All employees with three (3) or more calendar years of continuous service with the Employer as a full-time employee, shall receive three (3) weeks' vacation with pay during the vacation period unless otherwise mutually agreed.
- 17.07** All employees with ten (10) or more calendar years of continuous service with the Employer as a full-time employee shall receive four (4) weeks' vacation with pay.
- 17.08** All employees with eighteen (18) or more calendar years of continuous service with the Employer as full-time employee shall receive five (5) weeks' vacation with pay.
- 17.09** Full-time employees who are eligible for five (5) weeks' vacation will have the opportunity to schedule three (3) weeks' vacation during prime time.

- 17.10** The Employer agrees to provide vacation pay for full-time employees based on their straight time hourly rate.
- 17.11** Part-time employees shall receive vacation with pay in accordance with the *Employment Standards Act of British Columbia*.
- 17.12** Part-time employees with thirteen (13) or more years of continuous employment with the Employer will have the opportunity to schedule three (3) weeks' time off during prime time.
- 17.13** A part-time employee proceeding to full-time employment will be credited with the number of hours accumulated during the employee's continuous service with the Employer as a part-time employee and provided the employee's service is continuous from part-time to full-time. The credited hours will be balanced with the annual hours of a regular full-time employee to establish the appropriate yearly credit for future vacation entitlements, as provided above.
- 17.14** Where general holiday occurs during an employee's vacation, an extra day's vacation with pay shall be granted if the holiday is one which the employee would have received had they been working. Where an employee received three (3) or more weeks' vacation with pay and a general holiday occurs during the employee's paid vacation, an extra day's pay may be given in lieu of an extra day's vacation with pay if, in the opinion of the Employer, an extra day's vacation

with pay interferes with vacation schedules or interferes with the needs of the Employer.

- 17.15** All time lost [up to thirty-one (31) consecutive days] because of sickness, or non-occupational accident, all time lost due to occupational accident, all time absent on paid full-time vacation, paid general holidays and all time spent at bakery or meat apprenticeship schools (assuming the employee returns to the Employer following the completion of their course) shall be considered as time worked for the purpose of determining the vacation allowance to which a full-time employee is entitled.
- 17.16** All employees, whose absence due to non-occupational accident or sickness or unpaid leave of absence, extends beyond thirty-one (31) consecutive days and results in less than forty (40) hours' pay per week, shall have their vacation pay prorated in the subsequent vacation year.
- 17.17** Where the services of an employee are retained by the purchaser of the business, their service (for vacation purpose only) shall be deemed to be interrupted by the sale or purchase of the business and shall be binding upon the purchaser, in accordance with prevailing statutes.
- 17.18** Employees who have worked thirty (30) days but less than one (1) year and who terminate their employment will receive a vacation allowance to the amount equal

to four percent (4%) of the total salary and wages earned for which no vacation allowance has been paid.

**17.19** Employees entitled to two (2), three (3), four (4), or five (5) weeks' vacation and who terminate their employment shall receive payment for vacation allowance in an amount equal to four percent (4%), six percent (6%), eight percent (8%), and ten percent (10%), respectively, of the total wage and salary earned by the employee during the period of employment for which no vacation allowance has been paid.

**17.20** Provided the full-time employees advises the Employer, in writing, at least one (1) month before the commencement of their vacation, the Employer agrees to schedule one (1) of the employee's Saturday/Sunday or Sunday/Monday combinations to coincide with the employee's vacation once (1x) per year.

## **ARTICLE 18 – DISMISSAL NOTICE OR PAY IN LIEU THEREOF**

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**18.01** Employees regularly working full-time and upon dismissal by the Employer shall be given individual notice in writing or pay in lieu thereof, as follows:

- a) one (1) week's notice in writing or pay in lieu thereof, to those who have completed sixty (60) or more consecutive days service as a full-time employee;

- b) two (2) weeks' notice in writing or pay in lieu thereof, to those who have completed two (2) or more consecutive years' service;
- c) three (3) weeks' notice in writing or pay in lieu thereof, to those who have completed five (5) or more consecutive years' service;
- d) four (4) weeks' notice in writing or pay in lieu thereof, to those who have completed eight (8) or more consecutive years' service;
- e) the Employer agrees to pay severance pay on store closing of one (1) week's pay up to two (2) years and one (1) week per year over two (2) years to a maximum of twenty (20) weeks' pay for full-time employees.

**18.02** Full-time employees, reduced to part-time and who terminate or are terminated within three (3) months of the date of their reduction to part-time shall be given whatever pay in lieu of notice to which they were entitled immediately prior to the date of their reduction to part-time.

**18.03** The Employer shall not be deemed obliged to give any notice whatsoever or to give any pay in lieu thereof, to any employee guilty of rank insubordination, dishonesty, obvious disloyalty, possession and/or consumption of intoxicants or illegal drugs at any time during working hours, or just cause.

**18.04** Theft from the Employer, customers and co-workers is prohibited. Any employee found to be removing or consuming any property belonging to the Employer, customers or other employees will be dismissed with just cause.

Willful damage to the property of the Employer, customers, or fellow employees is prohibited. Any employee found to be willfully damaging the property of others in the workplace will be dismissed with just cause.

This Article shall not be deemed to invalidate an employee's right under Article 30.

The use of intoxicants compromises the safety of all employees; Intoxicants can include alcohol, legal drugs (recreational or medical cannabis, including vaping products), or illegal drugs. Therefore the use of intoxicants while working is prohibited. This includes:

- a) Any use, possession, distribution, or the offering for sale of illegal drugs, related paraphernalia or legal drugs prescribed to others.
- b) Any consumption, possession or presence in the body of alcohol, during working hours or on the Employer's premises. Employees who are impaired by alcohol or drugs whether consumed at work or prior to work, will be immediately removed from the workplace.

## **ARTICLE 19 – FUNERAL AND BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

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**19.01** In the event of death in the immediate family of an employee, the employee will be granted leave of absence with pay, with consideration given to travel time for attending the funeral. The length of absence shall be up to three (3) days at the discretion of the Employer. The term ‘immediate family’ shall mean: spouse, parent, child, siblings, step-parent, step-child, step-sibling, parent-in-law, sibling-in-law, child-in-law, grandparent, grandchildren, or any relative living in the household of the employee. In the event of the demise of a parent’s sibling, or sibling’s child, an employee will be granted one (1) day leave of absence with pay to attend the funeral.

In the case of death of spouse, parent, child, step-parent or step-child, the employee shall be entitled to, up to one (1) weeks leave of absence with pay.

**19.02** Part-time employees’ time off with pay shall be calculated on a prorated basis of hours worked during the twelve (12) weeks prior to the week the funeral leave was taken.

**19.03** Application for additional unpaid leave for out of country travel will be considered.

**19.04** Employees may split either the three (3) days or one (1) week to cover off both bereavement and time to attend the funeral (i.e. two [2] days bereavement taken

at the time of death and one [1] day taken for the day of the funeral).

An employee's day off will not be used to circumvent funeral leave provisions. This leave may be extended for up to five (5) days by using vacation time and/or other unpaid leave.

## **ARTICLE 20 – PREGNANCY LEAVE**

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**20.01** Employees shall request a leave of absence because of pregnancy. Such request will be granted, provided the employee submits to their Employer a request, in writing, for such leave at least four (4) weeks prior to the date they intend to commence such leave, together with a certificate from a qualified medical practitioner indicating the estimated due date, unless medical circumstances prevent the employee from providing the required notice.

Pregnancy leave shall be a maximum of seventeen (17) unpaid weeks of which eleven (11) weeks may be taken prior to delivery. The employer will require additional medical documentation from an employee who requests more than eleven (11) weeks leave prior to their due date.

**20.02** The employee, when returning to work, shall give the Employer two (2) weeks' notice of date of return and submit a certificate from their qualified medical practitioner, indicating that their resumption in

employment will not, in their opinion, endanger their health.

**20.03** The employee shall be returned to their former position at the completion of their leave of absence. Should the position no longer exist, the Employer and the Union shall meet to resolve the issue.

**20.06** An employee who resumes employment on the expiration of the leave of absence granted in accordance with this Article 20 or Article 21 below will do so with all increments to wages and benefits to which the employee would have been entitled had the leave not been taken.

All employees returning to work as outlined above shall receive credit to their class hours and seniority hours based on the average hours that they would have worked while on the leave. The credits shall be applied upon the employee's return to work and paid retroactively if applicable.

## **ARTICLE 21 – PARENTAL LEAVE**

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**21.01** Birth mothers who have taken pregnancy leave under Article 20.01 shall at their request be granted an unpaid parental leave of a maximum of thirty-five (35) consecutive weeks, to be taken within the fifty-two (52) week period after the child's birth, beginning immediately after the leave taken under Article 20.01.

**21.02** Birth fathers, adoptive parents, and birth mothers who have not taken leave under Article 20.01 shall at their request be granted an unpaid parental leave of a maximum of thirty-seven (37) consecutive weeks, to be taken within the fifty-two (52) week period after the birth or adoption of child.

**21.03** Employees requesting leave under Article 21.02 must give the employer at least four (4) weeks written notice of the date the employee will start parental leave unless:

(a) the medical condition of the birth mother or child makes it impossible to comply with this requirement,

(b) the date of the child's placement with the adoptive parent was not foreseeable.

The Employer reserves the right to request appropriate documentation supporting (a) or (b) above.

**21.04** Employees on leave shall give the employer a minimum of two (2) weeks' notice of their intention to return to work.

**21.05** If employees eligible for parental leave are parents of the same child and are both employed by the Employer, the Employer is not required to grant parental leave to more than one employee at a time.

## **ARTICLE 22 – LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

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**22.01** The Employer agrees to grant necessary time off without pay, to not more than one (1) employee, designated by the Union, for a maximum of one (1) year to attend a Labour Convention or to serve in an official capacity for the Union, provided that as much notice as is possible be given, and in any event, not less than fifteen (15) days, provided a suitable replacement can be made available by the Employer for the job involved.

**22.02** Leaves of absence for which the Employer is reimbursed by the Union will be considered as time worked to a maximum of one hundred (100) hours each calendar year. However, time paid for by the Union in excess of one hundred (100) hours each calendar year will be credited to the employee's seniority hours but will not be credited for the purpose of service increment.

**22.03** Employees shall be considered for leaves of absence without pay for severe personal familial distress.

Other applications for unpaid time off for extraordinary life events shall be considered. Length of leave for extraordinary life events shall not exceed four (4) weeks outside the vacation period or two (2) weeks within the vacation period, unless as determined otherwise by the Employer.

All leaves under Article 22.03 shall be subject to operational requirements.

**22.04** All applications for leave shall be in writing to the Owner who will make the final decision. Length of leave shall be governed by need. Copies of the application must also be submitted to the Departmental Manager and the Union Office.

**22.05 Family Responsibility Leave**

An employee is entitled to up to five (5) days of unpaid leave during each employment year to meet responsibility related to:

- a) the care, health or education of a child in the employee's care or
- b) the care or health of any other member of the employee's immediate family.

**22.06** An employee off on medical leave of absence will be required to provide updated medical documentation at least once every four (4) weeks unless the Employer advises otherwise. The Employer will be fair and reasonable in their request for this medical information.

**22.07** The Employer recognizes that employees sometimes face situations of violence or abuse in their personal lives that may affect their attendance or performance at work. For that reason, and upon verification of the

situation, the Employer will take reasonable steps to accommodate absences or performance issues arising directly from situations of violence or abuse that occur in the context of close personal relationships.

Verified absences, which are not otherwise covered by the terms of the Collective Agreement, will be granted as absent with permission without pay not to exceed two (2) months. Employees shall have the ability to fund these absences through any paid time off they have accumulated under the Collective Agreement at the time of absence.

**22.08** *The Employment Standards Act of British Columbia* shall govern maternity, paternity, family and adoption leaves.

For expanded leave of absence provisions and information see the *Employment Standards Act of British Columbia*. (<https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/>).



## **ARTICLE 23 – UNION’S RECOGNITION OF MANAGEMENT’S RIGHTS**

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**23.01** The Union agrees that the Management of the Company, including the right to plan, direct and control store operations, direction of the working force, discharge of employees for just cause, and those matters requiring judgement as to the competency of

the employees, is the sole right and function of the Employer.

**23.02** The parties agree that the Employer shall be the sole judge of the merchandise it may handle, process, manufacture or package and of the manner in which these functions may be carried out and in which the merchandise may be handled, stored, shipped or sold.

**23.03** The parties agree that the foregoing enumeration of Management rights shall not be deemed to exclude other recognized functions of Management not specifically covered by the Agreement. The Employer, thereof, retains all rights not otherwise specifically covered by the Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 24 – STORE VISITS, BULLETIN BOARDS AND STEWARD RECOGNITION**

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**24.01** An authorized representative or executive officer of the Union shall be permitted, after notifying the Manager, to talk with an employee regarding Union matters during regular working hours. The interview of such employee by the Union Representative or executive officer shall be carried on in a place for and designated by the Employer. Time taken for such interview in excess of five (5) minutes shall not be on Company time. Time taken for such visits shall not disrupt the serving of customers.

Union representatives may request copies of payroll records including work schedules. Specific requests should be made to the Manager.

Union representatives will be permitted access to locations where bargaining unit members are working, provided they are wearing authorized identification.

**24.02** A locking case will be placed in the lunch room or another mutually agreed location and be designated for Union notices only. The Union agrees not to post material objectionable to the Employer.

**24.03** The Employer recognizes that shop stewards may be elected or appointed by the Union. The Union shall inform the Employer and post notices of shop stewards on the bulletin boards.

## **ARTICLE 25 – MISCELLANEOUS**

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**25.01** Where the Employer requires the employee to wear smocks or aprons, the Employer shall provide and repair such smocks and aprons free of cost to the employee.

**25.02** The Employer agrees to display the official Union Decal or Union Card of the Union in a location where it can be seen by the customers. Such decal shall be of a form and size acceptable to Management, and posted in a place approved by the Employer.

**25.03** The Employer agrees, during the term of this Agreement, to furnish and maintain first aid equipment in its stores, as required by the Workers Compensation Act.

**25.04** The Employer commits to having appropriate lighting in the area where employees park and enter the store. This is intended to provide light to these areas when the store is closed.

**25.05 Bonding**

Should the Employer require a security background check on any existing employee, the Employer will bear the cost.

**25.06 Supplies**

The Employer will maintain the appropriate supplies required to effectively operate the front-end checkouts. Such items will include pens, fatigue mats etc. as determined by the employer.

**25.07 Facilities and Cash Shortage Reports**

The Employer will provide a microwave oven, a coffee machine and a courtesy phone for employee use.

Cash shortage reports will not be posted in open areas.

In the event that the temperature in the store becomes unreasonably cold, employee will be allowed to dress accordingly.

## **25.08 Employee Relations Committee (ERC)**

The parties agree to an Employee Relations Committee (E.R.C.) to address issues of concern to both employees and the Employer. The meetings will be held as needed at the store or at an otherwise mutually agreed location.

The Union Representative and up to two (2) bargaining unit employees or their designates. Subjects addressed may include health and safety, housekeeping and maintenance.

Issues that arise between meetings may be presented in writing to management or the Union. The Employer will reply in writing or determine that an additional E.R.C. meeting is necessary.

The existence of this committee will not affect employee's rights under Article 30.

## **25.09 Additional Department Managers**

The parties agree that a second Department Manager may be appointed and excluded under Article 1 in those departments where the Employer determines it necessary for the proper operation of the business.

The introduction of a second Department Manager shall not result in a reduction in hours worked by bargaining unit employees in the Department.

## **ARTICLE 26 – JURY DUTY AND MATERIAL WITNESS**

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**26.01** All employees, summoned to jury duty or subpoenaed as a material witness, shall be paid wages amounting to the difference between the amount paid to them for such services and the amount they would have earned had they worked on such days. Employees on jury duty or subpoenaed as a material witness shall furnish the Employer with such a statement of earnings as the Courts may supply. This does not apply if the employee is summoned on their day(s) off.

Part-time employees, when summoned to jury duty or appearing as material witness on behalf of this employer shall be re-scheduled or paid wages based on hours worked in the previous four (4) weeks.

**26.02** Employees shall return to work within a reasonable period of time following the conclusion or breaks from jury duty. They shall not be required to report if less than two (2) hours of their normal shift remains to be worked. Total hours on jury duty, or when acting as a material witness, and actual work on the job in the store in one day shall not exceed eight (8) hours for the purpose of establishing the basic work day. Any time worked in the store in excess of the combined total eight (8) hours shall be considered overtime and paid as such under the contract.

## **ARTICLE 27 – PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS**

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- 27.01** Where the Employer requires the employee to take a physical examination, the doctor's fee shall be paid by the Employer, and the examination shall be on Company time. Where subsequent examination proves an employee unfit to work in a food store, examinations shall be paid by the employee.
- 27.02** Where the Employer requires an employee to have a Modified Work Form completed specific to a WCB claim, the Employer will reimburse the employee, to a maximum of sixty dollars (\$60.00), provided a valid, paid receipt is presented and the form is returned in a timely manner as determined by the Employer. Employees will cooperate with the Employer in this regard.
- 27.03** Employees applying for Weekly Indemnity or WCB Benefits must cooperate with the Employer to the timely return of modified duties work forms and where medically permitted, cooperatively participating in a modified return to work program.

## **ARTICLE 28 – CASH SHORTAGES**

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- 28.01** Employees handling cash will be held accountable for errors resulting in cash register overages and shortages where they have been given the opportunity to verify the contents of the cash tray at both the beginning and the end of the shift and have exclusive access to the register throughout the work shift. In the event that

management or designated cash off employees exercise the right to open the register during the employee's work shift, the employee will be given the opportunity to verify all withdrawals and/or deposits.

**28.02** In the event a customer claims they have been short-changed by the cashier, the cashier shall notify management and together verify the contents of the cash tray.

**28.03** No employee shall be required to make up register shortages when management exercises the right to open the register during the employee's work shift, unless the register is opened in the presence of the employee and the employee is given the opportunity to verify all withdrawals and/or deposits.

## **ARTICLE 29 – SENIORITY**

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**29.01** Seniority shall mean the length of continuous service with the Employer in classifications within the seniority group covered by the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 247, Collective Agreement. All employees shall have a probationary period of three hundred (300) hours worked. The probation period may be extended by mutual agreement with the Union Representative up to an additional one hundred (100) hours worked. During this probationary period, new employees may be discharged by the Employer at its discretion. Upon completion of the probationary period, seniority shall then be established retroactive to the commencement of employment.

**29.02** Part-time employees shall accumulate seniority based on actual hours worked. Should a part-time employee become a full-time employee, the part-time seniority credits shall be converted to the seniority date based on one hundred and sixty (160) hours being equal to one (1) month of full-time service.

Upon request, seniority credit shall be granted for any time lost due to a WCB injury as approved by the WCB, maternity, paternity, adoption and all time paid by the Employer for funeral leave, jury duty and Union business.

Upon request, part-time employees shall receive a seniority credit for absences of one (1) week or longer to a maximum of one (1) year due to illness, injury, and vacation.

The calculation will be based on the average number of hours worked during the four (4) weeks preceding the absence. Employees seeking this credit must make a written application within eight (8) weeks of their return to work.

### **Full-Time to Part-Time Employment**

Full-time employees will have the ability to change to part-time status once during the term of the collective agreement for reasons other than working at alternative full-time employment. Employees may make this request during in the period of January 10<sup>th</sup>

to November 1<sup>st</sup> of any given year. Changes will be made in a timely fashion as to not interfere with the efficient operation of the business. Full-time employees moving to part-time will be required to submit a declaration of availability form and shall maintain their seniority and class hours.

**29.03** Seniority lists shall be established for each of the departments within the groups covered by the agreement.

Based on their availability, seniority lists for employees shall be forwarded to the Union upon their request.

**29.04** Seniority and employment shall be terminated when:

- (a) An employee voluntarily quits or is terminated for just cause or fails to show up for work for four (4) consecutive shifts without valid reason and/or without proper prior notice. In the case of the latter, Article 30.03 shall not apply.
- (b) An employee fails to report to work after seven (7) days when recalled from layoff. An employee had to be recalled by registered mail at last known address on file with the Employer.
- (c) An employee has been on layoff and has not worked for a period of six (6) months.

- (d) fails to return to work upon the conclusion of a leave of absence unless their failure to return is for reasonable cause.

## **LAYOFF AND RECALL**

- (e) When reducing staff, junior employees with the department in the classification shall be laid-off first. When recalling employees from layoff, they shall be recalled in seniority to the department and classification from which they were laid off.
- (f) In the event a full-time employee is laid off or is reduced to part-time, or a part-time employee is reduced to zero (0) hours for four (4) consecutive weeks, they shall be allowed to:
  - (i) fill a vacancy or displace the most junior employee within the classification within their seniority group.
  - (ii) fill a vacancy or displace the most junior employee whose rate is equal to or less than their current rate outside their classification within their seniority group.
  - (iii) carry fifty percent (50%) of their class hours to determine their rate of pay in their new classification to a maximum of one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) the total hours on the new wage scale.

- (g) Should an employee exercise their seniority outside their classification, they shall be given a “reasonable opportunity” to do the job in a competent manner. For the purpose of the section a “reasonable opportunity” shall mean a maximum of forty (40) hours for a full-time employee and twenty (20) hours for a part-time employee.
- (h) An employee exercising their seniority under (e) above, will be restricted to one opportunity to do a job outside their classification in a competent manner.
- (i) In the event that a full-time position becomes available within the classification of the most senior full-time employee laid off or reduced, that employee shall have the first opportunity to fill the position.
- (j) In the event a full-time position becomes available outside the classification of the most senior full-time laid-off employee or reduced full-time employee, they will be given a reasonable opportunity, as defined above, to perform the job in a competent manner subject to Article 29.05 (e) (ii).
- (k) In the event a part-time position becomes available, the most senior laid-off part-time employee will be given a reasonable opportunity,

as defined above, to perform the job in a competent manner subject to Article 29.05 (e) (ii).

## **PROMOTIONS**

**29.05** Promotions and vacancies shall be filled on the basis of seniority, providing the senior employee has the merit, fitness and ability to perform the work. The Employer agrees to act in good faith and further agrees not to discriminate in any manner.

Full-time vacancies shall be filled by department provided the employee(s) expressing interest has the merit, fitness and ability to perform the work.

## **PART-TIME EMPLOYEES**

**29.06** Part-time employees who are desirous of becoming full-time employees or increase their hours of work, shall inform the Employer, in writing. The Employer agrees to give full consideration to the employee's request.

**29.07** When a part-time employee works the basic work week for thirteen (13) consecutive weeks, a full-time position will be deemed to exist and will be filled in accordance with Article 29.05 of this Agreement. Paid hours for General Holidays under Article 12 shall count for qualification.

The above shall not apply to part-time employees in the case of any approved vacation, leaves of absence, WI, LTD, WCB, and any management or full-time relief.

**29.08** In the event an employee is to be called into work hours that they have not been scheduled to work, any employee may be called for any shift, provided that at the end of the particular week, the comparative number of hours of part-time employees is consistent with the seniority and availability of others in the department.

**29.09** Any full-time or top-rated part-time employee who has completed their probationary period and who is in a store which is to be closed or sold, shall be allowed to displace the most junior employee in their classification in the bargaining unit.

**29.10** Part-time employees shall declare their availability three (3) times per year.

- 1) the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Sunday in September (with a two (2) week leeway either way)
- 2) three (3) other times in the calendar year (Floating Availability)

Part-time employees shall be required to work according to the thrice-yearly Declarations of Availability. Employees cannot use a floating availability change between November 15<sup>th</sup> and the end of the year. An employee shall not be allowed to

use a floating availability change until a minimum period of eight (8) weeks has elapsed since their last floating availability change unless management determines otherwise.

All part-time employees may declare themselves unavailable for a period of up to eight (8) consecutive hours and still be considered available anytime for scheduling purposes. The eight (8) hour period must fall between 00:00 hrs. Monday and 24:00 hrs. Thursday and be in the same block of time each week. All employees exercising this option must do so at the time they declare their availability.

Part-time employees must be available to work for all hours on either Saturday or Sunday and must be available for two (2) additional six (6) hour blocks consistent with shifts in their department.

Employees shall not exercise a floating availability change until the completion of their probationary period.

Requests to change availability outside of the stated declaration opportunities may be allowed at other times throughout the year at the discretion of management.

If the Employer changes the hours of operation, employees will be given a “free” availability change. Any such change must be made within one (1) month

of the change in store hours and must be directly linked to the change in the store hours.

Failure to provide a proper Declaration of Availability prior to a declaration date shall result in the continuance of the previous Declaration of Availability.

Full-time employees may declare themselves unavailable for either the first five (5) hour period the store is open to the public or the last five (5) hour period of when the store is open to the public on any one (1) day of the week. The five (5) hour block shall not be used to effectively make someone unavailable for a full day. The Employer may limit the number of employees from the same department electing to select the same or similar five (5) hour block. Employees exercising this option must do so as per the availability declaration timelines set out in Article 29.11.

## **NEW DEPARTMENTS**

**29.11** From time to time, the Employer may establish new departments according to the following criteria:

- a) a new group of products or commodities are to be sold or services offered;
- b) the pre-existing mix of products or commodities is substantially altered to the extent that merchandising and staff requirements are substantially altered.

When a new department is established, the Department Manager for that department will be added to the exclusions under Article 1.

**29.12** The parties agree, to enhance the Employers ability to develop supervisory staff, there shall be created the position of Assistant Department Manager. The Assistant Department Manager shall be:

- a) filled by individuals hired or selected on the basis of their merit, qualifications, ability and seniority as determined by Management;
- b) required to provide all relief for Department Managers;

The rate shall be forty cents (\$0.40) per hour over their regular rate of pay.

- c) when not relieving, receiving hours equal to but not more than the senior employee in the Department.

**29.13 Requested Days Off**

Employees, who request in writing and are granted a specific day off prior to the posting of the work schedule, shall not have their hours of work for the week reduced as a result of the request being granted, provided not more than two (2) requests to a maximum of two (2) days is made per four (4) week

period calendar. It is understood that the above shall be subject to operational requirements and the employee's restrictions.

The above will not restrict a Department Manager from granting additional days off.

## **29.14 Transfers between Food Departments**

Part-time Clerk Trainees who have worked in excess of one (1) year's service in a department may be granted a transfer to another Food Department where there is a vacancy. The Employer will be fair and reasonable in considering requests for a transfer. Requests shall be considered on the basis of seniority provided the merit, fitness and ability are relatively equal among employees requesting a transfer. An employee will be limited to one (1) transfer per life of the current collective agreement.

Employees granted a transfer will be on probation for a period of up to three hundred (300) hours to demonstrate their ability to perform the work in satisfactory manner. In the event they are unable to perform satisfactory in the new position, they shall be returned to their previous position.

Employees granted a transfer will maintain their wage rate, class hours, and seniority hours. In no event will the employee's wage rate be reduced.

There may be occasions where the (1) one year service required may be waived at the discretion of the Employer should it suit the needs of the business.

**29.15** Any outside training hours (Learning Store/Private Learning Institutions) are not considered part of the schedule.

Initial cashier training of twenty-five (25) hours is not considered part of the schedule.

Initial employee training of twenty-five (25) hours is not considered part of the schedule. Training hours will not exceed a two (2) week period and will be identified on the schedule.

**29.16** Part-time employees may swap and/or offer their existing scheduled or assigned work shifts to other part-time employees on a first-come-first-serve basis, and by mutual consent, subject to approval by the Department Manager or designate.

## **ARTICLE 30 – GRIEVANCES**

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**30.01** Any complaints, disagreements or differences of opinions between the parties hereto, concerning the interpretation, application, operation of the Agreement, violation of the terms and provisions of this Agreement, shall be considered a grievance, subject to the grievance and arbitration provisions of this Agreement.

Employees found to be unacceptable to the Employer's Bonding Company may be discharged at the Employer's discretion.

**30.02** Grievances must be submitted to the Employer, in writing, not later than ten (10) working days from the event giving rise to the grievance, or it shall be waived by the aggrieved party.

**30.03** No employee shall be subject to a disciplinary interview or be given a written reprimand, warning letter, or be suspended or dismissed except in the presence of a shop steward, or in their absence, another member of the bargaining unit, selected by the employee.

When a shop steward is present in the workplace, they shall be used as a witness for discipline unless the employee being disciplined chooses otherwise.

Verbal coaching or notes to file in an employee's personnel file shall not be considered a step in part of the progressive disciplinary process. Upon request, employees shall be given copies of any discipline documented in their personnel file.

Where appropriate, discipline shall be conducted on Company time at or near the end of the employee's shift.

**30.04** Employees may request their right to the presence of a shop steward or in their absence another members of

the bargaining unit as selected by the employee during a random security check of bags, purses and parcels.

**30.05** If the steward or another member of the bargaining unit is present during the reprimand, warning letter or security check, they may advise the employee.

**30.06** Disciplinary reprimands and suspensions which predate twenty-four (24) months of continuous discipline-free employment shall not be used in any disciplinary action after that time. Notwithstanding, disciplinary warnings, reprimands and/or suspensions dealing with violence/ harassment shall not be subject to this clause.

**30.07** The procedure for adjustment of grievance and disputes by an employee shall be as follows:

**STEP 1:** By a discussion between the employee, with or without Shop Steward, and Management. If a satisfactory settlement cannot be reached within five (5) days, then within ten (10) days;

**STEP 2:** The Union representatives may take up the matter with the Company's official designated by the Employer to handle labour relations. If a satisfactory settlement cannot be reached within fourteen (14) days, the matter may then be referred to Arbitration, as per Article 31.

## ARTICLE 31 – ARBITRATION

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**31.01** Either of the parties may, within thirty (30) days of a decision at Step 2 of the Grievance Procedure, notify the other party in writing of its desire to submit the Grievance to Arbitration.

**31.02** The parties agree to select a single Arbitrator.

**31.03** The parties will attempt to agree upon the choice of a person to act as arbitrator within one (1) week of the date of the request for arbitration. Failing that, the *Minister of Labour for the Province of British Columbia* shall be requested to appoint the arbitrator. The Arbitrator shall hear their dispute, and the decision of the Arbitrator shall be final and binding upon the parties.

The Arbitrator shall not have any jurisdiction to alter or modify any of the provisions of this Agreement, nor to substitute any new provisions in lieu thereof, nor to make any decisions inconsistent with the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

Each of the parties hereto will share equally the expenses of the Arbitrator.

**31.04** The parties agree that an Arbitrator shall have the power to award compensation or damages to any party or employee who is dealt with contrary to the provisions of this Agreement.

**31.05** No employee shall be discharged or disciplined except for just and sufficient cause. Discharge or disciplinary grievances may be settled by confirming the Company's decision, or by reinstating the discharged or suspended employee with or without full compensation or back pay for time lost, less interim earnings, if applicable, or by any other arrangement which is just and equitable in the opinion of the parties or of the Arbitrator if the matter is referred to it.

## **ARTICLE 32 – LOCKERS**

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**32.01** The Employer will not search an employee's locker without the presence of the employee and a Shop Steward if requested.

**32.02** All locks must be removed from lockers at the completion of the employee's shift.

**32.03** The Employer will provide at least seventy-two (72) hours' notice of intent to remove locks.

**32.04** The Employer will designate one locker for use by the Union Steward and/or Union Representative for storage of Union supplies/materials.

## **ARTICLE 33 – VOTING PRIVILEGES**

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**33.01** The Employer agrees that they will fully comply with any law requiring that the employee be given time off to vote.

## **ARTICLE 34 – BENEFITS**

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**34.01** The Employer shall provide the benefits described in Appendix “B” to eligible full-time employees and in Appendix “C” to eligible part-time employees.

## **ARTICLE 35 – SICK CALLS / SHIFT ABSENCE**

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**35.01** In the event that an employee is unable to attend work due to illness, the employee must provide the Employer with as much notice as possible, but in any event, not less than one (1) hour prior to the commencement of their scheduled shift.

**35.02** When calling in sick or to miss a shift for any reason, all employees must speak with their Department Manager or, in the absence of their Department Manager, the Owner, Store Manager, Assistant Store Manager, on-duty Manager, or in the absence of any of the aforementioned, the Lead Hand.

### **35.03 Sick Notes**

The Employer will not require Doctor’s certificates from employees unless:

1. The employee has been formally advised that their attendance record is unacceptable and that the Doctor’s certificate will be required in the future; or,

2. The duration of the absence, or circumstances surrounding the absence, requires justification.

## **ARTICLE 36 – EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL**

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**36.01** This Agreement is effective from **February 11, 2026 to February 10, 2032** and thereafter from year to year, but either party may, not less than thirty (30) days or more than ninety (90) days before the expiry date or the anniversary of such expiry date from year to year thereafter give notice in writing to the other party of desire to terminate such Agreement or to negotiate a revision thereof.

## **ARTICLE 37 – EQUIPMENT**

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**37.01** The Employer agrees to maintain equipment that employees are required to use in a safe condition. Equipment that is not in proper working condition shall be reported to the Store Owner, Department Manager, or Store Manager.

## **ARTICLE 38 – WATER**

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**38.01** Employees working on a till may elect to have a bottle of water in their work area while working, under the following conditions:

1. The bottle is any brand sold in the store.
2. The size is 600 ml or smaller.

3. The bottle is stored under the counter.
4. The worker exercises common courtesy with customers when consuming water.

## **ARTICLE 39 – GUARANTEE OF HOURS**

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**39.01** In department where there is no Full-Time employee, the most senior available employee shall receive a scheduling guarantee of twenty-five (25) hours, provided there are a minimum of five (5) employees in the department.

## **ARTICLE 40 – NO STRIKE, NO LOCK-OUT**

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**40.01** There shall be no strike or lock-out during the term of this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 41 – CLERK TRAINEES**

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Employees will be classified as Clerk Trainees until they have reached the top of the Clerk Trainee pay scale and the Clerk Specialist/Meat Cutter hours as a percentage of total Store hours is less than twenty-five percent (25%).

## **ARTICLE 42 – GM SPECIALISTS**


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There shall be one or more Senior GM Specialist in the GM Department.

Signed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2026.

**FOR THE COMPANY**

**FOR THE UNION**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hakam Cheema

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean Patriquin

\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sinead Wilson

\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Binoshia Ariyaratne

## **LETTERS OF UNDERSTANDING**

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### **1) LIE DETECTOR TESTS**

The Employer agrees not to force an employee to take a polygraph or similar detector test. This shall be interpreted to mean that should the Employer wish to ask an employee to take a polygraph or similar lie detector test, the employee will have the right to agree.

### **2) HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

- a) The Employer agrees to ensure as far as is reasonably practical to do so the health and Safety of the Employees in all operations.
- b) The Union and the Employer shall appoint two (2) committee members for each committee which shall meet once per month at the place of employment or otherwise mutually agreed location. Meeting will be held on Company time.
- c) The Union or any employee may bring to the attention of the Employer any Health and Safety concerns and such issues will be addressed by the Committee.
- d) The Employer will act expeditiously in responding to Health and Safety concerns raised.

### **3) LABOUR CODES**

In reference to Article 36 of the Collective Agreement, the parties agree that the operation of Section 50, second paragraph of the Labour Relations Code, British Columbia is hereby excluded.

### **4) HAND SANITIZERS AT FRONT END CHECKOUTS**

Once the necessary approvals are put in place by the Federal Government citing Sani-Hand Hand Wipes as food grade safe, the Employer will make Sani-Hand Hand Wipes available for all cashiers.

### **5) RESPECT AND DIGNITY**

The Employer agrees that employees, the people who are a vital part of our success, must be treated with dignity, respect and fairness appropriate in the circumstances.

The parties agree that allegations of inappropriate conduct may be grieved under Article 30. If the parties cannot resolve the issue through the grievance procedure, the matter may be referred to an arbitrator under Article 31. In the event the arbitrator finds that a violation of this letter has occurred, they will be limited to referring the case to the following dispute resolution process.

1. The matter will be referred to a mediator from an agreed list of suitable mediators.

2. If the matter is not resolved through direct mediation, the mediator will write a report outlining their view of the matter and make recommendations for a resolution.
3. Individuals identified through the process as having engaged in inappropriate conduct will be retrained or appropriately disciplined as determined by the Employer.

- 6) Provided a full-time employee with 3 or more weeks' vacation entitlement advises the Company, in writing, at least one (1) month before the commencement of vacation being taken outside of \*prime time, the Company agrees to schedule one (1) of the employee's Friday/Saturday, Saturday/Sunday, or Sunday/Monday combinations to coincide with the employee's vacation, once per year, provided that another full-time employee's vacation does not overlap the weekend requested.

The above is in addition to 17.20. \*Prime Time = April 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.

## 7) **CLERK TRAINEE WAGE SCALE PROGRESSION**

In the event that the Provincial minimum wage rate increases, the Clerk Trainee Scale will start at the new minimum wage and five-cent (\$0.05) increases will be applied in each subsequent step in the progression

until a step in the progression provides an increase greater than five cents (\$0.05).

## **8) BAKERS**

In the event the Employer introduces scratch baking into the Bakery, employees doing said mixing and baking will be classified as Bakers and join the Meat Cutter Wage Scale.

## **9) DEPARTMENT MERGING**

It may be the Employer's intention to merge certain departments or merge classifications within departments. It is understood that seniority and wage rates would carry over to the newly merged department. As these mergers occur, the Employer will give advance notice to the Union and will meet with the Union to discuss the process in advance.

## **10) MANAGER TRAINING**

Where an employee is promoted outside the bargaining unit, they shall undergo a trial period of six (6) months. During this period, the employee shall maintain and accumulate seniority in the event they return to the bargaining unit; however, they will not be covered by this collective agreement during the trial period. At any time during the trial period, the employee may return to their former position, after giving the Employer two (2) weeks' notice in writing. The Employer may decide to return the employee to

the same position by applying the same procedure. It is understood that the bargaining unit position may be back filled temporarily for the six (6) month period.

## **11) SHIFT MARKETPLACE**

The Parties agree that the Provisions of the collective agreement (scheduling provisions and/or scheduling practices etc.) shall permit the following:

1. (a) A pool of unfilled work shifts may be made available to interested part-time employees (“Shift Marketplace”).

(b) Interested part-time employees may select work shift assignments from the Shift Marketplace on a first-come-first-serve basis, provided they have skill, ability, knowledge to perform the work and are available.

Selection of work shift assignments shall not be unreasonably denied.

(c) Unfilled work shifts are defined as those that were not scheduled or assigned to employees through the posted work schedule.

(d) Part-time employees may select shift assignments such that their combined total weekly hours (through posted work schedule(s) and Shift Marketplace) do not

exceed a maximum of forty (40) hours per week.

**12) DIGITAL PROCESS**

The parties agree that the Employer may work to develop and implement electronic/digital delivery of processes contained in the Collective Agreement.

## APPENDIX “A” – WAGES

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All scales reflect minimum hourly rates of pay.

The parties agree that Appendix “A” does not prevent the implementation of additional premiums or other incentives as determined by the Employer from time to time.

In the event that a general wage increase results in an employee being on an “off-rate” within their classification, it is understood that the employee will still have to acquire the appropriate service to advance on the existing wage progression.

### Lump Sum Schedule

- FT \$700.00
- 24+ hrs. \$500.00
- 16 – 24 hrs. \$300.00
- 8 – 16 hrs. \$100.00

**Clerk Trainees** will be paid the following minimum hourly rates of pay:

CLERK TRAINEES							
Hours	Current	DOR	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
0	\$17.85	\$17.85	\$17.85	\$17.95	\$17.95	\$18.00	\$18.10
500	\$17.90	\$17.90	\$17.90	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.05	\$18.15
1000	\$17.95	\$17.95	\$17.95	\$18.05	\$18.05	\$18.10	\$18.20
1500	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.10	\$18.10	\$18.15	\$18.25
2000	\$18.05	\$18.05	\$18.05	\$18.15	\$18.15	\$18.20	\$18.30
3000	\$18.10	\$18.15	\$18.15	\$18.25	\$18.25	\$18.30	\$18.40
4000	\$18.15	\$18.25	\$18.25	\$18.35	\$18.35	\$18.40	\$18.50

5000	\$18.20	\$18.35	\$18.35	\$18.45	\$18.45	\$18.50	\$18.60
6000	\$18.25	\$18.45	\$18.45	\$18.55	\$18.55	\$18.60	\$18.70
7000	\$18.30	\$18.60	\$18.60	\$18.70	\$18.70	\$18.75	\$18.85
8000+	\$18.35	\$19.30	\$19.70	\$20.05	\$20.40	\$20.75	\$21.15

Employees who have reached eight thousand (8,000) hours must work at least five hundred (500) hours before being moved over to the Specialist scale in conjunction with Article 41.

In the event the Provincial minimum wage increases, the Clerk Trainee scale will start at the new minimum wage and five cents (\$0.05) will be applied in each subsequent step in the progression until a step in the progression provides an increase greater than five cents (\$0.25).

**Clerk Specialists** will be paid the following minimum hourly rates of pay:

<b>CLERK SPECIALISTS</b>							
<b>Hours</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>DOR</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>
0	\$18.35	\$19.40	\$19.80	\$20.15	\$20.50	\$20.85	\$21.25
1000	\$18.35	\$19.45	\$19.85	\$20.20	\$20.55	\$20.90	\$21.30
2000	\$18.35	\$19.50	\$19.90	\$20.25	\$20.60	\$20.95	\$21.35
3000	\$18.35	\$19.55	\$19.95	\$20.30	\$20.65	\$21.00	\$21.40
4000	\$18.35	\$19.60	\$20.00	\$20.35	\$20.70	\$21.05	\$21.45
5000	\$18.35	\$19.65	\$20.05	\$20.40	\$20.75	\$21.10	\$21.50
6000	\$18.35	\$19.70	\$20.10	\$20.45	\$20.80	\$21.15	\$21.55
7000+	\$18.82	\$19.82	\$20.22	\$20.57	\$20.92	\$21.27	\$21.67

## End Rate and Above End Rate Clerk Trainees

- DOR \$0.95/hour
- February 2027 \$0.40/hour
- February 2028 \$0.35/hour
- February 2029 \$0.35/hour
- February 2030 \$0.35/hour
- February 2031 \$0.40/hour

## End Rate and Above End Rate Clerk Specialists

- DOR \$1.00/hour
- February 2027 \$0.40/hour
- February 2028 \$0.35/hour
- February 2029 \$0.35/hour
- February 2030 \$0.35/hour
- February 2031 \$0.40/hour

**Meat Cutters** will be paid the following minimum hourly rates of pay:

MEAT CUTTERS							
Hours	Current	DOR	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
0	\$17.85	\$18.50	\$18.60	\$18.70	\$18.80	\$18.90	\$19.00
500	\$18.00	\$18.65	\$18.75	\$18.85	\$18.95	\$19.05	\$19.15
1000	\$18.15	\$18.80	\$18.90	\$19.00	\$19.10	\$19.20	\$19.30
1500	\$18.30	\$18.95	\$19.05	\$19.15	\$19.25	\$19.35	\$19.45
2000	\$18.45	\$19.10	\$19.20	\$19.30	\$19.40	\$19.50	\$19.60
2500	\$18.60	\$19.25	\$19.35	\$19.45	\$19.55	\$19.65	\$19.75
3000	\$18.80	\$19.45	\$19.55	\$19.65	\$19.75	\$19.85	\$19.95
3500+	\$21.80	\$22.75	\$23.15	\$23.50	\$23.85	\$24.20	\$24.60

## **End Rate or above End Rate Meat Cutters**

- DOR \$0.95/hour
- February 2027 \$0.40/hour
- February 2028 \$0.35/hour
- February 2029 \$0.35/hour
- February 2030 \$0.35/hour
- February 2031 \$0.40/hour

## **APPENDIX "B" – BENEFITS – FULL-TIME**

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Following three (3) months service as a full-time employee the following benefit coverage will commence:

### **LIFE INSURANCE**

The Employer agrees to provide all active full-time employees until retirement at no cost, Life Insurance equivalent to one (1) times an employee's annual earnings to a maximum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00).

The Employer further agrees to provide Life Insurance to retired employees in the amount of two thousand (\$2,000.00).

### **ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT**

The Employer agrees to provide all active full-time employees with Accidental Death and Dismemberment benefit coverage equal to your Life Insurance.

## **SHORT TERM DISABILITY**

The Employer agrees to provide Short Term Disability benefits to all active full-time employees from the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day of an accident or the first (1<sup>st</sup>) full-time day of hospitalization or the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) day of sickness. The plan will pay sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 $\frac{2}{3}$ %) of basic earnings for the first two (2) weeks, then Employment Insurance will pay fifteen (15) weeks, then the Plan will resume payments for thirty-five (35) weeks.

## **LONG TERM DISABILITY**

The Employer agrees to provide Long Term Disability benefits for all active full-time employees after fifty-two (52) weeks if an employee is unable to perform any occupation (reasonably suited by means of training, education or experience). The Plan will provide for sixty-six and two thirds percent (66 $\frac{2}{3}$ %) of an employee's basic monthly earnings to a maximum of one thousand five hundred (\$1,500.00). Coverage would cease the date an employee attains normal retirement age.

## **SEMI-PRIVATE HOSPITAL**

The Employer agrees to provide for Semi-Private hospital care or Supplementary Health Care benefits for active full-time employees on the following basis:

- (i) twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) deductible for single, and fifty dollars (\$50.00) deductible for each family each calendar year.

- (ii) the Plan provides for reimbursement of eighty percent (80%) of Semi-Private hospital costs.
- (iii) the Plan provides for reimbursement of eighty percent (80%) of prescription drugs with no deductible for this coverage.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL OR SUPPLEMENTARY HEALTH CARE**

The Plan provides coverage for active full-time employees which includes ambulance services, rental of wheelchairs and hospital equipment, private nursing (with a ten thousand dollar [\$10,000.00] maximum every thirty-six [36] months), artificial limbs and braces. Also, included are services of a chiropractor, osteopath, naturopath, podiatrist, physiotherapist, speech therapist and masseur (three hundred dollars [\$300.00] per year). In addition, the services of a psychologist (three hundred dollars [\$300.00] per year) are also covered. Dental treatment for accidental injury to the teeth and outside Canada Coverage for physicians and surgeons are covered.

## **DENTAL**

The Employer agrees to provide Dental coverage for active full-time employees after a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) deductible for single, and fifty dollar (\$50.00) deductible for family each calendar year.

The Plan provides for one hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for cleaning, polishing, x-rays and fluoride treatments, once every nine (9) months for employees and dependents over eighteen (18) years of age and two (2) times

per calendar year for employees and dependents eighteen (18) years of age and under. Extractions, fillings injections, consultations, root canal therapy, endodontic and periodontic treatment are covered.

The Plan provides for a maximum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per family member per year. Reimbursement is based on a two (2) year lag to the British Columbia Dental Association Fee Guide.

All employees must participate in the Plan, however, if a spouse is covered by Health and Dental benefits, they may waive the Health and Dental coverage. Coverage would be made available if for some reasons the duplicate coverage ceases.

## **OPTICAL**

The Employer agrees to provide Optical coverage for active full-time employees in the amount of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) every twenty-four (24) month period, for the cost of frames, lenses and the fitting of prescription glasses when recommended by a doctor or optometrist. Sunglasses or glasses for cosmetic purposes are not included nor is the cost of eye examinations.

While this Appendix is intended to provide an overview of all benefit coverages the insurer's plan documents will ultimately govern the administration of these benefits.

## **RRSP**

The Employer agrees to contribute the following amounts to a Employer Sponsored RRSP for any full-time employee who agrees to contribute an equal amount in each year as follows:

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Employee</b>
\$550.00	\$550.00

Such amounts shall be divided by the amount of pay periods for each year and shall be adjusted accordingly.

*While it is agreed and understood that the Collective Agreement provides an outline of the benefits covered by the insurance carrier's benefit plan, questions of eligibility requirements or adjudication under the benefits plan are determined solely by the Insurance Carrier and are not arbitrable under the terms of the Collective Agreement.*

## **APPENDIX "C" – BENEFITS – PART-TIME**

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The Employer agrees to provide the following benefits to part-time employees effective the first (1<sup>st</sup>) full month following date of store opening. It is agreed the date to determine eligibility will be determined at the date of store opening and every January 1<sup>st</sup> each year thereafter.

### **OPTICAL**

For those part-time employees who have one (1) or more years of service and worked eight hundred (800) hours in the previous calendar year, the Owner/Company will provide optical coverage of one hundred fifty (\$150.00) dollars every two (2) years for the employee and their dependents up to age eighteen (18).

### **DENTAL**

For those part-time employees who have one (1) or more years of service and worked eight hundred (800) hours in the previous calendar year, the Owner/Company will provide a dental plan for the employee and their eligible dependents up to age twenty-one (21). The dental plan will include basic dental care, based on eighty percent (80%) re-imbusement of eligible expenses based on a two (2) year lag to the British Columbia Dental Association Fee Guide with an annual maximum of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) per individual-family member, with no deductible.

## **PRESCRIPTION PLAN**

For those part-time employees who have one (1) year or more of service and worked eight hundred (800) hours in the previous calendar year, the Owner/Company will provide a drug plan for the employee. The drug plan will be based on generic drugs with no lifestyle drugs covered. The plan will reimburse at fifty percent (50%) of eligible expenses based on an annual maximum of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750.00).

*While it is agreed and understood that the Collective Agreement provides an outline of the benefits covered by the insurance carrier's benefit plan, questions of eligibility requirements or adjudication under the benefits plan are determined solely by the Insurance Carrier and are not arbitrable under the terms of the Collective Agreement.*

**AS TO ALL LETTERS OF UNDERSTANDING**

Signed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2026

**FOR THE COMPANY**

**FOR THE UNION**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Hakam Cheema



\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean Patriquin



\_\_\_\_\_  
Sinead Wilson



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Binosha Ariyaratne