

# **COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT**

Between

**Snowcrest Foods Ltd.**

And

**United Food and Commercial Workers, Local 1518**

March 25, 2024 to March 24, 2027

Ratified by member vote: August 12, 2024



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**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT made this 12th day of August, 2024.**

between:

**SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.**, 1925 Riverside Road,  
Abbotsford, BC, hereinafter called "the Company"

AND

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION  
LOCAL 1518**, 350 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC, hereinafter called "the Union".

In consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter contained, the parties hereto have agreed as follows:

#### **ARTICLE 1 – Recognition**

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The Company recognizes the Union as the exclusive bargaining agency for all employees at its plant at 1925 Riverside Road, Abbotsford B.C. with the exception of Shift Supervisors and those above the rank of Shift Supervisor, the Director of Maintenance and Engineering, the Quality Assurance Manager, Laboratory Technicians, the Health and Safety Coordinator, Field Supervisors, Farm Workers, Sales Persons, Office and Clerical staff.

#### **ARTICLE 2 – Reservation of Management Rights**

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1. The Union acknowledges that it is exclusively the right of the Company to:
  - (a) Maintain order, discipline and efficiency;
  - (b) Hire, direct and classify employees;
  - (c) Discharge for just cause, transfer, promote, demote, lay off and suspend or otherwise discipline employees;
  - (d) Make and alter from time to time rules and regulations to be observed by employees;
  - (e) To manage the enterprise in which the Company is engaged and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, to determine the number of employees required and the methods, procedures, materials, and equipment to be used, schedules of work and all other matters concerning the administration and operation of the plant not otherwise specifically dealt with elsewhere in this Agreement.
2. The Company shall exercise its rights in a manner that is fair, reasonable and consistent with the terms of this Agreement.

### **ARTICLE 3 – Union Security**

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1. Any employee who on the date hereof was a member of the Union in good standing or who becomes a member after that date shall maintain such membership as a condition of employment.
2. A new employee shall become a member of the Union within thirty (30) calendar days following their date of hire. The Company agrees to obtain applications for membership in the Union at time of hire from such employees, and membership in the Union will be granted within thirty (30) calendar days.
3. Employee Union members shall be considered to have maintained membership in the Union in good standing so long as they pay the regular Union dues, initiation fees and special assessments required of any members of the bargaining unit.
4. Except for instruction and training or where special skills, expertise or experience are required, management and other personnel of the Company expressly excluded from the bargaining unit pursuant to Article 1 hereof shall not perform work normally performed by members of the bargaining unit except in the event of unanticipated absenteeism or emergency.

If any outside contractors need the assistance of any equipment owned by the Employer, members of the bargaining unit shall operate such equipment.

### **ARTICLE 4 – Check-off**

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1. The Company agrees to deduct the monthly Union dues from each employee's pay on their first pay day in each calendar month during the term of this Agreement, and in the case of a newly hired employee, on the first pay day in the month next following date of hire.
2. Upon receipt of written authorization signed by the employee, the Company shall deduct the initiation fee from the pay of employees joining the Union and such deduction shall be made in three equal installments from the employee's pay in the three successive payroll periods next following the week in which such authorization form is received by the Company.
3. The Company will deduct a special assessment uniformly required of all members of the Union and such deduction shall be made from the employee's pay commencing on their first pay day next following the date on which notice of such authorization is received from the Union.
4. The Union shall advise the Company in writing of the amount of the initiation fee, dues and assessments authorized by the employees in keeping with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Union.
5. The Company will transmit the total amount so deducted from all such employees to the Financial Secretary of the Union on or before the 5th day of the following calendar month.

## **ARTICLE 5 – No Discrimination**

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1. Neither the Company nor the Union will discriminate on the basis of ancestry, sex, creed, age, religion or nationality, disability or sexuality.
2. No employee shall be subjected to any penalties against their application for membership or for reinstatement as a member of the Union, and no coercion or intimidation of any kind shall be practiced to compel or influence an employee to join the Union, nor shall any discrimination of any kind whatever be practiced or permitted with respect to employees who are or become members of the Union.

## **ARTICLE 6 – Grievance Procedure**

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1. Should any grievance arise as to the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Agreement, such grievance should be filed within five (5) working days, or in any event not later than fifteen (15) working days, after the Chief Steward has been made aware of the circumstances giving rise to the grievance have originated or occurred, in the following manner and sequence:

**FIRST:** Between the Plant Manager or Production Supervisor or their designate, and the Steward, with or without the aggrieved employee. The decision of the Plant Manager or Production Supervisor, or their designate, shall be given within five (5) working days following presentation of the grievance. Failing settlement; then

**SECOND:** Within ten (10) working days following the decision under the first step, a meeting will be held between the Union Grievance Committee and a Committee designated by the Company to consider the grievance submitted in writing. A full-time staff representative of the Union may be present at the request of either the Company or the Union. The Company's decision under this step will be given within five (5) working days following such meeting, Failing settlement; then

**THIRD:** Within ten (10) working days the grievance shall be dealt with by the Company and the Union. If at all practicable, such meeting will be held in Abbotsford, B.C. The Company's decision under this step will be given within five (5) working days, or such other period as may otherwise be agreed.

**FOURTH:** If the grievance remains unsettled, either party may, subject to Article 6 of this Agreement, notify the other party in writing of its desire to submit a grievance to Arbitration. The notice shall be delivered by the party desiring to submit the grievance to the other party within twenty (20) working days of the date of the decision of the third step, the grievance shall be referred to an Arbitration Board as provided under Article 7 of this Agreement.

2. The term "working days" for purposes of this Article shall not be deemed to include Saturdays, Sundays and Statutory Holidays.
3. If the Company wishes to grieve to the Union against any action of the Union, its Officers or members, the foregoing procedure may be followed commencing with the Second step.

4. There shall be a total of three (3) Shop Stewards, all of whom shall be employees of the bargaining unit defined herein, who have attained seniority, shall be elected or appointed by the Union and recognized by the Company. The Union will advise the Company in writing of the names of such Stewards.
5. The Union will elect or appoint and the Company agrees to recognize a Grievance Committee consisting of two (2) members, each of whom shall be employees of the bargaining unit defined herein, who have attained seniority. A list of Grievance Committee members shall be furnished to the Company.
6. The aggrieved employee may be present during any step of the grievance procedure if the employee desires.
7. All Grievance and Joint Labour Management Meetings shall be taken up on Company time during regular working hours. There shall be no loss of hourly wages by members of the grievance committee or the grievor to attend meetings with the Company.
8. If an employee has a grievance that they have been unjustly discharged they shall notify the Company through the Grievance Committee within five (5) working days after the date of separation stating the reason of objection to the discharge and the grievance will be considered commencing with the second step of Section 1 of this Article. In the event of such employee being reinstated, they shall be paid for the period during which they did not work as if they had not been discharged, subject to any adjustment as the settlement may determine. If an employee is discharged or suspended the Company shall notify the Union in writing within two (2) working days stating the reason for such discharge or suspension.
9. Should any grievance arise directly between the Company and the Union as to the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Agreement, the grievance shall be taken up commencing at the Second Step of Section 1 of this Article.
10. Pending settlement of any grievance, the aggrieved employee shall perform the duties assigned to them.
11. Before leaving their job or their department in connection with any grievance, a Steward or Executive Officer of the Union or member of the Grievance Committee must first obtain permission from the Supervisor of their Department.  
  
Should the grievance require such Steward, Executive Officer of the Union or member of the Grievance Committee to go into another department, they must first report to the person in charge of the department.
12. If a grievance affects an employee's remuneration, it shall be retroactive to the date it was first submitted in writing or if the cause of such grievance arose prior thereto, then the adjustment will be made retroactive to the date the error was made or such other period as may be agreed upon.
13. Any notice of discharge, suspension or written disciplinary action which is intended to form part of an Employee's employment record shall be given in the presence of a Union Steward, chosen by the Employee and who is available in the plant. In the case of a verbal reprimand this clause shall be applied where practicable.

14. An employee shall be given a copy of any document placed on the employee's file which might be the basis of disciplinary action. Should an employee dispute any such entry in their file, they shall be entitled to recourse through the grievance procedure and the eventual resolution thereof shall become part of their personnel record.

15. Troubleshooter

Mark Brown, Chris Sullivan, Colin Taylor, **Komi Kandola**, **Brett Matthews** or any other individual agreed to by the parties will be utilized to conduct expedited hearings on the following basis:

- (a) Both parties must agree before a grievance is placed on the troubleshooter agenda. Either party may refer the grievance to this process upon providing the other party with three (3) weeks' notice.
- (b) Only grievances where the parties have shared all relevant information regarding the grievance, and all reliance documents and facts have been exchanged, shall be referred. The parties agree that disclosure of information and documents will take place in a timely manner.
- (c) In the event that either party has new evidence that was not available prior to the agreement or referral to the troubleshooter process, it may be introduced at that time.  
  
In such cases, the party that is introducing the new evidence shall provide immediate disclosure to the other party. Upon request of the party in receipt of this new evidence, the process may be adjourned to allow fair opportunity for analysis and reply.
- (d) Interpretation grievances, or grievances regarding the discharge of employees, shall not be referred to this process unless mutually agreed by the parties.
- (e) Decisions of the troubleshooter shall be in writing but shall be without prejudice, non-precedent setting and shall not be publicized.
- (f) Legal counsel shall not be used by either party at the hearing.
- (g) The parties shall develop other procedures or guidelines as necessary.

## **ARTICLE 7 – Arbitration**

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1. When either party requests that a grievance be submitted to arbitration as hereinafter provided, the parties will first attempt Mediation/Arbitration with the parties sharing the costs equally. In the event the parties cannot agree to the Mediation process, an Arbitration Board shall be established within thirty (30) days from the date of such request. The parties shall first endeavor to agree upon a single mediator/arbitrator and if the parties fail to agree, the Mediation/Arbitration Board shall consist of three (3) members, one to be nominated by the Company and one by the Union and a third to act as Chairperson to be mutually agreed upon by the other two (2) nominees. In the event of failure of the two (2) nominees to agree upon a Chairperson, such Chairperson, who shall be someone other than a Civil Servant, shall be appointed by the Minister of Labour of the Province of British Columbia. A decision

of the majority of the Arbitration Board shall be deemed to be the decision of the Board and shall be final and binding upon the parties hereto and the employee concerned.

2. This Agreement shall not be altered, modified or amended by the Mediation/Arbitration Board, nor shall the Mediation/Arbitration Board make any decision inconsistent with the provisions thereof.
3. No grievance may be submitted to mediation/arbitration which has not been properly carried through the required steps of the grievance procedure.
4. The Union and the Company shall pay the fees and expenses of their respective nominees, if applicable, and the fees and expenses of a single mediator/arbitrator or of the Chairperson shall be shared equally between the Company and the Union.

#### **ARTICLE 8 – No Strike or Lockout**

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1. In view of the orderly procedure established by this Agreement for settling grievances, the Company agrees that there will be no lockout of its employees and the Union agrees there will be no strike or other collective action which will stop, curtail, interfere with work or the Company's operations. The Union agrees that if any such collective action takes place, they will repudiate it forthwith and require their members to return to work.
2. The Union agrees that no strike vote of the members will be taken during the term of this Agreement or the course of negotiations with the Company for renewal or extension thereof until an attempt has been made in good faith to settle any differences arising in such negotiations by conciliation or some other form of mediation.

#### **ARTICLE 9 – Seniority**

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1. An employee will be considered on probation and will not be subject to the seniority provisions of this Agreement, nor shall their name be placed on the seniority list until after they have completed 80 days (640 hours) of active work from their date of hire. Upon completion of such probationary period to the satisfaction of the Company, the employee's name shall be placed on the seniority list, with seniority entitlement based upon the employee's date of hire. Date of hire for this purpose will be the first day in which the first hour was worked of 80 days (640 hours) probationary period. When a probationary employee is dismissed on the grounds of unsuitability, the Company shall inform the Union and the employee in writing.

Days (or in the case of employees hired on or after April 1, 2011, hours) worked as referenced throughout this Agreement, shall include any day or hour in which an employee reports for work, at the instruction of the Company, to work in the area under the direction of the Management, including such days or hours worked during the probationary period.

The Employer will do a written assessment of all probationary employees within thirty (30) to sixty (60) days of their start date with the Company.

2. In the event of a work shortage resulting in the lay-off of employees covered by this Agreement, the order of lay-off shall be as follows:



FIRST: Probationary employees, provided the employees with seniority remaining have the required qualifications and can perform the duties assigned to them in a manner satisfactory to the Company.

SECOND: Employees with seniority, in order of seniority, provided the retained employees have the required qualifications and can perform the duties assigned to them in a manner satisfactory to the Company.

3. In case it becomes necessary to increase the work force for employees covered by this Agreement, persons on lay-off with seniority will be recalled in reverse order of lay-off provided the person with the greater amount of seniority has the required qualifications and can perform the duties assigned to them in a manner satisfactory to the Company.
4. When recalling a person from lay-off, the Company will first try to notify the employee by phone as per the published Recall Procedure.

Should the Company be unable to contact the employee by telephone, after two (2) attempts in two (2) days, then the Company shall notify the employee by registered letter sent to their last known address, with a copy to the Shop Stewards. The employee shall notify the Company of their intent to return to work within five (5) working days of receipt of the registered letter.

In cases where it is necessary to secure workers in less time than the required notice, the Company, if unable to make contact with the senior eligible employee, may recall the next senior employee, and so on down the list until the vacancies are filled. The recalled senior employee must contact the Company to confirm their attendance by 1:00 p.m. the day before their scheduled shift. It shall be the responsibility of each employee to notify the Company of all temporary or permanent changes in address.

5. Seniority shall be considered broken, all rights forfeited and there is no obligation to rehire when a person:
  - (a) voluntarily resigns from the service of the Company;
  - (b) is discharged for just cause;
  - (c) is absent from work without good and proper reason satisfactory to the Company;
  - (d) fails to return to work when recalled from lay-off as provided under Section 4 of this Article;
  - (e) has not actively worked for of the Company for a period longer than the time allowed in the following schedule:

Seniority at Date of Separation	Length of Allowable Time Off Company Payroll
Less than two years	- Time equivalent to employee's length of service
Two years or over	- Two years

Employees with seniority on layoff who exceed their allowable break, but are rehired the following season, will receive credit for their previous accumulation of days actually worked.

6. (a) Classified job vacancies shall be filled on the basis of seniority and ability. Ability being sufficient after a reasonable trial period to qualify for the position seniority shall prevail. A reasonable trial shall not be less than **ten (10)** working days, however, if mutually agreed this period may be extended to a maximum of ten (10) working days. An employee who is awarded a posted position in accordance with the provisions of this Article and who at their option or the at the option of the Company, is not retained in the posted position, following a trial period of **ten (10)** working days, will be transferred back to the classification where they were working immediately prior to being awarded the posted position and they will be allocated work in that classification in accordance with their seniority and ability, willingness and qualifications to satisfactorily perform the jobs to be done. On successful completion of the trial period, the Company and the Union will sign off that the employee has been adequately trained and is able to perform the duties of the position.

The employee will be paid the applicable rate upon signed qualification. The Chief Steward shall be notified in writing no later than five (5) working days after the expiry date of the job posting as to which applicant has been chosen to fill the vacancy. If it is obvious that a person cannot qualify or is causing serious loss or damage to product or equipment, they may be removed at any time and returned to their position.

The successful applicant for a classified position will not be eligible to apply for another classified posted vacancy for a period of six (6) months after being awarded the posted vacancy.

A classified job vacancy is not created by the temporary absence of the incumbent.

All vacancies shall be posted within five (5) days from the time they became vacant. A vacancy is created when it is performed for fifty (50) per cent or more of the regular work week for twelve (12) consecutive weeks. If it is obvious that an employee cannot qualify or is causing serious loss or damage to product or equipment they may remove at any time and returned to their prior position.

- (b) A promotion shall be defined as a transfer to a job paying a rate above the labour rate.
- (c) The Company agrees to post all classified job vacancies on the bulletin board for five (5) full working days in order that employees with seniority may apply. Applications shall be made in duplicate, one copy to the Company and the other copy to the Chief Steward of the Union.

7. In the exercise of seniority entitlements under this Article, the Company shall maintain a list showing the name, date of hire and days actually worked of all employees who have attained seniority.

Employees hired on the same date will have hours worked from date of hire used to determine seniority order.

This list will be revised and reissued every four (4) months, with a copy to each Chief Steward.

8. When a temporary transfer is made to a higher rated classification, the most senior qualified employee will be offered such work, always having regard to the requirements of the business and the ability of the employee to do the required work.

## **ARTICLE 10 – Leave of Absence**

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1. Upon receipt by the Company of at least two (2) weeks prior written notice for the purpose of attending vocational training, Union schools, conventions or conferences, or upon receipt by the Company of reasonable prior written notice for the purpose of negotiations for the renewal of this Collective Agreement, a leave of absence without pay will be granted to an employee with seniority, for a period not exceeding six (6) months, providing the absence of such employee does not unreasonably affect the operation of the Plant. This provision shall be limited up to **three (3)** employees of the bargaining unit at any one time. Days (or in the case of employees hired on or after April 1, 2011, hours) worked shall accumulate on such occasions in accordance with the regularly scheduled shifts which the employee would otherwise have worked.

**One (1) employee who may be elected or appointed to a full-time position with the Union, upon proper notice to be agreed upon by the parties of this Agreement, shall be granted a leave of absence, without pay, not to exceed three (3) years. Upon four (4) weeks' notice of his or her desire to again return to work for the Company, he or she shall be placed upon his/her job previously held, or in the event that the job has been eliminated one of equal pay, without loss of seniority, provided he or she is physically fit and capable of performing the work. Leave of absence under this clause will be given in writing by the Company.**

### **2. Pregnancy Leave**

1. A pregnant employee who requests leave shall be given an unpaid leave of absence without loss of seniority or other privileges for a maximum of seventeen (17) weeks. The leave shall commence no earlier than thirteen (13) weeks prior to the expected delivery date and no later than the actual birth date. The employee may choose to delay the commencement of her pregnancy leave, provided the employee is medically fit to perform the full range of duties of her position. This will not affect the employee's entitlement to pregnancy leave.
2. An employee who requests leave under this section after the birth of a child is entitled to up to seventeen (17) consecutive weeks of unpaid leave beginning on the date of the birth and ending no later than seventeen (17) weeks after that date.

3. An employee who requests leave under this section after the termination of the employee's pregnancy is entitled to up to six (6) consecutive weeks of unpaid leave beginning on the date of the termination of the pregnancy and ending no later than six (6) weeks after that date.
4. An employee is entitled to up to six (6) additional consecutive weeks of unpaid leave if, for reasons related to the birth or the termination of the pregnancy, the employee is unable to return to work when her leave ends under point (1) or (2).
5. All such requests must be submitted in writing at least two (2) weeks prior to the employee's return to work date.
6. In addition to the Pregnancy Leave set out above, the attending physician certifying that the health of the mother or child may be in danger by the mother continuing to work may extend such leave prior to delivery.
7. An employee requesting to return to work earlier than six (6) weeks after the actual birth to return to work must provide written notice to the Employer of not less than one (1) week before the date the employee proposes to return to work. If required by the Employer, the request must be accompanied by a medical practitioner's or nurse practitioner's certificate stating the employee is able to return to work.
8. Benefit entitlement for the above leaves shall be as required by the B.C. *Employment Standards Act*.

### 3. Parental Leave

1. An employee who requests parental leave under this section is entitled to:
  - (a) for a birth mother who takes leave within one (1) year of the birth of a child and in conjunction with pregnancy leave taken under Article 10, up to sixty-one (61) weeks of unpaid leave beginning immediately after the end of the leave taken under Article 10.2.
  - (b) for a birth mother who does not take a leave under Article 10 in relation to the birth of a child – up to sixty-two (62) weeks of unpaid leave beginning after the child's birth and within seventy-eight (78) weeks after that event.
  - (c) for a birth father – up to sixty-two (62) weeks of unpaid leave beginning after the child's birth and within seventy-eight (78) weeks after that event.
  - (d) for an adopting parent – up to sixty-two (62) weeks of unpaid leave beginning within seventy-eight (78) weeks after the child is placed with the parent.
2. If certified by a licensed medical practitioner that the child requires an additional period of parental care, and the employee requests, the employee is entitled to up to five (5) additional weeks of unpaid leave, beginning immediately after the end of the leave taken under subsection (1) above.
3. The employee is required to give the Employer four (4) weeks' advance notice in writing of their intention to take a leave under subsection 1 (a) (b) (c). The Employer may

request this notice be accompanied by a medical practitioner's certificate or other evidence of the employee's entitlement to the leave.

4. Benefit entitlement for the above leaves shall be as required by the B.C. *Employment Standards Act*.

The Company shall grant unpaid leaves of absence in accordance with the requirements of the B.C. *Employment Standards Act*, for the following additional statutory leaves:

4. Family Responsibility Leave

An unpaid leave of up to five (5) days annually may be granted to employees in order to meet their responsibilities related to (a) the care, health or education of a child in the employee's care, or (b) the care of health of any other member of the employee's immediate family.

5. Compassionate Care Leave

An unpaid leave of up to twenty-seven (27) weeks may be granted to employees, upon request, in order to provide care or support to an immediate family member if a medical practitioner or nurse practitioner issues a certificate stating that the family member has a serious medical condition with a significant risk of death within 26 weeks. The leave must be taken in units of one (1) or more weeks and will expire the earlier of when the family member dies, or the expiration of fifty-two (52) weeks from when the leave began.

6. Reservists' Leave

An employee who is a reservist (a member of the reserve force under the *National Defense Act* (Canada)), and who requests a leave will be granted an unpaid leave if the employee is deployed to the Canadian Forces, for the period of such deployment. The request must be in writing and provided to the employer within four (4) weeks before the commencement of the leave, or as soon as practicable. The Company may request further information respecting the leave, and the employee must provide information reasonable in the circumstances.

7. Leave Respecting Disappearance of a Child

An employee may be granted an unpaid leave of up to fifty-two (52) weeks, if a child (under nineteen (19) years old) of that employee disappears and it is probable, in the circumstances, that the child's disappearance is a result of a crime. The employee is not entitled to the leave if the employee is charged with a crime that resulted in the disappearance of the child. The leave may be taken in one (1) unit of time or, with the employer's consent, more than one (1) unit. The leave will end earlier than fifty-two (52) weeks if circumstances indicate the child's disappearance is no longer as a result of a crime, the date the employee is charged with a crime that resulted in the disappearance of the child, the child is found dead, or fourteen (14) days after the child is found alive. If requested by the Company, the employee must provide reasonable proof that the employee's child has disappeared and it is probable that the disappearance is a result of a crime.

8. Leave Respecting Death of a Child

Upon request, an employee may be granted an unpaid leave of up to one hundred and four (104) weeks if the child of an employee dies. The employee is not entitled to the leave if the employee is charged with a crime that resulted in the death of the child. The leave may be taken in one (1) unit of time or, with the employer's consent, more than one (1) unit of time.

The leave will commence on the date the child dies or is found dead, in the case of the child disappearing before the child dies. The leave will end earlier if the employee is charged with a crime that resulted in the death of the child. If requested by the Company, the employee must provide reasonable proof of the child's death.

9. Personal Leave

A personal leave of absence may be granted to an employee by the Company upon application by the employee provided the granting of such leave does not interfere with the requirements of the business. If leave of absence is sought by an employee for a period of one (1) week or more, it shall be requested of the Company in writing at least five (5) working days in advance and responded to in writing by the Company, with a copy sent to the Chief Steward. All accrued vacation entitlement must be exhausted or scheduled in accordance with Article 11 Section 7 before the leave of absence is granted. Days **or hours** worked shall not accumulate during the period of leave. If the employee becomes available for work sooner than the leave of absence is scheduled to conclude, the employee may submit a written request to the Company during business hours to schedule him/her for work upon five (5) working days prior notice of the requested resumption date.

Personal leaves of absence without pay for any portion of a work day for medical appointments and the like should be scheduled whenever possible near the end of a scheduled shift and requested of the Company with at least twenty-four (24) hours advance written notice. If a personal leave of absence is requested to occur at or near the beginning of a scheduled shift, the employee may be required by the Company to take the day off to facilitate the personal appointment without disrupting the operation of the Plant. In that event, the employee may elect to treat the day off as a "sick day" with pay if eligible under the "Paid Sick Leave" provisions of the Collective Agreement by advising the Company in writing to this effect when reporting to work on their next scheduled shift.

10. Sick Leave

An employee with seniority shall accumulate days or hours worked if they are absent from work due to sickness or accident for days they normally would have worked during such period.

The number of days accumulated shall not exceed the length of the allowable time off Company payroll as set out in Section 5 (e) of this Article.

These accumulated days shall not however, change the eligible weeks of benefits an employee is receiving on Weekly Indemnity.

## **ARTICLE 11 – Vacations**

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1. Vacations will be paid in accordance with the regulations and statutes of British Columbia.
2. (a) The first two weeks of vacation shall be given in accordance with the **British Columbia Employment Standards Act**.  
  
(b) Three weeks' vacation shall be granted to an employee with five (5) years and less than ten (10) years of continuous service who has at least 775 days, or 6200 hours, actually worked with the Company. Vacation pay shall be calculated at 6% of the employee's gross earnings during the previous year.

- (c) Four weeks' vacation shall be granted to an employee with ten (10) or more years of continuous service who has at least 1550 days, or 12,400 hours, actually worked with the Company. Vacation pay shall be calculated at 8% of the employee's gross earnings during the previous year.
  - (d) Five weeks' vacation shall be granted to an employee with seventeen (17) or more years of continuous service who has at least 2635 days actually worked with the Company. Vacation pay shall be calculated at 10% of the employee's gross earnings during the previous year.
  - (e) Six weeks of vacation shall be granted to an employee with twenty-three (23) or more years of continuous service who has at least 3565 days actually worked with the Company. Vacation pay shall be calculated at 12% of the employee's gross earnings during the previous year.
  - (f) Subject to compliance with all applicable employment standards legislation, an employee may choose, by advising the Company in writing on or before March 31st, to take as vacation in that vacation year only the number of days that the applicable percentage of their previous year's gross earnings will buy.
  - (g) Effective April 1, 2011 vacation entitlement will be capped at four (4) weeks. Any employees employed at April 1, 2011 will be granted an exemption.
3. (a) Vacation pay shall be paid to an employee by direct deposit on the regular pay day.
- (b) Following March 31 in any year, upon written request from an employee, the vacation pay earned in the previous year by that employee shall be paid in a lump sum, providing that a complete vacation schedule for that employee has been established.
4. Where an employee is injured in a non-occupational accident or becomes sick while on vacation they can become eligible for the Weekly Indemnity benefit as set out in the Sickness and Accident Plan provided:
- (a) They deposit with the Company the vacation pay for the unexpired portion of their vacation.
  - (b) They furnish a certificate of medical attendance satisfactory to the benefit provider.
  - (c) They take the remainder of their vacation at a time granted later in the same calendar year.
- In case of sickness, no payment (Weekly Indemnity or Vacation Pay) will be made during the waiting period prescribed in the Sickness and Accident Plan.
5. An employee eligible for four (4) or more weeks of vacation may, by prior arrangement with management, defer those weeks of vacation in excess of three (3) to be taken between January 1st and March 31st of the following year. An employee must notify management in writing of their desire to defer such weeks prior to March 1st of the year preceding the deferral.

6. In the case of illness certified by a practicing physician or surgeon, an employee, upon their return to the service of the Company, shall receive vacation credit for the period they were entitled to receive Weekly Indemnity. An employee upon their return to the service of the Company following a WCB compensable accident, shall be granted up to one (1) year's vacation credit.

No vacation credits shall be received for any period in which the employee would otherwise have been laid off.

7. Employees shall select their preferred vacation periods Monday through Friday in order of seniority on the prescribed form and submit to the Company by November 15 each year for the following calendar year's vacation. Employees not submitting their preferred vacation periods prior to November 15, shall lose preference in selection of vacation periods. Employees who desire to work weekend overtime immediately preceding or following the approved vacation week must notify the Company of their availability and desire in writing one (1) week prior to the approved vacation. The approved vacation periods will be posted by management by December 15. Employees who request vacation but are denied by the Company due to the demands of the business shall be invited to request alternative vacation dates for consideration by the Company. Vacations will be assigned by Management to Employees who have not made a selection prior to September 1. Any balance of vacation pay accrued will be paid to the employee by December 31 each year.
8. Part-time employees not entitled to an annual vacation under Section 2 who have accumulated less than two hundred (200) days actually worked in the previous vacation year shall in the current vacation year have the option of being paid out their accrued vacation pay each pay period.
9. Vacation days may be taken in increments of one or more days. Single days (or increments of more than one day) of vacation must be requested with at least 48 hours advance written notice

## **ARTICLE 12 – Hours of Work**

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1. (a) The standard hours of work shall be eight (8) in any one day and forty (40) hours in any one week.
- (b) The Company shall schedule the hours and days of work, and post them outlining the starting and finishing time of all employees. Any time worked outside the schedule of hours, shall be paid at the applicable overtime or Sunday rate.
- (c) The Company shall endeavor to post the schedule no later than **noon (12 p.m.)** for the following day. The schedule of hours and days may be changed from time to time as required to meet the needs of the business, but such changes shall not be effective until twenty-four (24) hours notice has been given to employees involved.
- (d) Employees shall be paid one and one-half (1½) times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in any work day and forty (40) hours in any week. When an employee works in excess of ten (10) hours in any one day, such employee shall be paid at a rate equal to double their base rate of pay.



An employee who is temporarily receiving a rate of pay higher than their regular rate shall be paid one and one-half (1 1/2) times such higher rate for all hours worked in excess of eight (8) hours in any work day or forty (40) hours in any week.

- (e) All employees shall receive eight (8) hours of rest between shifts, except in an emergency or urgent situation, or in exceptional circumstances with the mutual agreement of the employee and Company. If an employee does not receive eight (8) hours of rest between shifts, then the applicable overtime rate will apply until eight (8) hours is reached.
- (f) Overtime shall be calculated and paid on a basis of daily or weekly hours, but not a combination of both. Vacation hours will not be included in the calculation for determining overtime entitlement.
- (g) It is agreed that overtime work will be on a voluntary basis provided a sufficient number of qualified employees are available to perform the required overtime work. If the Company is unable to obtain the sufficient number of qualified employees then the junior qualified employees shall be required to perform the required overtime work.

The present practice of scheduling required weekend work shall continue. For clarity, available weekend hours will be offered to employees who volunteer by signing up. From the sign-up sheet, weekend hours will be offered:

- First, to employees with less than thirty-six (36) hours in the preceding week (Sunday to Friday) in order of seniority; and,
- Second, to all other employees, in order of seniority.

In the event the Company does not have enough volunteers to work the available weekend hours, employees will be scheduled to work the remaining weekend hours in reverse order of seniority. The Company will not require an employee to work weekend hours in the event the employee has a *bona fide* reason for not working. Whether or not the employee's reason is *bona fide* shall be determined by the Company in its discretion, exercised reasonably.

The Company shall attempt to give the employees as much advance notice as possible when overtime is required.

- 2. For those employees hired prior to April 1, 2011, time and a half the regular hourly rate shall be paid to hourly paid employees for work performed on Sunday, excluding the four (4) hour minimum rate payable for call out emergency work pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 (c) hereof. For those employees hired on or after April 1, 2011 this clause would not apply.

It is understood that Sunday work shall be first offered to employees hired prior to April 1, 2011 before it is assigned to employees hired on or after April 1, 2011.

- 3. (a) The Company agrees to pay all employees whether they work or not, eight (8) hours pay at their regular hourly rates for each of the following:

New Year's Day  
Victoria Day  
Labour Day  
24<sup>th</sup> of December

Family Day  
Canada Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Christmas Day

Good Friday  
British Columbia Day  
Remembrance Day  
Boxing Day  
National Day for Truth  
and Reconciliation

Provided such employees have worked a minimum of 60 days during the preceding 365 calendar days immediately preceding such holiday and provided they have earnings in the payroll period in which the holiday falls. For employees hired on or after April 1, 2011, provided such- employees have worked a minimum of 15 days during the preceding 30 calendar days immediately preceding such holiday and provided they have earnings in the payroll period in which the holiday falls.

Employees hired on or after April 1, 2011 shall not be entitled to the 24th of December or Boxing Day.

- (b) An employee shall be ineligible for holiday pay if they are instructed to report for work on any paid holiday and fail to do so. An employee will also be ineligible for holiday pay if they fail to report for work on the work day preceding and the work day following any paid holiday if required to do so, unless such absence has been previously authorized.

Where an employee with seniority has by reason of illness or accident supported by medical evidence been absent on either the work day immediately preceding or the next work day immediately following the paid holiday, they shall receive payment for the paid holiday upon submission of such evidence to management. **Provided such medical evidence is submitted as soon as practicable.**

In cases where the employee is in receipt of sickness or accident benefits on a paid holiday from either the Company Plan, the E.I. Commission or the Workers' Compensation Board, the amount of the sickness or accident benefit shall be deducted from the employee's paid holiday entitlement and the remainder will be paid upon request from the employee on the next regular pay received by the employee.

Employees who are temporarily transferred to a higher-rated classification shall receive Paid Holiday pay at the higher rate, if the majority of the hours worked during the two (2) week pay period containing the Paid Holiday are worked at the higher-rated classification.

- (c) In addition to any holiday pay set out above, all employees hired on or after April 1, 2011 shall be paid time and a half (1-1/2) for all work performed on paid holidays and all employees hired prior to April 1, 2011 shall be paid double time (2X).
4. (a) Every employee shall be entitled to a fifteen (15) minute rest period without deduction of pay, to commence between one and one-half (1½) and two and one-half (2½) hours after the commencement of both of their half shifts. The unpaid lunch period of one-half (½) hour duration shall commence between three and one-half (3½) and four and one-half (4½) hours after the start of their shift. The foregoing will apply unless otherwise agreed upon between any employee and the Company.

- (b) A further fifteen (15) minute rest period will be granted to an employee required to work more than nine (9) hours.
5. (a) Hourly rated employees if called to work and dismissed for the day by reason of some cause for which they are not responsible shall receive for that day at least four (4) hours pay at the applicable rate.
    - (b) An employee who is called out to work, and due to a break-down or shortage of material is required to wait at the plant shall be paid for such waiting time at the applicable rate.
    - (c) An employee, who has left the Company's premises, specially called outside their scheduled hours for emergency work, shall be through when the emergency is over. For such emergency work, being that outside of the scheduled hours, they shall be paid four (4) hours at the applicable rate or for the hours actually worked at the overtime rate, whichever is the greater.
  6. An employee sent home due to an occupational accident incurred as a result of their employment, shall suffer no loss of earnings for the balance of hours in the scheduled shift in which the accident occurs.
  7. The payment of overtime, holiday or Sunday rates in this Article shall not be construed to require duplication of overtime, holiday or Sunday pay covering the same hours of work.
  8. An afternoon shift premium of fifty (50) cents per hour shall be paid to employees who work the majority of their scheduled hours between 4:00 PM and midnight. Similarly, a night shift premium of two dollars (\$2.00) per hour shall be paid to employees who work the majority of their scheduled hours between midnight and 8:00 AM. This premium shall not be considered as part of the employee's basic rate.
  9. Employees shall not be regularly required to work more than five (5) hours without a meal period, except with their consent.
  10. An employee who works more than two (2) hours overtime after the end of their regular shift, will be given a paid twenty (20) minute meal period on Company time as well as a ten (\$10.00) dollar meal allowance.
  11. (a) Employees must advise the Company in writing prior to January 1st, May 1st and September 1st if they elect to bank overtime instead of being paid for it; such election to be binding for the next four (4) month period and thereafter unless changed prior to the next election date.
    - (b) Overtime hours shall be banked in dollars at the rate the employee was receiving at the time the overtime was worked.
    - (c) An employee desiring to take time off under this provision shall give the Company two (2) weeks written notice. A sincere effort will be made to grant the time off when requested by the employee; provided that such request does not interfere with the requirements of the business or with other employees' vacation choices regardless of seniority.

- (d) Banked time may be taken off in increments of four (4) or eight (8) hours.
- (e) Pay for time off shall be included in the employee's regular payroll cheque at the employee's current regular rate of pay and the amount paid shall be deducted from their overtime bank.
- (f) Upon two (2) weeks notice, the employee may request to be paid out all money in their overtime bank, to be included in their next payroll cheque. Employees who make this request are not eligible to bank hours until the next election date (January 1st, May 1st or September 1st).
- (g) Banked overtime accrument from the previous calendar year shall be paid out if not taken as time off by March 31st of the current year.

### **ARTICLE 13 – Wages**

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1. Wages and classification of work shall be set out in Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" attached hereto and forming part of this Agreement. Wages set out in this Agreement are minimum rates. If the Employer wishes to increase any rates, they shall first consult with the Union.
2. Probationary employees promoted to or hired for a classified job shall receive the applicable Schedule B rate.
3. Employees with seniority who are promoted to Classification listed in Schedule "A", shall receive ten (10) cents per hour below the applicable classification rate for the first thirty (30) working days on the job. After thirty (30) days the full rate for the classification shall be paid, provided the employee is qualified.
4. Where an employee is permanently employed in more than one classification, their regular rate shall be calculated on the basis of the percentage of time they spend on each classification, except that when an employee spends fifty percent or more time on a higher paid classification on any day then the rate for such higher classification shall become their pay rate for all hours worked on that day.
5. When a regular employee, receiving a classified rate, is transferred to a lower rated job, they shall continue to receive the higher rate for all hours worked during the twenty-five (25) working days following such transfer, after which the lower rate shall apply. When such transfer to lower rated work is due to the employee's inability to perform the job, health or is at the request of the employee, the lower rate of pay shall apply immediately. The twenty-five (25) working days referred to herein shall commence at the time written notice is given to the employee that their rate is to be reduced. If the employee is returned to this classified job within the twenty-five (25) working day notice, this period shall be extended by those days worked on the higher classified job.
6. Any new classifications introduced will be subject to negotiation between the Company and the Union.
7. When an employee is required temporarily to fill a higher rated job, they shall receive the higher rate, but if required temporarily to fill a lower rated job, they shall receive their regular rate. When a regular employee works in excess of one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of their scheduled shift in a

higher classification, they shall receive such higher rate for all hours worked during such scheduled shift.

8. Hairnets, rubber gloves, hearing protection, and face masks shall be required to be worn by all employees in the processing areas and shall therefore be provided for this purpose by the Company at no cost to the employee. Issues of such items will be made at no costs to the employee, provided that they return the worn issue for replacement. Coveralls or an appropriate alternative shall be supplied to regular full-time employees with seniority. The Company will supply all required freezer wear, **including freezer safety boots for those in the Shipper classification** to be replaced every 2 years.

All employees assigned coveralls/ smocks will be required to return the assigned coveralls/ smocks. Failure to return such coveralls/smocks may result in the replacement cost being deducted from the employee's pay. The Company agrees to provide a secure location for storage of said coveralls/ smocks.

Adequate freezer clothing shall be supplied by the Employer for those employees who are temporarily assigned to freezer duties, and adequate rain gear shall be supplied by the Employer for those employees who are temporarily assigned to outdoor or sanitation duties.

9. For seniority employees, the Company shall make direct payroll deposit to the account of the employee every second Thursday, for all hours worked, or to be paid, to the previous Saturday (except as outlined below).

For probationary employees, the Company will pay by cheque or by direct deposit, every second Thursday, for all hours worked, or to be paid, to the previous Saturday. Cheques will be available from the Shift Supervisors' office after 8:00 a.m. on the relevant Thursday (except as outlined below).

For payroll weeks that contain Monday as a General Holiday, payroll deposit/cheque availability shall be on Friday. A notice will be posted when this is to occur.

Any payroll error, resulting in an underpayment of fifty dollars (\$50.00) or less will be paid in the following pay period. Any payroll error resulting in an underpayment of more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) shall be paid to the employee no more than two (2) working days after notification.

Employees will be entitled to reimbursement within the following pay period upon presentation of valid receipts, resolve of grievance, or notification to the Company of any monies owed to them that was not due to an error on the part of the employee.

## **ARTICLE 14 – General**

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1. Bulletin Board  
The Company shall provide a secure bulletin board for the use of the Union in the employee lunchroom. All bulletins shall be submitted to management for approval before posting, with the exception of routine notices calling the Union meetings.
2. Safety

- (a) The Company recognizes the importance of maintaining and further developing reasonable measures for the safety and health of its employees, and to that end will maintain a safety committee including a minimum of two (2) Company and two (2) Union representatives. Such Union representatives, who must represent a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the Committee, shall be elected or appointed by the Union and the Company shall be kept informed of the personnel of the Committee. Each Committee shall have two (2) co-chairs, one (1) selected by the Company and the other selected by the Union representatives. Meetings of the Safety Committee shall be held once each month.
- (b) New employees shall receive, upon attaining twelve hundred and forty (1240) hours worked, an allowance of up to one hundred and **seventy five** dollars (**\$175.00**) upon submitting proof of purchase of Company approved safety footwear. All employees are eligible for a subsequent footwear allowance one (1) time per calendar year, upon submitting proof of purchase of new Company approved safety footwear and the footwear being replaced.
- (c) The Company agrees that when a WCB inspector arrives at the Plant for the purposes of an inspection visit, or attending to the investigation of an accident, a Union Safety Committee member, or in the alternative a Shop Steward, shall be informed and given the opportunity to meet with the inspector, for the duration of the plant tour.

### 3. Bereavement

When an employee with seniority is bereaved as a result of the death of their mother, father, wife, husband, daughter or son, the employee shall receive forty (40) hours time off with pay at their regular rate of pay, provided payments are made only in respect of absence from work on their regular work day. In the event of the death of a sister, brother, grandmother, grandfather, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law or sister-in-law of an employee with seniority, the employee shall receive twenty-four (24) hours time off with pay at their regular rate. Time off due to the death of a member of the employee's family must be taken at the time of bereavement or at the time of service.

**For employees requiring extensive travel due to bereavement purposes for family members listed above, up to an additional ten (10) days may be applied for and may be granted without pay. The employer shall not unreasonably deny such request.**

### 4. Jury Duty

Where an employee, with seniority, is required to be away on jury duty, the Company shall make up the difference between an employee's scheduled hours at their regular hourly rate and the amount they are paid by the Government during the time they are required to be away on such jury duty.

### 5. Tools

Employees who are required to bring tools to work to be used in the performance of their job function, shall, if such tools are lost or stolen or upon presentation of such broken or worn-out tools (used in the performance of said job function), receive an equivalent replacement tool from the Company. This is provided that due care has been taken in the care and security of such tools. An inventory listing of all tools must be submitted annually by employees and audited by the Company for insurance purposes.

## **ARTICLE 15 – Government Regulations**

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It is mutually agreed that no demand shall be made by either party to this Agreement upon the other party, which in any way contravenes laws, orders, or regulations issued by, or under the authority of the Government of Canada, or that of the Province of British Columbia, or such agency as may be assigned by either of such governments from time to time in regard to wages, bonuses, hours, conditions of labour or other related matters.

## **ARTICLE 16 – Layoff**

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1. Full-time employees, in the event of a layoff **shall** receive five (5) regular working days' notice, or five (5) days' pay in lieu of such notice.

This clause does not apply to temporary extra labour.

A full-time employee is one who has worked a minimum of one hundred fifty-five (155) days or 1240 hours in the previous calendar year.

## **ARTICLE 17 – Severance**

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In the case of a plant closure resulting in the termination of employees with a minimum of one (1) year of seniority, the terminated employees shall receive severance pay of one (1) week's pay at their regular rate for each completed year of service up to a maximum of seventeen (17) weeks.

In the event of a reduction of available work that results in an employee working less than 155 days in a calendar year, the employee may, at their discretion, opt for severance.

For the purposes of this clause, a year of service is defined as a minimum of one hundred an fifty-five (155) days or 1240 hours worked in a calendar year.

## **ARTICLE 18 – Duration of Agreement**

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1. **This Agreement shall be binding and remain in full force for the period from and including March 25th, 2024 to and including March 24th, 2027.**
2. **Notice to Bargain**  
Either party may at any time within four (4) months immediately preceding the expiry date of this Agreement, by written notice, require the other party to commence collective bargaining.
3. **Agreement to Continue In Force**  
Both parties shall comply fully with the terms of this Agreement during the period of collective bargaining and until a new or revised Agreement is signed by the parties, without prejudicing the position of the new or revised Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties shall have the right to effect a legal strike or a legal lockout, as the case may be.

## SCHEDULE "A"

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### WAGES AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF WORK

	March 26, 2023	2024	2025	2026
<b>Schedule A</b>				
Labour	\$22.10	<b>\$22.98</b>	<b>\$23.67</b>	<b>\$24.38</b>
Tradesman	\$34.49	<b>\$39.50</b>	<b>\$40.69</b>	<b>\$41.91</b>
Freezer Warehouseperson	\$26.62	<b>\$27.68</b>	<b>\$28.51</b>	<b>\$29.37</b>
Packaging Line Operator	\$26.92	<b>\$28.00</b>	<b>\$28.84</b>	<b>\$29.71</b>

An individual designated by the Company to act in the capacity of First-Aid Attendant shall receive a rate which is \$0.75/hour for Level 1; \$2.00/hour for Level 2; above the Labour rate or such higher applicable rate.

A Lead Hand, appointed by the Company, shall be paid a premium of \$2.00/hour. Lead hands shall not hire, fire, promote, demote, layoff, transfer employees, exercise any discipline over other Employees, or exercise any of the rights of management.

## SCHEDULE "B"

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### WAGES AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF WORK

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(a) For the purposes of progressing through the Schedule B wage grid, days (or in the case of employees hired on or after April 1, 2011, hours) worked shall accumulate during a period of leave in accordance with the regularly scheduled shifts which the employee would have otherwise worked for the following leaves of absence: pregnancy, parental, family responsibility leave, compassionate care leave, reservist leave, leave respecting disappearance of child, leave respecting death of a child, bereavement leave, jury duty, and any other leave provided for by the British Columbia *Employment Standards Act*, as amended, as well as paid sick leave, Workers Compensation Board, Short Term Disability, Long Term Disability, and Union Business leaves (as set out in Article 10.1). Time spent on personal leave shall not be counted towards such progression on the wage grid. Upon ratification, the Company will credit Schedule B employees paid at the Labourer rate for leave hours they would have normally worked during the leave period (except personal leave) commencing on March 25, 2018, for the duration of the collective agreement.

In addition, the Company will credit following employees for leave hours they would have normally worked during the leave period, prior to March 25, 2018:

1. Sagdeep Sharma;
2. Jasveer Brar (pregnancy/parental leave only); and
3. Savneeta Narang.

The Company agrees that if an employee comes forward and demonstrates that being credited for the hours the employee would have worked during any paid leave period would result in a material difference in relation to wage progression on the Schedule B Labourer's wage grid, the



Company and Union shall meet with a view to resolving the matter. In the event the parties cannot resolve the matter, it shall be remitted to Grant Mc Arthur for resolution. The parties agree that a material difference shall mean approximately one hundred and sixty (160) hours or more of credited time.

- (b) An individual designated by the Company to act in the capacity of First-Aid Attendant shall receive a rate which is \$0.75/hour for Level 1; \$2.00/hour for Level 2; above the Labour rate or such higher applicable rate.
- (c) A Lead Hand, appointed by the Company, shall be paid a premium of \$2.00/hour. Lead hands shall not hire, fire, promote, demote, layoff, transfer employees, exercise any discipline over other Employees, or exercise any of the rights of management.
- (d) The category "Labour – General" will include:
  - Inspector
  - Pouch line feeder
  - Case filler
  - Case up
  - Case stacker < 20lbs
  - Puree line – filler
  - Puree line – box maker
  - Puree Line – Comitrol
  - Misc general tasks

The category "Labour – Heavy" will include:

- Pack Line dumper
- Bulk Case dumper
- Puree Line dumper
- Case stacker >20lbs
- Container unloading
- Misc general heavy lifting tasks

A separate list of employees who are capable of performing the Labour – Heavy tasks will be maintained. Employees in this category must be capable of performing the duties of **all** the positions for a full eight (8) hour shift.

## MEMORANDUM REGARDING WELFARE PLANS

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### SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.

#### **EXTENDED HEALTH CARE COVERAGE**

Extended health care benefits respecting prescription drugs, nursing care, ambulance, hospital care and out-patient services, osteopathy or physiotherapy/chiropractic and diagnostic tests are provided to eligible employees, subject to coverage maximums and annual deductibles, as set forth in greater detail in **the benefit provider's booklet**.

The plan will pay eighty (80) percent of the cost of paramedical practitioner visits with a maximum of **\$750.00** benefit per annum. Coverage and eligibility as per **the benefit provider's booklet**.

#### **VISION CARE**

Vision Care benefit is **three** hundred dollars (**\$300.00**) every twenty-four (24) months.

If the Provincial Government determines that opticians are no longer able to offer free eye examinations, then the Plan will pay 80% of a bi-annual eye exam by an ophthalmologist up to a maximum of \$100.00.

#### **HEARING AID COVERAGE**

Hearing Aid coverage is seven hundred dollars (\$700.00) every sixty (60) months.

#### **MEDICAL EI BENEFITS**

Weekly Indemnity benefits **were** discontinued **May 30, 2023**. Employees who become ill for a period in excess of five days may access EI sickness benefits as provided for and administered by Service Canada.

Employees who continue to be disabled beyond the seventeenth (17<sup>th</sup>) week of their disability, **may qualify for Long Term Disability benefits, provided they are enrolled in group healthcare, elect to continue paying the employee premiums for the benefit coverage and meet all conditions and criteria for coverage under the applicable plan.**

#### **ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS**

Employees shall first become eligible for extended health care, vision care, hearing aid coverage, **life insurance and AD&D insurance** on the first day of the month after they have accumulated twelve hundred and forty (1240) hours worked within one (1) calendar year. **Employees must work a normal work schedule of at least twenty-five (25) hours per week, including paid vacation, to maintain benefit coverage.**

All benefits are terminated the first day of lay-off, provided an employee is laid off for more than five (5) consecutive days. Laid off employees who have met the above eligibility regain their eligibility the first day of the month following their recall. Employees may choose to cover 100% of the premium costs of extended health care, and MSP during the time of lay-off. Premiums must be prepaid on a monthly basis by the employee. **This does not apply to life insurance, AD&D or LTD.**

**Employees may choose to retain extended health care, LTD, Life insurance, AD&D, and MSP benefits under the usual premium agreement while on a medical LOA, Worksafe BC injury leave, or any leave as per Articles 10. 2. 1o 10. 8. The employee portion of premiums must be prepaid on a monthly basis by the employee. Should employees**

**choose not to retain their benefits while on this type of leave, benefits will be terminated the first day of absence, provided an employee is on leave for more than five (5) consecutive days. Employees who have met the above eligibility regain their eligibility the first day of the month following their return to work.**

**All benefits are terminated the first day of a personal leave of absence, provided an employee is on leave for more than five (5) consecutive days. Employees on leave who have met the above eligibility regain their eligibility the first day of the month following their return to work. Benefit coverage shall not be maintained while on a personal leave.**

### **COST**

The cost of the above benefits shall be shared between the Company and the employee, with the Company paying sixty percent (60%) and the employee paying forty percent (40%). For new employees hired after April 1, 2011, that have met eligibility for benefits, the cost of the above benefits shall be shared equally between the Company and the employee, with the Company paying fifty percent (50%) and the employee paying fifty percent (50%). Employees may opt out of these benefits, on a first come first served basis, provided that this does not result in less than 75% group participation in the Plan, in which case no further opting out will be permitted

### **MEDICAL SERVICES PLAN**

The Company shall pay 100% of the cost of Medical Services Plan of British Columbia premiums for all employees who have completed not less than twelve hundred and forty (1240) hours of work within the previous calendar year.

For new employees hired after April 1, 2011 that have met eligibility for benefits, the cost of MSP premiums shall be shared equally between the Company and the employee, with the Company paying fifty percent (50%) and the employee paying fifty percent (50%). Such employees may elect to opt out of MSP coverage.

### **DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN**

Effective the start of the payroll period following date of ratification 2002, the Company will contribute to the UFCW Local 1518 Dental Plan the amount of fifty cents (\$0.50) per hour for each straight-time hour worked by all employees in the bargaining unit. Paid vacation and statutory holiday pay shall be considered as time worked for the purpose of this clause. Such contributions shall not exceed the lesser of 40 hours or twenty dollars (\$20.00) per employee per week.

If it is determined by actuarial advice that different contributions are required to maintain benefits under the Plan, then the contributions shall be changed in amounts and on dates determined by such actuarial advice and the Company will contribute up to ten cents (\$0.10) per hour maximum to cover increases in Year 2, 3 or 4 of the Contract.

Employer contribution will increase dental contributions to seventy-three cents (\$0.73) per hour. Any amount over seventy-three cents per hour shall be paid by employees.

### **GROUP LIFE INSURANCE & ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT**

Life insurance coverage is \$35,000.00. Accidental Death and Dismemberment benefit is \$35,000.00.

### **PAID SICK LEAVE**

Employees with at least 90 consecutive days of employments are entitled to five (5) days of paid sick leave and three (3) days of unpaid sick leave in each calendar year.

The Company shall take whatever steps it feels necessary to establish the genuineness of a sickness or disability. If requested by the Company, the employee must, as soon as practicable, provide to the Company reasonably sufficient proof that the employee is entitled to leave under this section. Whenever possible, the employee requiring sick leave should phone the Company to advise their unavailability for work before their scheduled shift commences.

Employees, if found to be abusing the privilege of paid sick leave, may be disciplined by the Company. In such cases, the Company may discontinue or recover from the employee the value of the sick leave benefit paid to the employee, or terminate the services of the employee.

Should an employee receive paid sick leave as a result of an accident or illness, and the employee subsequently receives a wage loss settlement from ICBC, or any government program or other third party covering the same period, the amount by which the paid sick leave cause the total replacement income to exceed the employee's regular earning shall be reimbursed to the company to the extent permitted by the British Columbia *Employment Standards Act*.

A maximum of five (5) unused paid sick days per calendar year may be paid out in cash at the employee's regular rate of pay within thirty (30) days following the completion of such calendar year **to all employees that have completed one hundred and sixty (160) days of employment**. Any additional unused days shall be forfeited. Accrued and unused paid sick leave current entitlements shall have no cash surrender value if the employee leaves the Company for any reason before the end of the calendar year.

Employees who call in sick will continue to be allowed to book a vacation day if they have no available hours or days in their sick bank.

### **LONG-TERM DISABILITY**

The Company provides a long term disability benefit with insurance coverage providing ~~66.67%~~ **66.7%** of an employee's average gross weekly income before a disability which prevents the employee from performing the substantial duties of their regular occupation. Premiums for such insurance coverage are paid by the Company for all eligible employees, with coverage particulars as set forth in detail by **the benefit provider**.

New employees hired after April 1, 2011 that have met the eligibility for benefits, the cost of LTD premiums shall be shared equally between the Company and the employee, with the Company paying fifty percent (50%) and the employee paying fifty percent (50%).

### **PENSION PLAN**

Effective March 29, 2009, the Company shall contribute one dollar and three cents (\$1.03) to the UFCW Local 1518 Pension Plan.

The Company agrees to contribute one dollar and three cents (\$1.03) per hour for all hours worked, for all employees, who are or become eligible for extended health care and weekly indemnity benefits and are participating in the Pension Plan, to the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1518 Pension Plan.

SIGNED THIS 4th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

**FOR THE UNION  
UFCW Local 1518**

**FOR THE EMPLOYER  
SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.**



---

Patrick Johnson, President

---

Ray Biln, President

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #1**

---

**BY AND BETWEEN:**

**SNOWCREST FOODS LTD. (THE COMPANY)**

**AND:**

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 1518 (THE UNION)**

**RE: DISCUSSION OF THE UFCW1518 RETIREMENT PLAN**

Within 90 days of ratification, the Parties agree to meet with Representatives of the UFCW Pension Plan to explore the potential for employee contributions as a means of enhancing the UFCW1518 Retirement Plan. It is understood that any decision to implement employee contributions is subject to the approval of the plan trustees and is also subject to ratification by the bargaining unit.

SIGNED this 16th day of April, 2011.

RENEWED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014.

RENEWED this 4th day of December, 2018.

RENEWED this 5th day of September, 2023.

RENEWED this 4th day of December, 2024.

**FOR THE UNION  
UFCW Local 1518**



---

Patrick Johnson, President

**FOR THE EMPLOYER  
SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.**



---

Ray Biln, President

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #2**

---

**BY AND BETWEEN:**

**SNOWCREST FOODS LTD. (THE COMPANY)**

**AND:**

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 1518 (THE UNION)**

**RE: FLEXIBLE SHIFT PLAN**

In the event that the Company wishes to implement a flexible shift plan, including shifts based on a ten (10) hour shift schedule, the parties shall meet to discuss the merits of the Company's proposal and negotiate the terms of any such arrangement. Where the parties are able to reach agreement on the terms of such a change, it is agreed that these terms (and any necessary amendments to the Collective Agreement) must be ratified by the Bargaining Unit. If no agreement is reached, or if an agreement fails to be ratified, the changes shall not be implemented.

SIGNED this 16th day of April, 2011.

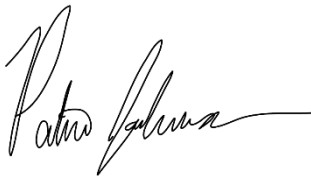
RENEWED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014.

RENEWED this 4th day of December, 2018.

RENEWED this 5th day of September, 2023.

RENEWED this 4th day of December, 2024.

**FOR THE UNION  
UFCW Local 1518**



---

Patrick Johnson, President

**FOR THE EMPLOYER  
SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.**



---

Ray Biln, President

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #3**

---

**BY AND BETWEEN:**

**SNOWCREST FOODS LTD. (THE COMPANY)**

**AND:**

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 1518 (THE UNION)**

**RE: BUY-OUT OFFER**

Where the Company feels it is appropriate, they may, at their discretion, institute a buy-out offer to the members of the Bargaining Unit. The Company will determine the amount of the offer, the number of employees that may accept the offer by classification and in any given year. In the event that there is a competition of two or more employees that are willing to accept the offer, the employee with the greatest seniority will prevail.

SIGNED this 16th day of April, 2011.

RENEWED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014.

RENEWED this 4th day of December, 2018.

RENEWED this 5 day of September, 2023.

RENEWED this 4th day of December, 2024.

**FOR THE UNION  
UFCW Local 1518**



---

Patrick Johnson, President

**FOR THE EMPLOYER  
SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.**



---

Ray Biln, President



**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #4**

---

**BY AND BETWEEN:**

**SNOWCREST FOODS LTD. (THE COMPANY)**

**AND:**

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 1518 (THE UNION)**

**RE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

The Company recognizes that employees sometimes face situations of violence or abuse in their personal lives that may affect their attendance or performance at work. Should an employee identify to the Company that they are facing a situation of violence or abuse, and upon verification of the situation, the Company agrees that an employee who is a direct victim of an abusive or violent situation will not be subject to discipline if the absence or performance issue is the result of an abusive or violent situation. Verified absences, which are not covered by other 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 the absence.

SIGNED THIS 5<sup>th</sup> DAY OF September, 2023.

RENEWED this 4th day of December, 2024.

**FOR THE UNION**



---

Patrick Johnson, President

**FOR THE EMPLOYER  
SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.**



---

Ray Biln, President

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #5**

---

**BY AND BETWEEN:**

**SNOWCREST FOODS LTD. (THE COMPANY)**

**AND:**

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 1518 (THE UNION)**


**RE: HEAVY LABOUR ADMINISTRATIVE PREMIUM**

The Company will pay a premium of \$0.50/hour to employees in the Heavy Labour classification who perform the administrative duties as required by the Company's production management systems.

The premium will be limited to one employee per shift. The premium will be paid to employees currently performing these duties.

SIGNED THIS 4th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

**FOR THE UNION**



---

Patrick Johnson, President

**FOR THE EMPLOYER  
SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.**



---

Ray Biln, President

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #6**

---

**BY AND BETWEEN:**

**SNOWCREST FOODS LTD. (THE COMPANY)**

**AND:**

**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 1518 (THE UNION)**

**RE: PERSONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

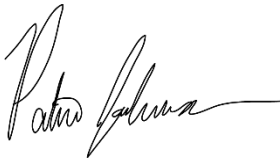
Further to Article 10 Section 9, personal leave of absence requests will be limited to the amount of earned vacation plus a maximum of three (3) weeks unpaid leave, at the discretion of the company and subject to operational needs. Failure to return to work on the agreed return date, without good and proper reason that is satisfactory to the company, may result in discipline up to and including termination from Snowcrest Foods Ltd.

All benefit coverage is terminated the first day of a personal leave of absence. Eligibility is regained the first day of the month following return to full time work.

SIGNED THIS 4th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

**FOR THE UNION**

**FOR THE EMPLOYER  
SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.**



---

Patrick Johnson, President

---

Ray Biln, President

**LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING #7**

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**BY AND BETWEEN:**

**SNOWCREST FOODS LTD. (THE COMPANY)**

**AND:**

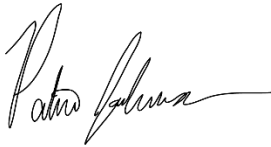
**UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 1518 (THE UNION)**

**RE: CULTURE STATUTORY/FLOATING STATUTORY HOLIDAY**

The Company and the Union agree to form a committee within 60 days of ratification, consisting of 3 representatives from each side, to discuss the feasibility of substituting a cultural holiday for an existing statutory holiday. If feasible this will be implemented for the next calendar year. The employer agrees that any such meetings for the committee will be subject to Section 10.1.

SIGNED THIS 4th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2024.

**FOR THE UNION**



---

Patrick Johnson, President

**FOR THE EMPLOYER  
SNOWCREST FOODS LTD.**



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Ray Biln, President

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