



## UNITED STEELWORKERS - LOCAL 1-2017

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July 12, 2017

### MEMBERS OF WOLVERINE MINES:

It has come to our attention that employees of the former Wolverine Mine have received letters from a company called CRG Financial, offering to buy employee's s. 54 notice, severance, and group termination pay claims against Walter Energy for **much less money than employees' claims are worth.**

CRG Financial is a private company that the Union does not know anything about. CRG Financial has not approached the Union directly about buying employees' claims.

The Union is happy to pursue claims on behalf of the Wolverine Mine employees. However, if employees sell their claims to CRG Financial, the claims would become property of CRG Financial, and the Union is not going to take steps on behalf of CRG Financial to deal with any problems that arise with the claims.

The Union will also not involve itself in any disputes between CRG Financial and Wolverine Mine employees whose claims CRG Financial has bought.

As we stated in a previous bulletin, the BC Supreme Court decided on May 1, 2017 that the United Mine Workers of America 1974 Pension Plan and Trust could not make a claim against Walter Energy Canada. The 1974 Plan is appealing that decision, and it will take some time for the Court of Appeal to decide whether to reject or accept the appeal. **However, if the Court's decision from May stands, we expect employees will be able to recover the full amount of the money owed to them by Walter Canada.**

**If you decide to sell your claim to CRG in the meantime, you should know that any money you are able to collect from CRG may be subject to:**

1. **EI claw back if you collected EI in the first two months after the Wolverine Mine was idled; and/or**
2. **Other deductions.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (250) 613-9451.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Will".

Dan Will  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President