



**P.O. Box 160,  
CEP Local 404 New Hazelton, BC  
VOJ 2J0**

September 1, 2003

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# HUNGRY IN HAZELTON

## Labour Day Renews Resolve

### **Workers determined to fight for jobs**

Labour Day gave us all time to reflect on our labours and the value of our work to our communities. For the Carnaby workers sitting on the blockade it was a time to review and renew their resolve to hold strong and fight for their jobs.

“We are tired, and sometimes discouraged,” said Mo Azaz, President of CEP Local 404, “but we won’t give up.”

He noted that in the North West, Labour Day signals the end of summer and the beginning of cooler, wet weather. That can make camping out at the Carnaby site a little more of a challenge.

### **President moves onto site full time**

“We are moving a small motor home onto the site full time, so we can get inside and warm, and catch some sleep, and we are doing what we can to make our shelter at the entrance to the mill a little better, but it is going to get tougher from here on in,” he said.

### **Lonely vigil**

The steadfast determination of CEP 404 members on a lonely stretch of highway between New Hazelton and Terrace have stopped the dismantling of the mill. **E-mail messages of support to Carnaby workers at: [mo@bulkley.net](mailto:mo@bulkley.net)**

### **Carnaby tactics so far have failed**

This summer, New Skeena has mounted a number of tactics to dismantle our mill and in spite of arrests, the members of Local 404 have thwarted every one of them so far.

#### **New Skeena has:**

- ▲ Had a lien placed on all heavy equipment to pay taxes owing to New Hazelton.
- ▲ Cut a deal with Mayor of New Hazelton to sell equipment to pay the taxes.
- ▲ Tried to take moveable equipment offsite. To date they have only been successful with one machine and eight of our members were arrested. Machine still not sold.
- ▲ Brought in appraisers to dismantle fixed equipment. So far nothing has been moved.
- ▲ Brought in two flatbed trucks from Drake Towing in Vancouver to haul out heavy equipment. Two more arrests and more charges pending. Nothing moved.
- ▲ Told by police to get an injunction. No injunction has been sought.
- ▲ Sold a huge Wagner through Finning Tractor conditional on a crew going on site to take it apart. International Association of Machinists won’t cross blockade without CEP blessing. Finning threatens to sue.

### **CEP working for Survival of the Mill**

In the next few weeks a number of initiatives are planned. A meeting with the Provincial Labour Minister is planned for September 9th. An arbitration with Vince Ready is booked to begin on September 26th to fight for the over \$4 million dollars in severance pay New Skeena owes its workers. If they can’t pay, the workers want the mill to create their own jobs.

Further meetings with community stakeholders are being sought to find local solutions to run the mill.

