



## **Saskatoon Co-op wants employees to see offer and vote**

(Dec. 10, 2018) – Saskatoon Co-op’s latest offer presented to United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 1400 employees has expired without a scheduled meeting for employees to vote on this offer. UFCW has chosen to not give its members an opportunity to vote on any of Saskatoon Co-op’s offers since the strike began in early November.

“We’ve been optimistic that the union would give its members an opportunity to look at our full offer and vote on it and are disappointed that the union chose not to do so,” said Saskatoon Co-op CEO Grant Wicks. “Voting on our offer last week provided the simplest way for our employees to see an end to this strike, get paid and return to work.”

Saskatoon Co-op’s now expired four-year offer committed to:

- Retroactive pay that would be paid before Christmas
- Signing bonuses that would be paid before Christmas
- Annual raises of two per cent per year, in line with the union’s last offer
- New employee wages that are higher than our unionized competitors, and industry-leading benefits

“We’re staying focused on reaching an agreement that’s good for our employees and allows our Co-op to stay profitable in the long-term,” said Wicks. “We’re still hopeful that we can work together through the bargaining process to reach an agreement.”

Saskatoon Co-op has stayed committed to serving its members and customers throughout the strike, and plans to continue re-opening more of its sites in the coming weeks.

With the strike still in effect, Wicks reminded employees that they’re not locked out—they’re welcomed. Saskatoon Co-op has not turned away any of the more than 140 employees who have continued working or returned to work since the strike began.

Updates on the strike, re-opened locations and extended hours of operation will be shared on [www.saskatoonco-op.crs](http://www.saskatoonco-op.crs).

### **About Saskatoon Co-op**

Saskatoon Co-op is a retail co-operative that has proudly served Saskatoon and area for more than 82 years. Today, Saskatoon Co-op serves more than 116,000 members — and many more customers — in Saskatoon, Warman, Martensville, Colonsay and Watrous where it operates 30 locations. Since 2013, Saskatoon Co-op has returned more than \$53 million to its members in cash back and equity and paid over \$215 million in wages, while contributing over \$2.5 million to community organizations and initiatives.

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