

# COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

Between

**THE DAILY COURIER,**

**DRIVERS**

a division of the Okanagan Valley Newspaper Group,  
wholly owned by Continental Newspapers (Canada) Ltd.

And



Effective June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2024

The logo for LOCAL5, featuring a small red maple leaf icon to the left of the text 'LOCAL5' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.



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COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT  
Between  
THE DAILY COURIER – Press  
(the Employer)  
And  
UNIFOR LOCAL 2000  
(the Union)  
Delivery Drivers

This agreement made and entered into this 3rd day of December, 2022.

**ARTICLE 1 – TERM OF AGREEMENT**

- 1.01 This Collective Agreement is made and entered into between the Daily Courier, a division of the Okanagan Valley Newspaper Group, wholly owned by Continental Newspapers (Canada) Ltd. (hereinafter called the Company) through its authorized representatives and Unifor Local 2000 (hereinafter called the Union), by its officers or a committee duly authorized to act on its behalf.
- 1.02 This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for a term beginning June 1, 2021 and ending May 31, 2024.
- 1.03 Either party to this Agreement may, at any time within four months immediately preceding expiry of the Agreement, by written notice, require the other party to commence collective bargaining.
- 1.04 If no agreement is reached prior to the expiration of this agreement, this agreement shall be deemed to remain in full force and effect up to the time the Union goes on a legal strike or the Employer legally locks out the employees or a new agreement is signed.

**ARTICLE 2 – UNION SECURITY**

- 2.01 The Company agrees that Dependent Contractor Delivery Drivers (hereinafter referred to as Drivers) at the Daily Courier have a right to join the Union and to participate in its lawful activities.
- 2.02 The Company agrees to deduct Union dues, fees, and assessments from the earnings of the Driver, who authorizes it to do so in writing by completing and signing a dues authorization in the form provided for in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this Agreement.
- 2.03 The dues, fees, or assessment deduction pursuant to article 2.02 in the amount certified by the Union to the Company to be currently in effect under the Union's constitution shall be deducted from each cheque and remitted within fifteen days thereafter to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Local Union together with a list of names of Drivers on whose behalf such dues have been deducted.
- 2.04 The Company agrees to advise any new Driver hired during the term of this Agreement that a Collective Agreement is in force. The new Driver shall be required to become a

member of the Union as a condition of employment. The Driver must become a member of the Union upon completion of six working days.

### **ARTICLE 3 — JURISDICTION**

- 3.01 This Agreement covers all Drivers contracted to deliver the Daily Courier, the mid-week and week-end shoppers and any other related publications, complete with advertisements therein, including all inserts and flyers.
- 3.02 The Company further agrees not to require the Drivers to become employees under the B.C. Labour Relations Code by changing the conditions contained herein.
- 3.03 The Company shall endeavor to give reasonable notice to the Union before any publications are added and consultation shall take place between the parties to implement the new publication in an orderly fashion and with proper compensation.

### **ARTICLE 4 — REPRESENTATION**

- 4.01 The Company recognizes the right of the Drivers to select two of their members to act as their Union representatives (shop stewards).
- 4.02 The Union acknowledges that Union representatives have their regular duties to perform on behalf of the Company and that a representative shall not leave such duties in order to perform Union business without first obtaining permission from the Circulation Manager (or designate).
- 4.03 The Union will notify the Company in writing of the names of its committee, representatives and officers.
- 4.04 No Union representative shall be interfered with or discriminated against by the Company for carrying out the instructions of the Union governing the interpretation, application or alleged violation of the Agreement.
- 4.05 A shop steward shall be present for any disciplinary meeting.

### **ARTICLE 5 — GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

- 5.01 Should a dispute arise regarding the application, operation, interpretation or alleged violation of this Agreement, an earnest effort shall be made to settle the dispute in the following manner:
- 5.02 In the event of a grievance, the Driver concerned and the Circulation Manager (or designate) shall within three (3) working days of the cause of the dispute seek to settle the dispute. At the request of either party the shop steward shall attend the grievance meeting.
- 5.03 The Driver concerned and the Circulation Manager (or designate) shall meet within three (3) working days of the meeting being requested or as soon thereafter as is reasonable. The party against whom the grievance has been launched must reply in writing within a further three (3) working days after the meeting.

- 5.04 If within that time no agreement has been reached the matter may be submitted to the grievance committee in accordance with the provisions of this article.
- 5.05 Any grievance must be presented to the grievance committee in writing, within fifteen (15) working days of the cause of the complaint, setting forth the grounds for the complaint and the provision(s) of the Collective Agreement which are alleged to have been violated, together with the remedy sought.
- 5.06 A grievance committee shall be maintained, to consist of two representatives of the Company and two representatives of the Union. Such grievance committee shall meet within five (5) working days after any question or difference has been referred to it, and shall render a decision within ten (10) working days and such decision shall be binding upon both parties.
- 5.07 If the grievance committee cannot reach an agreement on the question or difference referred to it, at the request of either party hereto, the matter shall be referred to an arbitrator. Should the parties be unable to agree upon an arbitrator, either party may request the appointment of an arbitrator by the Labour Relations Board.
- 5.08 The decision of the arbitrator shall be binding upon both parties.
- 5.09 The cost of the arbitrator shall be borne equally by both parties.
- 5.10 If no written request for arbitration is received within ten (10) working days after the decision of the grievance committee is given, the grievance shall be deemed to have been settled.
- 5.11 Time limits set out above are mandatory but may be extended by mutual agreement.

#### **ARTICLE 6 — STRUCK WORK**

- 6.01 While this Agreement is in force, no strike or lockout will take place.
- 6.02 No Driver covered by this Agreement shall be required to cross a legal picket line at the Daily Courier.

#### **ARTICLE 7 — SANITARY CONDITIONS**

- 7.01 The Company will provide access to the clean, healthful, sufficiently ventilated, properly heated and lighted premises which may be used by the Drivers as required.
- 7.02 The Driver Lead Hand on location shall be provided a key for access to washroom facilities at newspaper depot. The Driver Lead Hand shall be responsible for all maintenance and security of the facilities, while in use by the drivers. The parties agree and understand that this privilege may be revoked in the event of damage, vandalism or unauthorized security breaches.

#### **ARTICLE 8 — BULLETIN BOARD**

- 8.01 The Company shall provide a bulletin board for the exclusive use by the Union.
- 8.02 The Employer will provide the Union shop steward with all job postings of openings for

employment in a department. Such notice shall contain the wage rate and such other information which may be of assistance to employees. Current employees shall receive first consideration for openings within their department.

- 8.03 Notices shall be posted at least one week prior to the closing date for applications, except with prior agreement from the Union.
- 8.04 Job postings will be put on all Union bulletin boards.

#### **ARTICLE 9 — CONDITIONS AND RATES**

- 9.01 The Company shall make available a daily manifest which sets out the number of newspapers for each delivery route. The newspapers shall be bundled and marked by drop location. The Driver shall be responsible for maintaining the load sequencing of the manifest when new bundle drops appear.
- 9.02
  - (a) The Driver shall pick up the newspapers at the Company loading area on each delivery day and deliver them as instructed. The company will provide a large clock (co-ordinated with the computer clock) on the exterior of the building to be used as the clock of record for the drivers.
  - (b) Delivery drivers are not required to hold paper for customers who are on vacation but will deliver those papers when customers return from vacation at no extra cost.
- 9.03
  - (a) If the Employer intends to continue a route after being advised of a route becoming vacant, the routes will be posted for 4 business days of becoming vacant and the Union shall be notified. Current routes will be listed and vacant routes will be posted as they become available and the Union shall be copied on all postings. Drivers who have been under contract to the Daily Courier for the longest continuous period of time will be given preference when filling a vacancy. New routes and amalgamated routes will also be posted. Any changes made after a vacant route is posted will trigger a new posting. Postings shall include delivery time of route, number of papers and amount paid. The Union shall be notified of the successful applicant.
  - (b) It is understood that nothing in this clause prevents the Company from discontinuing or amalgamating routes. A Driver who becomes redundant as a result of a discontinuance or amalgamation of a run may apply length of continuous service and bump another Driver with less service. Drivers are expected to provide written notice prior to giving up a route, such notice to include the last day they intend to deliver their routes.
  - (c) When the regular load time is changed by more that one hour, the Company will endeavor to provide two weeks' notice, except for Christmas, when the Company will endeavor to provide four weeks' notice.
  - (d) It is understood that Dependent Contractor Delivery Drivers' seniority shall be from original date of hire and must be based on continuous service.



- (e) Delivery drivers will not be placed on probation. Existing Delivery Drivers who take on a new route will do so for a 3-month trial basis. If not deemed suitable for the new route, the driver will return to their former route.
- 9.04 (a) Drivers will report to the loading dock at their specified times and will sign in on the load report for each delivery. No waiting time will be paid for waiting of five minutes or less after the specified departure time. However, if the waiting time is for longer than five minutes, then the Delivery Driver shall be paid for all waiting time after the specified departure time. If there is a change of times the Company will advise the Driver no less than one (1) hour prior to his or her specified time. Drivers must be at their designated phone number each day one hour (1) prior to their specified times. If they are unable to be at their designated phone numbers, they must contact the Company one (1) hour prior to their specified times.
- (b) Drivers shall not be contacted before noon.
  - (c) If the truck fails to show, drivers shall be released with full compensation after 2 hours with the expectation that the missed papers shall be delivered the next publication day.
- 9.05 (a) The Drivers shall deliver the newspapers in a good and workmanlike manner. It is agreed that Drivers must find Substitutes to do their work during absences for any reason and shall be responsible for the performance and reimbursement of Substitutes utilized by them.
- (b) Drivers must drive a minimum of 50% of the days their routes require per week. Vacations, authorized leaves of no more than three months, sick days and other authorized absences shall not count towards the 50%. This article shall be enforced according to Section 2 of the Kelowna Delivery Drivers bylaws adopted Feb. 23, 2000. (Note: The referred to sections of the Delivery Drivers are appended hereto as Appendix B). (Further note: The Company will not be adjointed to a grievance or arbitration under this clause).
  - (c) If the Company terminates a Driver for violating subsection (b), which the Union has confirmed and brought to the Company's attention, the Union will not take the termination to arbitration.
- 9.06 (a) The Company shall pay the Driver for the newspapers delivered as follows (in accordance with Articles 9.04 and 9.07):
- Hourly Pay Rates
- |             |                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Start rate  | minimum wage + \$0.25 |
| 1 year rate | minimum wage + \$1.00 |
| 2 year rate | minimum wage + \$1.50 |
- (b) Mileage paid for all kilometers. At no time shall the driver be paid less than 33.91 cents per kilometer.

Price of Gas	Kilometrage Rate
Less than 80 cents per litre:	\$0.3391
80-84.9	\$0.3494
85-89.9	\$0.3597
90-94.9	\$0.3700
95-99.9	\$0.3803
1.00-1.04.9	\$0.3906
1.05-1.09.9	\$0.4009
1.10-1.14.9	\$0.4112
1.15-1.19.9	\$0.4215
1.20-1.24.9	\$0.4318
1.25-1.29.9	\$0.4421
ETC....	

(c) \$1.00 per Motor Route Tube Installation or Removal

Payment for each route set out in Appendix A

(d) Drivers must provide invoices to the Company every second Monday by 5 p.m. failing which the drivers will not be paid until the pay period following submission of invoices. The company will return the invoices to the drivers when they pick up their loads on each payday.

9.07 The Company and the Union will agree on the length of route time and kilometrage for each run. Route time and kilometrage will be calculated from dock to dock. Either party may call for re-evaluation of route time and kilometrage. If a new route is established by the Company, the parties will agree on the length of the route time and kilometrage for each run. Any increases following a re-evaluation will be retroactive to the date of request for re-evaluation. Any decreases following a re-evaluation will be effective on the date of evaluation. An individual driver will request a re-evaluation no more than four times a year.

9.08 The Drivers shall be paid every second Friday for the newspapers delivered during the preceding two (2) week period.

9.09 It is agreed that the Drivers are and shall remain dependent contractors and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed so as to create an employee or agency relationship, a partnership or a joint venture between the Company and the Driver unless otherwise agreed to by the Union and the Company.

9.10 Any expenses incurred by the Driver (or Substitute) in performing the deliveries contemplated herein shall be the responsibility of the Driver, unless otherwise specified herein.

9.11 The Drivers confirm that as dependent contractors they are responsible for making any necessary legislated deductions for Unemployment Insurance, Canada Pension, Revenue Canada for themselves, their substitutes and/or their employees. The Company agrees to remit W.C.B. assessments on behalf of the Drivers and substitutes.

- 9.12 The driver shall maintain and provide the company with a copy of their General Liability Insurance of \$1,000,000. The parties recognize there will be no liability attached to the Company however, the Company will compensate the driver \$100 per year for such coverage.
- 9.13 The Driver shall indemnify and save harmless the Company from and against any claims, damages, costs, expenses, actions and suits arising out of the performance of the Driver's obligations as contained herein due to the failure of the Driver, his/her Substitutes or employees to fully comply with any term or condition of this Agreement.
- 9.14 The Drivers shall be responsible for complying with the required licensing of their vehicles including a valid B.C. Driver's Licence. A Driver who is fined as a result of not possessing the required licensing will have no claim against the Company. On receipt of proof of such licensing, the Company will contribute \$100.00 per year towards that licensing. The Company will also pay the present \$25.00 municipal delivery tag for each Delivery Driver. The Company further agrees to meet and discuss with the Union in the event that the municipal delivery tag increases in cost.
- 9.15 Cargo Insurance is not required and the company will make no claim in the event of the loss of newspapers due to an accident.
- 9.16 Any directions which may be given by the Company pursuant to the terms of this Agreement may be given by the Circulation Manager or such other persons as may be designated or appointed by the Company.
- 9.17 In the event the Driver defaults in the performance of any of the covenants or terms contained in this Agreement and if this default shall continue after the Company has given notice to the Driver and Union specifying such default, the Company shall have the right to terminate the Driver forthwith or at any time while such default continues by giving the Driver and the Union written notice to that effect. Any costs incurred by the Company by reason of default will be borne by the Driver.
- 9.18 Any notice given hereunder shall be effective on the date of delivery if delivered personally and if mailed on the second business day after the mailing by registered mail to the address provided to the Company by each Driver. It is agreed that the Union representative is to receive a copy of such notice.
- 9.19 A Driver may not assign this Agreement in whole or in part without the prior written consent of the Company and the Union.
- 9.20 The Company shall be responsible for giving clear direction as to the location of new customers or bundle drops.
- 9.21 Delivery Drivers shall be paid at one and one-half times over and above their daily remuneration for work performed on a statutory holiday.
- 9.22 Dealer Return Runs will be based on a calculation of kilometers, from dock to dock, and hourly rate.
- 9.23 The Employer shall advise as soon as reasonably possible, notice of any change in the day

that a statutory holiday is recognized by the Employer.

- 9.24 Available carrier routes shall be offered to drivers and a driver may refuse that offer with no penalty for such refusal.

#### **ARTICLE 10 – LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

- 10.01 If an employee is elected or appointed to a Local 2000 Table Officer position, upon the member's request, s/he shall be given a leave of absence and shall be reinstated in the same or a comparable position upon the expiration of such leave. Only one employee of the Okanagan Valley Newspaper Group will be entitled to such leave at any one time.

#### **ARTICLE 11 – LABOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

- 11.01 The Parties shall establish a Labour and Management (LAM) Committee, pursuant to Section 53 of the BC Labour Code, composed of no more than three (3) representatives of the Union, and no more than three (3) representatives of the Employer.
- 11.02 The Committee shall meet at least four (4) times a year or at the request of either party for the purpose of discussing the following: issues relating to the workplace, any grievances, the administration and interpretation of the Collective Agreement. The time and place of meetings shall be at the convenience of both parties.

#### **ARTICLE 12 – PAID EDUCATION LEAVE**

- 12.01 The Employer agrees to pay into a special fund an amount of \$500.00 total per year covering all four certificates in Penticton & Kelowna to provide for a Unifor Paid Education Leave (PEL) program. Such payment will be remitted on a quarterly basis into a trust fund established by the Unifor National Union effective from the date of ratification. Payments will be sent by the Employer to the following address:

Unifor Paid Education Leave Program  
115 Gordon Baker Road  
Toronto, ON M2H 0A8

- 12.02 The Employer shall approve Education Leave for the members of a bargaining unit at the request of the Union. Candidates for PEL shall be selected by the Union to attend. The Union will provide written confirmation to the Employer of such selection. Employees on PEL leave of absence will continue to accrue seniority and service.

**SCHEDULE 'A' TO THE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT**

between  
THE DAILY COURIER  
and  
UNIFOR LOCAL 2000

**Assignment and Authorization to Check-off  
Unifor Local 2000 Dues**

To:.....

I hereby assign to the Unifor Local 2000 and authorize you to deduct from any earnings as your Dependent Contract Delivery Driver, an amount equal to all union dues levied against me by the Union for each dues month following the date of this assignment.

I hereby authorize and request you to remit monthly the amount deducted to the Unifor Local 2000.

Driver's Signature: .....

Date: .....

**SIGNATURES TO THE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this 3rd day of December, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
For the Company: Debbie Matson, Publisher

\_\_\_\_\_  
For the Union: Brian Gibson, President

**LETTER OF AGREEMENT NO. 1 - SUBSTITUTES**

between  
THE DAILY COURIER  
and  
UNIFOR LOCAL 2000

The undersigned parties hereby agree that the term “Substitute” means anyone who a Driver uses to drive a run he or she has contracted for, including subcontractors, employees or other replacements.

It is further agreed that this Collective Agreement does not apply to Substitute drivers utilized by the Dependent Contractor Delivery Drivers.

Date: December 3, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
For the Company

\_\_\_\_\_  
For the Union

**LETTER OF AGREEMENT NO. 2 – GASOLINE PRICE CHANGES**

between  
THE DAILY COURIER  
and  
UNIFOR LOCAL 2000

When gasoline prices change, the posted price will be checked on the second Monday of each pay period. If prices vary between stations, an average will be taken between three gas stations in the immediate vicinity of the Daily Courier as agreed to by local Union and Company representative. This price will prevail for the entire pay period.

Date: December 3, 2022

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For the Company

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For the Union

## **APPENDIX A**

The attached Appendix A to this collective agreement is the pay grid.

## **APPENDIX B**

This appendix comprises Section 2 of the Kelowna Delivery Driver's Bylaws, as follows:

### **SECTION 2 — ENFORCING THE 50 PER CENT RULE**

**2.01** Enforcement of the 50 per cent rule will only be triggered upon receipt of a written complaint submitted to the shop steward.

**2.02** Drivers, who are investigated as a result of the complaint and found not to have signed in for at least 50 per cent of their trips over a three month period, except for the valid reasons covered in that clause of the Collective Agreement, will be notified, in writing, that they are in violation of the Collective Agreement.

**2.03** Drivers who have been notified of a violation under article 2.01 will have two weeks to reply to their shop steward with an explanation.

**2.04** Failure to reply, or providing an unacceptable explanation, will result in the Union bumping that driver to the bottom of the substitute seniority list and asking the company to post the vacated route.

**2.05** The decision on whether to notify the company of a request to post a vacated route will be made by the shop steward in consultation with the Chief Shop Steward of The Daily Courier.

**2.06** Should the numbers of the relevant clauses change in the collective agreement, these bylaws will still apply.