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500 MORE POSTAL WORKERS JOIN PICKET LINES

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Ottawa – Members of Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) from the Timmins (ON), Sault-Ste-Marie (ON), Bois Francs (QC) and Grande Prairie (AB) locals walked off the job this morning as part of CUPWs second week of rotating strikes.

"We have a health and safety crisis at Canada Post. We've seen injury rates skyrocket. This has got to be fixed," says Mike Palecek, CUPW National President. "Management refuses to address the urgent health and safety issues that have left postal workers the most injured group of workers in the federal sector."

CUPW has also called on a national overtime ban for both of its major bargaining units at Canada Post. Postal workers, no matter what their job at Canada Post, will not work more than an eight-hour day and not more than a 40-hour week. ''Overburdening, overtime and overwork are all major issues in this round of bargaining. Until Canada Post negotiators' address it, we can solve it for ourselves in the meantime." said CUPW National President Mike Palecek.

The 500 postal workers joined their 1,200 fellow workers from Kitchener-Waterloo (ON), St-John's (NL) who went on strike earlier today.

CUPW members are still without agreements for the Urban Postal Operations and Rural and Suburban Mail Carriers (RSMC) bargaining unit after almost a year of negotiations.

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