

Cupe 1490 “FACT VS. FICTION” response to the rumours around the lockout:

RUMOUR: Municipal workers don't want to work weekends.

TRUTH: Black River-Matheson's municipal workers are **all** ready to work Saturdays and Sundays and residents can continue to rely on us year-round, in all weather conditions.

RUMOUR: Municipal workers want to saddle the township with unreasonable overtime demands and shift premiums.

TRUTH:

1. We're taxpayers too – we want responsible use of our tax dollars.
2. The current arrangement is far more fiscally prudent than the township's proposal: \$3,500 a year **in total** under the existing agreement **VS.** potentially unlimited amounts of overtime.
3. The township has a \$7 million budget surplus; why pretend to save money on the backs of workers?

RUMOUR: All other northern municipalities have moved away from weekend shift allowances.

TRUTH: Some municipalities have, but others have not and many are more comparable in size and road needs to Black River-Matheson; examples include South River, Smith Falls, Long Lac and Hearst.