



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **CBA Negotiations Between Players Of The NLL And League Owners Remain Far Apart**

**Toronto Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018**-We just completed our sixth face to face negotiating session with the league's negotiating committee. Nine player reps were in attendance. This was the fourth exchange of proposals dating back to our first proposal in March of 2018. It should be noted that we had requested and were told on two separate occasions we would be receiving a proposal prior to the original opt out date of November of 2017 and once again after the extension of the Opt out date to January. It suffices to say that the players have done their part to keep push for negotiation. The day was largely spent arguing over who should pay for player out of pocket expenses related to travel and missed work to play this game.

“The players are pushing to update these provisions that have not changed in over 20 years to bring current with today’s costs and receive adequate reimbursement. There has been some movement on this front although it took virtually the entire day.” Peter Schmitz, President PLPA

The league also refuses to recognize the players’ frustration with compensation growth even with documented concessions the players gave from the last CBA. Per game salaries have not made it back to 2012 compensation.

A critical element to the PLPA proposal provides for compensation increases commensurate with league wide revenue growth year over year. The league continues to refuse to provide detailed audited information that would allow transparency into their performance and it’s unclear how to otherwise adequately measure. The ball is in their court to convince us.

The league also wishes to curtail another way the players can grow with the league through the percentage the players receive from the addition of a new franchise. A provision established to recognize and compensate the players for helping grow the league that has existed for many years. Now that the franchise fee has grown to a point where the payout is meaningful, the owners wish to modify.

Another topic that dominated the day surrounded a modification to the Practice Player (PP) provision put forth by a League owner wishing to add another PP and be able to designate up to two PPs for control similar to a restricted free agent with an enhanced pay scale. Our suggestion to add roster spot instead was met with significant pushback even when presented with the leagues' interest in adding games to the season and the increased physical burden that places on a player.

Bus travel, free agency, season length and number of games rounded out the remainder of the discussion with the league purportedly putting forth a "bonus" offer for the early opening of the 2017-18 season as well as a go forward recommendation. The other roughly 12 + issues remained unchanged from their prior proposal.

The league has scheduled a conference call for Monday morning purportedly to provide clarity on most of the issues above and whether they remain opposed to moving off their position with many of the other issues in our proposal.

They have also indicated a deadline of next Friday, October 26th for an agreement between the parties.

The players remain united and committed to continue to negotiate for a fair contract. They are prepared to do what it takes to see that through. At this time, until a CBA is reached, Player's intend to remain out of physicals and Camps.

**FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES CONTACT:**

Peter Schmitz, President PLPA

Dave Succamore, Executive Director PLPA

Email: [plpa@plpa.com](mailto:plpa@plpa.com)