

GOVERNMENT WALKS AWAY FROM CENTRALIZED BARGAINING, PROVINCE-WIDE STRIKE VOTES WILL START ON SEPTEMBER 7TH

While we waited for the government's reaction to our response from last night, the CUPE centralized bargaining team held a press conference this morning. With their 80 plus bargaining team members of each affected CUPE local, they delivered a message to CUPE members and the public about the state of bargaining, bringing home how unfairly these teams have been treated by the government this week.

You can read the press release at www.fairwagescupe.com.

At 11:36AM the Employer called us back to the table. At 11:37AM, they left the meeting. Their message was that they are not willing to modify their latest offer, which was 1.25% per year for four years **CONDITIONAL ON** the union accepting a laundry list of rollbacks of benefits from our collective agreements. 1.25% per year represents less than 0.27¢ per hour for CUPE members' median wages and does not come close to catching up with the cost of living.

The employer has walked away from the table. Your CUPE centralized bargaining team remains open to negotiate when the government's team decides to play by the pre-established rules: negotiating a fair general economic increase for all CUPE bargaining teams in the three parts of government.

Strike votes for Locals 1190, 1251, 1418, 1840, 1253 (NB council of school district unions), 2745, 5017 and 1866 will start on September 7 in more than 40 locations across the province. Strike votes for Locals 1252 (healthcare) and 5026 will be held shortly after (date to be determined). Be sure to follow your union's activity on social media and other communication methods to know the dates and times of strike vote locations in your community. A strong yes for strike action will show our collective power.

In Solidarity,

The CUPE Centralized Bargaining Team



BARGAINING FORWARD