CUPE To Government: respect our members' right to vote in the strike

On September 7, provincial CUPE locals started their strike vote in more than 33 locations across New Brunswick. The government representatives, on behalf of the employer, provided employee lists to all union locals of who is considered an employee, and therefore eligible to participate in the strike vote. After a few days, it became clear that the government has omitted hundreds of members from the lists, in multiple locals, who are thus currently being unjustly denied their right to vote.

Participation is already very high. Over 92% of members have already voted. However, one vote denied is one vote too many, and that needs to be resolved.

CUPE Locals have diligently compiled contact info and names of all workers who were denied their right to vote. We sent this information to the government representatives, demanding they make corrections. Every eligible worker must have their democratic right to vote respected, in a timely manner.

Members in Locals 1190, 1251, 1418, 1253, and 2745 who were unjustly denied their vote or have not yet done so, will be able to vote on September 17 and 18. Notices are being posted in workplaces today identifying next week's voting locations.

The *Public Service Labour Relations Act* requires that notices be posted 5 days in advance in the workplace before a strike vote time extension can be made. We will have two extra voting days on September 17 and 18, to ensure no member is denied their right to vote.

Voting lists for CUPE Locals 1866, 1840 & 5017 were correct, and no anomaly was identified. Full participation matters. Nobody should cut corners on democracy. I hope the employer will respect this and be cooperative in the process

In Solidarity,

The CUPE Centralized Bargaining Team

BARGAINING FORWARD

