



The latest bargaining and mobilizing news for OPS members

Corrections contract: It's up to the arbitrator now

In [Table Talk 46](#), we informed you that your correctional bargaining team had met with the mediator/arbitrator on March 13, and that he had also met with the employer.

Despite a full day of discussion, the union and the employer were unable to resolve their differences over special wage adjustments for 2016 and 2017 or grid progression over the term of the collective agreement.

The next step in deciding these issues and finalizing the contract is arbitration. As such, the arbitrator asked OPSEU and the employer to provide a written arbitration submission, followed by a written rebuttal.

The union's submission went to the arbitrator on March 28. To prepare its rebuttal, your bargaining team also reviewed the employer's submission on the same day. The rebuttal responds to the employer's arguments.

On April 4, the team met with the union research officer to complete the final rebuttal submission. The team forwarded it to the arbitrator on April 7.

The arbitrator will now review all submissions and supporting documentation. His decision will be binding on both parties.

We do not know when the decision will be made, since it lies entirely in the hands of the arbitrator. In the meantime, we appreciate your continued patience and support.

In solidarity,

Your Correctional Bargaining Team

Your correctional bargaining team

John McLaren	Region 1
Jim Richards	Region 2
Gord Longhi, Vice-Chair	Region 3
Tom O'Neill, Chair	Region 4
Monte Vieselmeyer	Region 5
Scott McIntyre	Region 6
Barb Friday	Region 7
Anastasios Zafiriadis	Staff Negotiator

**Stay informed,
get involved, and show
your solidarity.**

Don't listen to rumours!

Table Talk Update is the only official communication from your correctional bargaining team.

Authorized for distribution:

Tom O'Neill, Chair
Corrections Team

Warren (Smokey) Thomas,
President