Taxing TIME$

A newsletter for OPSEU Members working for the Ministry of Finance • Issue #2

December 15th deadline????

Well, Dec. 15 has come and gone, and of course there was no big announcement. The MERC team has been in contact with ADM Marion Crane on a weekly basis, and we have been kept apprised of any developments. The only thing that we can say is that talks are ongoing. There seems to be the political will to get a deal done, but the bureaucrats have to hammer it out.

March 31st deadline ???

We have also heard talk of a March 31 deadline from the members. When we questioned Marion Crane about this deadline, she gave us the same response as she did with the Dec. 15 date... talks are ongoing...there is no deadline... As you can expect, rumours such as these deadlines are bound to surface during times of uncertainty. People like to know that they will hear something by a certain date. The only significance we can surmise for March 31, is that it is the fiscal year end for the Ministry, the Finance Minister will be preparing his spring budget, and will probably want an update on the progress of the deal. But we have been told that there is no drop dead date.

What is OPSEU doing ?

The MERC team has been working hard with head office to develop a campaign around this issue. We have met with NDP Finance critic Michael Prue, and he is well aware of our concerns, and has committed to raising our concerns in Finance Committee meetings, and in the Legislature. We are also preparing a submission to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs as they conduct their pre-budget consultations.

We are continuing our conference calls with the ADM, Marion Crane, in an effort to keep the lines of communication open during their negotiations with the federal government.

Information will continue to be communicated to you, the members, as information becomes available for distribution.

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