



Bargaining will move forward

A lot can change in a couple of weeks.

While the shock waves from the recent announcement from the Liberals at Queen's Park are just beginning to subside, many members are asking how this will impact bargaining for the OPS.

Let's back up a bit and set the stage.

On October 4, we decided not to serve the government notice to bargain. This is the same government that was getting ready to introduce legislation that would, in effect, totally destroy our ability to bargain a contract. In other words, we were not going to volunteer to have our own throats cut.

This was, of course, merely a symbolic move. Either side in negotiations can serve notice to bargain. As expected, the employer served us notice to bargain the very next morning.

McGuinty's announcement that he plans to resign as Premier has no impact on us. What DOES make a difference is that he is also proroguing the Legislature. This means there are no more debates at Queen's

Park, no more daily Question Periods, and, more importantly, all pending legislation is now scrapped and new legislation can't be passed.

Therefore, the "Protecting Public Services Act" is now gone.

That puts us back to where we started: Bargaining with the employer for a new OPS agreement, in difficult economic times but without the threat of imposed contracts hanging over our heads.

We continue to prepare our opening position to present to the employer when we meet for the first time on Tuesday, November 13.

To be clear, our job has not gotten any easier. We will definitely face a lot of challenges trying to negotiate a quality collective agreement for the OPS. What will be crucial is the support from the members. We're counting on you to provide us the strength we need at the table. With that strength, we will achieve success.

OPS lanyards now available

Lanyards have arrived in time for OPS bargaining. Local presidents are invited to order "Choose Public" lanyards for members to wear in the workplace.

Show your support for the bargaining teams! Go to the OPSEU website at <http://opseu.org/ops/bargaining2012/wear-a-lanyard.htm> to fill out an order form. Lanyards are priced at cost, only \$2.00 each.



Member mobilizers in training next week

Our 27 OPS member mobilizers will begin two days of training on Monday, Oct. 22. With the Ontario government now in “pause” mode, their work will be even more critical this round.

The mobilizers for the 2012 OPS Negotiations are:

Regional Mobilizers	Issues Mobilizers
Region 1 Lorna Bulgin, Mickey Riccardi, Todd Snider (Corrections)	Service Ontario Teresa Rolls
Region 2 Stuart McInnes, Lorraine Skitch, Paula Hagen (Corrections)	ODSP Pam Smith
Region 3 Autumn Butsch, Lisa Egan, Sean Platt (Corrections)	MNR Environment & North Dave Fluri
Region 4 Ryan Nickel, Ben Treidlinger, Ron Pilon (Corrections)	Corrections Scott McIntyre
Region 5 Julius Arscott, Cindy Kraakman, June Morrison, Dan Marshall (Corrections)	Social Media Coordinator Jennie Miller
Region 6 John Berry, Janice Zultek, Mike Bisailon (Corrections)	
Region 7 Terri Morris, Jennifer Roukkula, Neil MacDonald (Corrections)	

Your OPS Bargaining teams

Central/Unified Team

Roxanne Barnes, Chair	CERC
Ron Langer, Vice-Chair	Region 1
Elaine Young,	Region 2
Tammy Carson	Region 3
Daryl O'Grady	Region 4
Edie Strachan	Region 5
Pierre Verhelst	Region 6
John Watson	Region 7
Len Elliott	Administration
Barb Friday	Corrections
Cindy Falcao	Institutional and Health Care
Betty Marchegiano	Office Administration
Shelley McCormick	Office Administration
Cam Jay	Operational & Maintenance/Technical
Jeff Weston	Fixed Term
Ruth Hamilton	Staff Negotiator

Corrections Team

Trish Goden	Region 1
Dan Sidsworth, Chair	Region 2
Glenna Caldwell, Vice-Chair	Region 3
Brian Dunham	Region 4
Monte Vieselmeyer	Region 5
Jim Mitchell	Region 6
Greg Arnold	Region 7
Rob Field	Staff Negotiator

Contact us:

Central/Unified Team

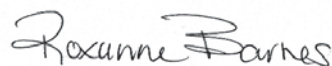
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Corrections Team

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Don't listen to rumours! TableTalk Update is your only official communication from the OPS Bargaining Teams.

Authorized for distribution:



Roxanne Barnes, Chair, Central/Unified Team



Dan Sidsworth, Chair, Corrections Team



Warren (Smokey) Thomas, President