

Write to us at collegeptbarg@opseu.org with your questions, concerns, and stories from the workplace. We read everything you send, and everything you send is helpful! To get a membership card, please contact your Local Executive.

Issue #12

Message from the chair

Unfortunately after 32 days at the table, the bargaining team could not reach a deal with the College Employer Council, which refused to address the key demands identified by our College Part-Time Support Staff members. We are disappointed. We wanted you to have a well-deserved wage increase and a collective agreement prior to the end of this year and did everything we could to reach an agreement.

However, we have secured new dates for bargaining, and we will be heading back to the table January 28-30. We remain confident that the New Year will bring new opportunities to secure a good deal. The team is looking at all possible next steps and will be in touch with you again in the New Year.

It's unfortunate that despite the best efforts of the bargaining team, the Council is stubbornly refusing to acknowledge the important work that OPSEU College Support part-time members do every day in Colleges across the province. It's their opportunity to right a historic wrong that has prevented part-time support staff from being treated fairly and equitably.

But with your continued support, we can put additional pressure on the Council to do just that. Please watch your inbox for further updates as we prepare to head back to the table in January, and check the OPSEU website at www.opseu.org.

In Solidarity

Ted Claeys,

Chair of the Bargaining Team, Local 124 (Lambton College)

“College Support Part-Time members deserve fairness and equity. We fought for years for these members’ right to join a union, and we’ll keep fighting for a good contract too. The College Employer Council had better realize that we won’t back down. We will continue to keep up the pressure in the New Year until we lift our members out of the deplorable working conditions they’ve had to put up with for decades.”

- OPSEU President Warren (Smokey) Thomas



Your bargaining team

Ted Claeys, Local 124 at Lambton College, Chair

Duncan McFarlane, Local 416 at Algonquin College, Vice-chair

Jennifer Ayotte, Local 656 at Cambrian College

Christopher Millado, Local 557 at George Brown College

Connie Collins, Local 137 at St. Clair College

Janice Hagan, Local 561 at Seneca College, College Support Sector Chair

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