

OUR LOCAL 1479 NEWS

Official Publication of CUPE Local 1479

Job Action

Please ensure that you have provided your personal email or texting number to Liz James at 613-885-5580 or lizjamescupe1479@gmail.com

Things are really heating up and you will definitely be getting information over the summer. We will most likely be looking at some sort of job action when we return in September. This could include Work To Rule, rotating walk outs or blanket strikes.

Next General Meeting

Our next general meeting will take place on September 12, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. at JJ. O'Neill. This will include elections.

See you there.



Have a safe and happy summer!

Take this time to rest and relax and spend time family and friends.



Sick Days

All full time members have 11 sick days plus 5 additional days. The 5 additional days can be a combination of 1 personal day, 4 Special Compassionate Leave and/or 5 Illness of a Close Relative (this relative must live with you). When you are using one of the additional 5 days you must fill out the Request To Be Absent Form for your unit. Once your 11 days are used you can go into 120 days Short Term Disability.

These days will start over again in September.

EI

If you are working less than 35 hours per week you may be interested in Working On a Claim information. Go to Service Canada for more information.

The EI code is also on the board website if you can't locate the email from the secretary at your school.

Strike Action Committee

The CUPE Local 1479 Strike-Job Action Committee is looking for any volunteers to email

Josie Fitzgerald at josiesmiles4@gmail.com or text/call 613 885 4980.

The Strike Committee Members are:

Josie Fitzgerald - Chair

Amber-Dale Hudson - Co-Chair, Mobilization Officer

Andrew Eves - Picket Coordinator

Stephanie James - Office Manager

Carrie Moncrief - Treasurer

Jody Uddenburg - Communications Representative

Brian Latour - Legal Liaison

Andrea Miller - Office Manager Alternate

We thank everyone who has been sending emails offering their time and assistance and we hope to hear from more of you!

Job Action Committee!

As things across the province heat up your help with the Job Action-Strike Committee is welcomed. There are many different capacities to help out. We really want to raise our profile in the community, letting people know the value of our jobs and why we matter to education. There are other ways to help that are directly related to a strike as well. If you are interested in helping out there are many different capacities in which you can do so.

Job Action

As soon as there is a ruling from the Labour Board I will let you know. There is a possibility that there could be bargaining done locally over the summer. If this doesn't happen we will file for conciliation. It is clear that there won't be a contract centrally over the summer for CUPE or any other school board unions. All of the unions are working together to plan job action for September. Our Negotiation Committee will be going to Toronto to find out what the plans are in late August. I will keep you posted on that as well.



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CUPE Representation



If you are in a situation with your supervisor that is or has the potential to become disciplinary (meeting, letter on file, termination...), it is in your best interests contact your union representation immediately. Another CUPE member in your school is NOT CUPE representation. They can support you, however they do not have to the proper training

to act as an official representative. **A CUPE representative in this case is your Steward, Chief Steward, VP or President.**



MARCH FOR JOBS, JUSTICE AND THE CLIMATE

On July 5, we'll march with thousands of people from across the province for an economy that works for people and the planet.

Join CUPE National President Paul Moist and CUPE Ontario President Fred Hahn at Queen's Park as we raise our voices to end the privatization agenda that is killing off good jobs and the vital public services we provide to our communities. By fighting to Keep Hydro Public, we are standing up to a privatization scheme that in other countries has continued with roads, schools, hospitals, child care centres and more.

Together, we have solutions that will build a just society with good work, clean jobs and healthy communities.

March for Jobs, Justice and the Climate

Sunday, July 5

Begins 1:00 p.m. at Queen's Park

Ends 6:30 p.m. at Allan Gardens

Bring your CUPE flags and be a part of this historic rally and march.

At Queen's Park, marchers will be divided into four groups. Look for the pink CUPE Ontario flags in the "Good work, clean jobs, healthy communities" section in front of the legislature by 1:00 p.m.

June 23, 2015

Catholic teachers one step closer to strike

mississauga.com

Wed Jun 24 2015

TORONTO - Ontario's English Catholic school teachers have filed for conciliation in their provincial contract talks, which could set the stage for a strike.

Their union says it will nonetheless continue bargaining with the government and trustees this summer and hopes to reach an agreement before the new school year.

The Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association, which represents some 50,000 teachers, says there has been little progress on key issues that would affect students' learning conditions.

Its members voted 94 per cent for a strike mandate in April.

Several major teachers' unions have listed class sizes, control over teacher preparation time and hiring practices as sticking points in negotiations.

They have raised the possibility of September strikes, which could make for a tense summer of bargaining.

"OECTA members have been without a new contract for one year, and we are discouraged with the slow pace of negotiations," union president James Ryan said in a statement.

"We are optimistic that filing for conciliation will provide the impetus necessary for meaningful negotiations to continue, and that we can avoid disruption to classes in the fall."

More than 70,000 public high school students were out of school for weeks this spring due to strikes in the Toronto and Sudbury areas.

The Ontario Labour Relations Board eventually ruled that the teachers' strikes in the Durham and Peel regions and the Rainbow District were illegal.

In an attempt to avoid further strikes in those boards this school year, the Liberal government enacted back-to-work legislation.

Elementary teachers have been on an administrative strike since May.

By The Canadian Press

CUPE: Impact of cuts to school funding formula starts to become clear

TORONTO, ON - With the close of the school year upon us, the union representing 55,000 education workers in Ontario warns of widespread cuts looming in the province's schools. CUPE has been analyzing school board budgets as they have been passed this spring, and a portrait has started to emerge of the impact of changes to the province's education funding formula.

"As boards complete their budgets and data starts to come in, we are seeing what kind of impact cuts in the funding formula will have for students, and it looks serious," said Terri Preston, chair of CUPE's central bargaining committee, representing education workers in school boards across all four systems (English public and Catholic, French public and Catholic). "Cuts like these will have real consequences for kids. Cuts like these will deeply affect schools' abilities to run smoothly and meet student needs."

Four case studies:

Toronto District Catholic School Board: 30 educational assistants (EAs) and seven child and youth workers will be cut in the coming year. The TDCSB will experience a reduction in its special education grant resulting from an overall redistribution of special education funds, as well as an overall reduction to its "grants for student needs" allocation. The TDCSB says it will run a surplus of \$3.7 million, and yet is cutting positions vital to students' educational needs and wellbeing.

North Bay and region: the Near North District School Board will eliminate eight custodial positions as a result of reductions to the board's operations allocation. The board will also lay off the equivalent of 4.5 school office positions. Cuts like these have a greater impact in remote and rural boards, which cover areas that are spread out over a large geographical area.

London District Catholic School Board: 45 positions will be eliminated, as a result of reduction in overall allocation of funds. These include the equivalents of 24 secretarial positions, five maintenance positions, and more than a dozen early childhood educators.

Niagara District Catholic School Board: special education funding will be slashed, and the board will eliminate 26 EAs and eight credit recovery assistants (who provide assistance to at-risk students). In addition, cuts to hours of work of school office staff and library technicians will mean the elimination of the equivalent of five office staff and four library workers.

Recent changes to the education funding formula have meant a redistribution of the "high needs" portion of the special education grant. In practice this will mean that for the coming school year, 38 school boards across Ontario will receive less special education funding than they did for the current year, despite the fact that demand for supports has continued to increase over the last many years.

"Other changes to the funding formula - like eliminating top-ups for operating school facilities - will curtail support for schools that are deemed to be operating at less than full capacity," said Preston. "This is highly controversial in many communities. In particular, we and many parents fear that school closures in rural or northern communities will mean kids spend far longer on busses each day."

As school boards complete their budgets for 2015-2016 and more data becomes available, CUPE will update our analysis on the impact of cuts.

"We anticipate a sharp increase in the number of school closures in the upcoming year and beyond, and we anticipate further permanent layoffs," said Preston. "CUPE has been calling for a comprehensive review of the funding formula for years. The early evidence for the upcoming school year makes that review more urgent than ever."

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WSIB

If you have become ill or were injured at work please contact your union immediately following the incident. We are here to help you through this time if you would like us to be. Dealing with WSIB can be a confusing, especially when you are not yourself. We have an information package for you as well, to help you through the process. We currently have no way of knowing if someone has started a WSIB claim, so please contact us if you need help.

In Case of Injury at Work

- 1** Call first aid immediately if needed.
- 2** Worker: Tell your employer about the injury. Employer: Arrange and pay for transportation to get medical care, if needed.
- 3** Employer: Report injury to WSIB within 7 days if it involves a worker. Employer: Pay worker's wages for day of injury.
- 4** Health care treatment, if away from work, or lost wages.

WSIB
CUPE

Questions? Call 1-800-465-5606
www.wsib.on.ca