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CUPE Joint Bargaining News

LOCAL 79

www.cupelocal79.org

Issue #4

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Strike votes send a clear message: no concessions!

Your bargaining teams for Local 416 and Local 79 returned to negotiations this week knowing that they have a clear and strong mandate from the members to reject the employer's demand for concessions.

On Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, Local 416 voted 89% in support of strike action, if necessary. Local 79 members sent the same message on Sunday with a 90% vote.

There should be no doubt in the minds of the City's negotiators about their next steps – they must take the concessions off our bargaining tables if we are going to move forward toward a negotiated settlement.

The behaviour of some city negotiators certainly reflects the spirit of the concessions they have tabled, which would return us to an old-school style of management.

At the Local 79 table, the city is refusing to move forward because the bargaining team would not listen to proposals that got our agreements.

At the Local 416 table, talks are ongoing but little progress has been made.

It makes us wonder who's setting the agenda for the city.

The City must start listening to the message that you have sent: take the concessions off the table and we'll be able to

negotiate a fair contract!

We all know that public services are an important part of the economic recovery.

It's time for the City's negotiators to recognize that. The City must stop trying to take away what we have managed to gain through negotiations, through strikes by both locals and through rulings by independent arbitrators.

We're not turning back the clock.

We want to be treated the same as other unionized City workers who have already reached contract settlements without concessions. The City has to stop using the economy as an excuse to dismantle

rights that took us decades to establish.

Your bargaining teams are at the table, working hard to get that message through and move us forward toward a fair, negotiated settlement. Meanwhile, strike committees for both our locals are preparing for job action should it become necessary.

Stay strong, stay together and we will achieve fair contracts!

In solidarity,

Ann Dembinski
President, CUPE Local 79

Mark Ferguson
President
Toronto Civic Employees
Union, CUPE Local 416



We are stronger together!

Locals 416 and 79 are committed to coordination for this round of bargaining. The two locals are in regular contact and even attended each others information meetings and strike votes. Pictured here at the Local 79 vote at Danforth Collegiate are, from left to right, Local 79 Recording Secretary Nancy Murphy, Equity VP Ainsworth Hamilton, 1st VP Tim Maguire, President Ann Dembinski and Local 416 President Mark Ferguson.