



305 Milner Ave, Suite 801
Scarborough, ON M1B 3V4
Phone: 416-299-9739 • Fax: 416-299-3480
Web: cupe.on.ca E-mail: info@cupe.on.ca

July 27, 2010

To: Presidents: All CUPE local unions in Ontario
From: Fred Hahn, Linda Thurston-Neeley
Cc: All National Staff – Ontario Region
Re: Urgent meeting re: wage freeze – All CUPE Locals in Ontario

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We are writing today to all CUPE Locals in the province of Ontario, including those not affiliated to the Division, to ask for your participation in a special meeting on the provincial government's proposed wage freeze.

As you should already know (CUPE Ontario E-Blast July 22, 2010) the government has accelerated its push for a 2 year freeze on wages for all public sector collective agreements as they come open. They have "asked" employers and bargaining agents to suspend any bargaining and/or interest arbitration currently underway. The government has also announced a series of meetings with employers and bargaining agents, beginning on August 9th.

In light of these extraordinary developments the CUPE Ontario Division, CUPE Ontario Regional Office and the CUPE National are working together to convene a special two-day meeting, August 25 & 26th in Toronto, bringing together representatives of all CUPE local unions in the province. The meeting will, first, ensure that all locals are up-to-date with a common set of facts. Secondly we will map out (in plenary and by sector) an agreed-to response from CUPE.

The government has appointed two Ministry of Government Services (MGS) officials; David Logan and Tim Hadwen, to oversee this process. Your CUPE Ontario Leadership and senior staff continue to be in touch with these officials to gather information about how the process will proceed, to make clear CUPE's concerns about the government's proposed agenda for discussions, and to help us assess what this all means for CUPE and how we might or might not choose to participate.

CUPE Ontario, through our Sector Committees, and Ontario Council of Hospital Unions (OCHU) have already begun working directly on consultations with locals as we proceed to establish clarity and seek a mandate on the best path forward. The Provincial Executive has met by conference call and will meet face to face in early August. We will make decisions together in the All Locals Meeting on August 25 and 26.

It is imperative that all CUPE local unions in the province confirm their participation in this special meeting and confirm the number of participants they will send. Please use the attached Registration Form and return to the CUPE Ontario Division office immediately. For more information contact Sue Jeffrey at the Division office. Tel. 416-299-9739, ext. 302 or by e-mail at sjeffrey@cupe.on.ca

Thanks. We look forward to seeing you there!

Fred Hahn
President

ONE STRONG VOICE

Candace Rennick
Secretary-Treasurer