

Our Provincial Discussions Table (PDT) bargaining team has been meeting with the government facilitators since Wednesday and intensive discussions are expected to go on throughout the weekend. We will update you in the next week with more details on how the key issues have been addressed.

We anticipate that the next few days will be crucial regarding the outcome of the central bargaining process and CUPE's bargaining team is committed to getting the best gains possible before coming back to you for a wider debate on the other party's proposals.

Parallel to the PDT discussions, OSBCC committee members and the reference group have been meeting since Wednesday and are debating over the proposals emerging from the PDT. How local bargaining issues will be addressed has also been part of the reference group discussions. We realize how local negotiations remain an important part of the global process recognizing local autonomy during the ratification process.

The reference group will remain available throughout the weekend if an eventual first agreement was to emerge quickly. From there, the next step would be to plan a leadership meeting in order to get a provincial consensus from members and their representatives. On this regard, local leadership including local negotiation chairpersons should be ready for a last minute notice as we hope to set a reasonable time frame to get approval of the provincial framework agreement.

Once again, we thank all locals who have been collaborating in this process by gathering information and keeping us updated on their own bargaining process and issues.

In solidarity,

Your bargaining committee:

Terri Preston	OSBCC Chair
Susan Hanson	OSBCC
Marc Boisvert	OSBCC
John Weatherup	Local 4400
Frank Ventresca	Local 4156
Linda Thurston-Neeley	CUPE Assistant Director
Brian Atkinson	CUPE Assistant Director
André Lamoureux	CUPE Assistant Director
Brian Blakeley	CUPE School Boards Coordinator
Paul O'Donnell	CUPE Research
Elizabeth Nurse	CUPE Legal
Luc Tittley	CUPE Communications
Antoni Shelton	CUPE Ontario Division

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