

# **The Struggle for Fairness and Respect**

## **CUPE Ontario and the National Convention Walkout – 2007**

**Figures based upon National Secretary  
Treasurer's report to 2007 National Convention**

# Ontario has 5 key issues with our national union:

1. Representation and Decision making at the national level;
2. Resources;
3. Access to the Strike Fund;
4. Implementation of National Policy;
5. Equality.

# Representation

- Ontario has 40% of the membership
- Ontario's 4 seats represents 17% of the National Executive Board
- In contrast, CUPE Ontario holds 7 seats on the OFL Executive Board

- Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and PEI have combined membership of 39,067 compared to Ontario's 215,731 and they have 4 NEB seats the same as Ontario
- Saskatchewan and the Maritimes together have 5 seats and membership of 50,086

# Staff Ratio

Ranked: staff representatives per member:

- Atlantic: 1059:1
- Maritimes: 1124:1
- Saskatchewan: 1151:1
- Manitoba: 1169:1
- Quebec: 1178:1
- B.C: 1204:1
- Alberta: 1261:1
- **Ontario: 1575:1**

- In 2007, the national average members to staff ratio was 1316:1
- With 1,575 members to each staff, Ontario is 19% off the national average
- 27 staff representatives need to be added just to bring Ontario to the national average

# Generating surplus

After costs & share of national/general expenses, 2006:

- **Ontario:** **\$7,783,197**
- **Quebec:** **\$479,872**
- **Alberta:** **\$431,867**
- **B.C.:** **\$(148,607)**
- **Manitoba:** **\$(616,500)**
- **Saskatchewan:** **\$(629,501)**
- **Maritimes:** **\$(1,544,109)**
- **Atlantic:** **\$(1,670,239)**



History of Ontario Surplus  
2006 - \$7,783,197  
2005 - \$6,062,930  
2004 - \$5,922,520

# Access to the Strike Fund

- Until 2001 workers threatened by government legislation received support for strike averting campaigns. Not any longer.
- In 2005, Ontario hospital workers applied for a strike averting campaign-not being in collective bargaining, this request was denied.

- Strike averting campaigns are funded at 100%. Defense Fund campaigns are funded at 50%.
- Restricting strike-averting campaigns limits our fight against legislation threatening our contracts.
- Locals that don't have the legal right to strike can no longer take on a political strike against legislation

# Implementation of National Policy

## Magna Deal

- National refuses to criticize

## Local Union Information System

- Division denied access to LUIS

## Full-time Coordinators

- National is blocking this request

# Equality

National is failing to take action on:

- **Organizing marginalized groups**
- **An Equity Trainee Rep program**
- **Greater co-ordinated bargaining**
- **Removing barriers to representation**

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