

Bloodletters

Issue 7

A Bargaining Bulletin for OPSEU Members at Canadian Blood Services

July 15, 2009

Conciliation Underway

Your bargaining team met with a conciliation officer, in Toronto June 23-25, 2009. These meetings resulted in successive days of productive negotiations, and steps forward to attaining our goal of a fair collective agreement.

Both parties agreed at the table that progress was being made, and that further dates with the conciliation officer, would be beneficial to achieving a negotiated collective agreement. Due to summer vacation schedules, further bargaining with the conciliation officer will be held September 14th and 15th in Ottawa.



Update: Unfair Labour Practice – Freeze Violations and Bargaining in Good Faith

On May 4, 2009 the Union filed a complaint with the Labour Board that the Employer violated Sections 17 and 86 (1) of the Ontario Labour Relations Act. The Freeze violations are:

- * Change of hours of operation in Apheresis and
- * The Standardization of clinic hours pilot project including Mississauga, Square One.

During bargaining, the employer made announcements at the table regarding the multi-skilled worker, facilities location, management appointment solution, consolidation of work in lookback/traceback, and potential clinic services re-design to be piloted initially in Saskatchewan. Any impact from these workplace changes should have been negotiated with us before implementation.

As a result, your bargaining team filed a complaint of not bargaining in good faith with the Labour Board. The particulars are encompassed in the Labour Board complaint. The Employer and the Union met on Tuesday June 16th in Ottawa with a Labour Relations Officer and were not able to mediate a settlement. The Union requested a date for the violations to be heard by the Board.



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Mobilizing Activities

Your mobilizing efforts to date have been very effective. It is because of these actions that your team was able to make progress at the bargaining table. Congratulations to you all!!! By wearing the “**We’re not going there**” stickers, you sent the employer a clear message of what you want to happen in this round of bargaining, a fair and equitable collective agreement.

Keep up the great work!!!



A picture is worth a thousand words...

It’s time to put a face to the great work that each of you do! The bargaining unit is launching a photo campaign to profile members in the provincial support unit on the OPSEU website. Take your cameras out and get pictures of you and your co-workers and the valuable work that you do. Send in your pictures via email to ghamara@opseu.org with a brief description of the surroundings and the full names of the members in the pictures, including your work location and local number. Please note that high resolution photos work best. Be creative. This is your time to shine. Raise awareness and let CBS know ---**it’s not in you to give in!!!**

Further Mobilizing events are being planned throughout the summer-get involved!



Your bargaining team

Brenda Thompson L 210 – Team Chair
Cindy Kissick L 5103
Tom Goddard L 5103
John (Reid) MacDonald L 477
Cathie Bergman-Richards L 160

Lester Yearwood Staff Negotiator
Tracy More Staff Negotiator

Authorized for distribution

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren Thomas".

Warren (Smokey) Thomas