



Bloodletters

A Bargaining Bulletin for OPSEU Members at Canadian Blood Services

CBS Provincial Support Unit OVERWHELMING STRIKE VOTE RESULTS 98 per cent said YES

Members of the support bargaining unit represented by OPSEU have voted overwhelmingly to endorse strike action against their employer, Canadian Blood Services.

Of the votes cast, 98 per cent are in favor of taking strike action. The results are a strong message that the members will not give in to major contract concessions.

"OPSEU members are very concerned about the major issues, which include concessions to hours of work, days off and consecutive weekends," Brenda Thompson, Bargaining Team Chair said. "We are prepared to take job action to fight off the concessions tabled by this employer."

Talks between OPSEU and the employer continue in conciliation June 23-25, 2009. Negotiator Lester Yearwood said that he hopes that the strong strike mandate will spur progress at the table.

The current collective agreement, which expired on March 31, 2008, was achieved in 2005 following a 95 per cent strike vote and with the assistance of a conciliation officer.

OPSEU represents approximately 900 full-time and part-time members in the support unit at Canadian Blood Services, including Drivers, Utilities, Clerks, Administrative Assistants, Lab Assistants, Clinic Assistants and Phlebotomists.

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