



What is it about strikes that cause so many shaver shortages?



# THE *Quality Times*



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Strike Bulletin of OPSEU Local 655  
Cambrian College Academic Personnel

## Negotiations Update

A good sign? Negotiations continued Tuesday after going for a reported 12 hours Monday. Because of the news blackout, no details were available at press time.

Go to the OPSEU website for the latest on bargaining.  
[WWW.OPSEU.ORG](http://WWW.OPSEU.ORG)

## Laurels

Faculty member Darryl Park provided pancakes and sausages to picketers at the main entrance Tuesday morning.

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A good Samaritan from Cygnet delivered firewood to the NorCAT entrance today.

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Sue Whissel and Joan Campbell provided delicious baking to the picket lines today.

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Coffee, donuts, and cookies keep coming from kind-hearted supporters daily.

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Darlene Cadeau's husband, Eric Bouchard of the Notre Dame Boys, delivered firewood to the NorCAT entrance today.

## Completion strategies to be released today

Today should be entertaining. Management is to release its semester completion strategy to students.

Here is the core problem management faces in trying to convince anyone that such a strategy is even remotely credible – the content experts are out on strike.

The ones who develop, teach and assess are unavailable.

Management is also reportedly getting little support from non-management people left within the colleges who are being asked to “volunteer” to help with the implementation of the strategies.

According to a recent release from OPSEU's Ontario headquarters, at least a few colleges are looking for people to do full-time faculty work during the strike. (Cambrian has indicated, at least at this time, it has no plan to do so.)

As part of the semester completion strategy, some colleges

are asking part-time faculty to act as strikebreakers, the release states. It goes on to quote Paddy Musson, co-ordinator of the OPSEU provincial strike committee.

“The whole idea is outrageous. Part-timers, who are the most exploited faculty of all, are to be used as cannon fodder in a management battle against full-timers. It's a gross insult to part-timers' professionalism and a bald-faced attempt by management to take advantage of part-timers' poverty.”

OPSEU faculty bargaining team chair Ted Montgomery warns in the release that striking faculty will not tolerate strikebreaking.

“Striking workers have not and will not passively allow replacement workers to take over their work. Where, to date, picketing has been very peaceful in contrast to labour disputes in other sectors, we can be certain that it will not remain so if the employer tries to use replacement workers.”



A little finger pointing?

## Rally day on Thursday

Key to achieving a settlement on our quality issues is keeping up the pressure on the colleges and the McGuinty government.

With this in mind, there will be solidarity rallies for quality education held around the province Thursday at 4 p.m.

Ours will be at the main entrance.

OPSEU President Leah Casselman has invited the education unions and labour councils to join picketing faculty on the picket lines that day.

If you know students, parents, friends, part-timers and sessionals, invite them to come along.

Visit Local 655's Website for more information  
[WWW.OPSEU655.CA](http://WWW.OPSEU655.CA)  
Strike Headquarters Phone: 521-1530

**For TGIF**

In honour of TGIF, there will be a few things to watch out for at the end of this week.

Picketing will only go from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, with an informal gathering after at the Trevi on Lasalle.

Stay tuned for shift times and additional information.

Also on Friday, LUFA (Laurentian University Faculty Association) members will be joining us on the picket line at 10 a.m. LUFA members, of course, understand the struggles we all face in trying to give a quality post-secondary education to our students.

**'Local' support**

Remember to put out the welcome mat!

Members of Local 656, which represents support staff in the college, will be joining us on the picket line during their lunch break today.

They will be joining our picket line as a sign of solidarity.

It gives a clear message to management that we are not alone in our struggle and that they are becoming more and more isolated within the college community.

Of course, support staff have shown their support all along by bringing goodies to the line.

*'You can't gage what people are thinking in a vehicle. You have to be vigilant.'*

**Centennial incident warning to all strikers to remain vigilant**

**N**ews of an OPSEU picketer critically injured on Centennial College's picket lines Monday has spread like wildfire here in Sudbury. Faculty members are shocked and saddened by this news, and though the incident took place in Scarborough, the reality has hit close to home.

"I'm absolutely more cautious now," states Peter MacDonald, who is stationed at the Lamothe Street entrance to the college. "I'm paying attention to the kind of vehicles that drive in, and how they come in. We can recognize the regulars that we've had problems with. The cab companies, in particular, don't seem to be respectful of the picket lines."

The news of the injury at Centennial College comes close on the heels of another incident here in Sudbury Monday at the main entrance. The driver of a vehicle refused to slow down while entering the college, and when picketers attempted to slow his exit by placing pylons in his way, he swerved towards the shelter at the side of the road where picketers were resting. Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident.

Ray Rodda has been bumped twice by vehicles entering college property.

"I thought the guy was going to stop so I approached his car. I thought he'd want to talk, but he didn't stop and his car bumped my knee."

Athena Christakos adds, "You can't gage what people are thinking in a vehicle. You have to be vigilant. Some people are full of fear and anxiety because they don't know what to expect from the picket lines. We must be vigilant and organized."

Rico Berardi feels that there is a flaw in the way that management has dictated the entrance be set up.

"The setup that management has dictated has created two runways (at the Main entrance). As soon as we open up the entrance, they gun it. If (management) would allow us to put up pylons, it would slow them down. Just because we're picketing does not make us targets. At the end of the day, we're not radicals, but I do want to go home safe and sound."



After what happened to a faculty member at Centennial College on Monday, this cautionary sign at one of our lines takes on added significance.

Tom Delong, Picket Captain at the main entrance, explains the pylons and how they are set up.

"Security at the College supplied us with pylons after day one of the strike for our safety, and we placed them right across the road. Then they came out and told us to move them to form two lanes in order to create a fire route. (Security) actually came out with a map to show us how to set them up. The directive had changed considerably over 4 days."

Warnings of "car" or "heads up" can be heard ringing out along the lines from all members. Doug McAllister, part-time Electrical Engineering faculty adds: "We understand that we can't block traffic and people have the right not to stop, but they must slow down."

Gail Tarnowycz of the Hospitality program sums up the feelings on the picket lines today: "It's basically status quo. We've been careful since day one, and we must remember that our argument is not with the drivers of the vehicles."

**Our quality message getting out**

**A**dd one to the support side. If you are wondering whether anyone is listening to our message of quality education, here is one who did.

An individual who had been driving through one of the college picket lines with obvious displeasure had an obvious change of heart.

On one of his passes through, he had been given a flyer. On his next pass, he stopped, and with a visible change in attitude, handed the flyer back – not in a fit of pique but as a sign of support.

He had circled a part of the

flyer, which read: "Since 1990, the number of college students has grown 53% and the number of full-time faculty has declined by 22%."

Beside that paragraph, he had written; "I did not know."

That's our job – to inform students and the public about why we are on the picket line instead of in class.

This might seem a small victory in the larger scheme of things, but in reality major conquests are most often achieved one step at a time.

Keep on taking them.

**OPSEU sends letters to banks; Hardship Committee there to help**

**A**s we enter the latter part of March, members may be finding their bills are starting to pile up. For many, one of the most worrisome is their mortgage payment.

OPSEU wants you to know that it has sent letters to all major bank officers and apprised them of the strike situation.

If you are concerned about making your next payment, you are encouraged to contact your local bank manager to make alternate arrangements.

At least one member has already reported she has done so and found the bank to be both sympathetic and accommodating.

If you still feel matters are getting out of hand, our local does have a Hardship Committee. You can contact either Brenda Roseborough or Pierette Paxy.

All dealings with members of the Hardship Committee will be strictly confidential.

The committee is there to help, but can only do so if those in need are willing to take advantage of it.