

The Real Deal

Bargaining news from your OPSEU Central
Bargaining Team in the Ontario Public Service

Issue #14
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Finishing touches on demands proposal

Your negotiating team has been working long days and evenings finalizing the demands proposal we will table with management next week. We would like to thank the members for their efforts in the demand setting process. Not only do we have prioritized demands, but also comments on direction and ideas for discussion.

Your demands will be placed in front of the employer on Tues., Dec. 18. We expect that

the employer will also table their proposal as well. Once we have that information, we will publish the details via the OPSEU website (www.opseu.org), and in the *Real Deal*.

Don't forget to show the boss you're paying attention by wearing your button or by doing one of the other amazing suggestions we've been hearing about.

Media launch to mark start of issues bargaining

On Mon., Dec. 17, OPSEU locals and offices will host province-wide press conferences to mark the start of issues bargaining for the 2001/2002 OPS contract.

Media kits have been sent out to all regional offices, mobilizers and executive board members. Watch for events in your area.

More essential inside/outside training

The inside/outside training has really taken off. Not only are members asking questions, but so are managers.

The training was piloted in Regions 4, 5 and 7 over the last

two weeks. More training is scheduled for early January. Get your name on the list, or talk to your local representatives for more information.

Info at your fingertips

Here's a great mobilizing idea from Region 3. One local service area has begun assembling bargaining binders. They contain such things as the strike policy, issues of *The Real Deal* and *Table Talk*, and other relevant materials. The binders will also contain copies of the essential service agreements once they are signed off.

These binders will be distributed to each picket captain for easy reference should we need them.

Where's my essential service agreement?

We've had many questions about where the copies of the essential services agreements are. We cannot distribute the agreements until both parties have signed them. And, before that happens, the agreements must be checked over with a fine-tooth comb (or even better, a very conscientious person). You will have the agreements as soon as possible.

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POST AND CIRCULATE

Meet your team members

*Michel Chaumont,
Central Team Member*

Michel is a conservation officer in Sudbury and a member of local 623. He has been a member of the Ontario Public Service for 20 years, first as a forest technician and then as a conservation officer.

Michel believes in community work. His experiences include being a foster parent, a Lions Club president and organizing dinners and functions for Ducks Unlimited. As a board member



of the Hearst and District Association for Community Living, Michel was involved in fund raising activities and union negotiations. In Sudbury, Michel organizes the annual "Take a Kid Fishing" day with Big Brothers and is involved in church activities. Michel believes in the members' issues. "Trust in your team is essential in obtaining a good contract," Michel said. "Relying on workers that understand workers' issues forms the base of solidarity. I thank the members for their

Central Team quote of the week:

"The price of democracy is eternal vigilance."
– Franklin Delano Roosevelt

How to contact your team members

You can contact the Central Team directly at (416) 815-1406, by fax at (416) 815-1412 or by e-mail at centralteam@opseu.org.

Marg Simmons L. 263 Chair
(905) 844-5239 (after hours)

Mark Kotanen L. 128 Vice-chair
(519) 336-6926 (after hours)
mkotanen@tct.net

Jeff Bendig L. 434
(613) 364-7580 (after hours)
jeffbendig@hotmail.com

Teri Breau-Auzins L. 506
(416) 721-2767 (after hours)
teriauzins@rogers.com

Joseph Catroppa L. 736
(807) 628-5147 (after hours)
jncat@tbaytel.net

Laurie Chapman L. 323
(705) 323-8172 (after hours)
lchapman@bconnex.net

Michel Chaumont L. 623
chaumont@attcanada.net

Darwin Lacelle L. 447
416 815 1406
dmlacell@nrtco.net

Steve Nield L. 123
(519) 383-5643 (after hours)

Sandra Noad L. 101
(519) 657-9518 (weekends)
sanoad@rogers.com

James Roland L. 720
(807) 345-4609 (after hours)
jimrol@hotmail.com

Serge Valcourt L. 634
(705) 497-4393 (after hours)
opseu.634@sympatico.ca

Peter Wall L. 638
(416) 815-1406

The Real Deal is your only accurate source of Central Team information during this round of bargaining. If you don't read it here, you can't be sure it's true. Don't rely on gossip and rumours. We will provide the facts.

The Real Deal will be available by fax, by e-mail, and on the OPSEU web site at www.opseu.org. To receive it directly, send your secure fax number to Lesley Williams at (416) 443-1762 or send your e-mail address to lwilliams@opseu.org.

*Authorized for distribution by
Marg Simmons, chair, Central team, and
Leah Casselman, president.*