



OPS CONTRACT 2002

Information for OPSEU members in the Ontario Public Service

One in a
12-issue series
Feb. 4, 2002

36.6%?

We'll take it.

Last year, the Tories at Queen's Park found a nifty back-door way to vote for a **big** raise for Ontario MPPs.

If the election is held in 2003, the compounded value of that raise will be **36.6** per cent. Not bad!

Lame-duck Premier Mike Harris called it "fair." It's no wonder public employees are saying that what's good for the goose is good for the gander.

In the last eight years, inflation has cut the buying power of OPSEU members in the Ontario Public Service by over 12 per cent. In that time, OPSEU members have sacrificed over \$900 million to keep the province running.

It's time public employees got the respect and recognition they deserve.

At the Central table, your OPSEU bargaining team has asked your employer for a deliberately modest 12 per cent pay hike over two years.

Why do we call this "modest?" Here's why: With inflation projected at two per cent per year over the next two years, our wage demand is *still* too small to bring our buying power on Jan. 1, 2004 up to the level it was at on Jan. 1, 1994.

A 12 per cent pay hike is **not** a raise. It's wage *recovery* – and partial wage recovery at that. But it sets the stage for real progress in future rounds.

The employer has yet to table a wage offer, but your OPSEU Central team has already decided one thing: **If the employer offers 36.6 per cent, we'll take it.**

After all, it's only fair. The Premier said so himself.

What's on the table:

Bargaining proposals as of Feb. 4, 2002

EMPLOYER PROPOSAL

The employer has yet to table a wage proposal for the next OPSEU collective agreement in the Ontario Public Service.

UNION PROPOSAL

In its proposal Dec. 18, the union's Central bargaining team tabled this:

5. Wages and term

- a) Term 24 months, to expire Dec. 31, 2003. General wage increase of six (6) per cent Jan. 1, 2002, six (6) per cent Jan. 1, 2003, compounded.