



Don't be alarmed by today's shock announcement

Today in OPS workplaces across Ontario, your employer is posting a notice that may shock you. It is called "Notice of Termination of Employment."

Do not be alarmed by this posting. It is required under Ontario law whenever an employer is planning 50 or more layoffs.

Elizabeth McKnight, director of Corporate Labour Relations for Management Board Secretariat, says this notice covers "all the layoffs that could potentially occur in the next two fiscal years based on current information."

McKnight adds, "These numbers represent initiatives that have already been announced. They are not the result of any new decisions."

Note the language. This is not a new announcement. It talks about layoffs that *could potentially* happen if the layoffs already announced actually occur.

The notices are going up in *all* OPS work locations – even ones where no layoffs are planned. Many OPSEU members and other public employees have lived with the threat of layoff over their heads for years. The layoffs mentioned in today's announcement may happen. Or they may not. A lot can happen in two years.

Today's announcement is a grim reminder of the stress public service employees have lived with ever since the current Conservative government was elected. You can reverse this situation and give the government its own layoff notice. In the next few months, you'll have a chance to elect a new boss. If you want to prevent future notices like the one that's out today, give one of your opposition parties a call. Ask them what you can do to help defeat a government that has undervalued its public employees for close to eight years.

Support the "Bargaining Unit Integrity" grievance

**Better
JOBS
in the OPS**

Eight OPSEU member mobilizers are working feverishly to collect information in support of an important OPSEU policy grievance.

Hearings into the "Bargaining Unit Integrity"

grievance begin at the Grievance Settlement Board (GSB) on Tuesday, April 29. The grievance could force the employer to post hundreds of jobs currently held by fee-for-service consultants and temporary agency workers doing bargaining unit work.

This grievance will succeed if we have all the information we need. The union is asking all Local Executive Committees to look into every nook and cranny of their local and report their findings using the attached form. The deadline for including your information in the first stage of the hearings is the end of Friday, April 25, 2003.

For more information, read the April 3 edition of *FRONTlines* at <http://www.opseu.org/ops/frontlines2apr0303.htm> or contact **Laurie Chapman** at OPSEU head office. Call 1-800-268-7376 ext. 704 or (416) 443-8888 ext. 704 (in the Toronto area).



A Campaign to Get What We Bargained for

Stewards' survey

Support the Bargaining Unit Integrity grievance –
return this two-page survey by April 25, 2003

Local Number: _____

Local President: _____

Phone number: _____

Steward who completed workplace survey: _____

Phone number: _____

Ministry : _____

Work area surveyed: _____

(name of program or unit name)

Work area address: _____

Please complete the second page of this survey. If you have other information that you think might help the grievance, write it in the space below:

(please go to page 2)

Temporary agency employees

Name of job classification	Are any positions staffed by temporary agency employees?	How many temporary agency employees are there?	How long have they been there, on average (number of months)?	How many of these jobs were formerly done by an OPSEU member?

Fee-for-service consultants

Name of job classification	Are any positions staffed by fee-for-service consultants?	How many fee-for-service consultants are there?	How long have they been there, on average (number of months)?	How many of these jobs were formerly done by an OPSEU member?