



BARGAINING BULLETIN

VOL.2

City proposes to gut fundamental provisions in your Collective Agreements

Local 79's Bargaining Committees had their first exchange of proposals with the City for all four Collective Agreements on Dec.9 and Dec. 13.

Given the layoff notices we have already received and the service cuts that are being proposed in the budget process, it came as no surprise that the City proposes to gut our Collective Agreements to provide them with as much flexibility as possible.

These concessionary proposals are unprecedented in our long history of bargaining with the City. They can only be intended to provoke us. Our proposals, by contrast, are reasonable in the current economic climate. We are willing to work together with the City to find reasonable solutions without drastically cutting public services and jobs. Simply put, the City's end-game aims to drastically reduce the City services that Toronto residents depend on.

Needless to say, your Bargaining Committees will vigorously defend our Collective Agreements. We have told the City that we are determined to reach a fair settlement and are prepared stay at the bargaining table as long as it takes.

Financial issues

The so-called 'budget crisis' you've been hearing about was deliberately created to foster an atmosphere of panic among City Council, the public and our members, even though there is a \$139 million surplus that's still growing! We have asked for complete financial disclosure and we don't yet have any evidence that the City has a financial crisis.



Thank you for your input and support!

The Local 79 Executive was tremendously bolstered by the huge membership response to our first telephone Town Hall. Thousands of members listened in and the exchange of ideas was illuminating. We will schedule more of these in coming weeks. Our full-time ratification meeting was the largest ever. This level of participation has given us the confidence that the membership is squarely behind us as we move through these tough negotiations.

As bargaining progresses you can stay informed through our website's secure Members' Portal, accessible under the green 'Member Zone' heading of our website at www.cupelocal79.org.

In solidarity,



Ann Dembinski
President

On behalf of your Local 79 Bargaining Committee:

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Ainsworth Hamilton
Deborah Dixon
Jason Desjardins
Simon Collins
Beverley Pike
Sandra Higginson

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