

# Part-time city workers face pay cuts

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Some part-time recreation workers in Toronto are fuming after being forced to take sizeable pay cuts.

An arbitrator made the ruling in an effort to harmonize wages across the city.

More than 6,000 part-time workers are covered by the ruling.

Some of the workers are seasonal. Others, like Suzette Risotto, have worked for the city for almost 30 years.

On Monday, Risto quit her job teaching fitness and dancing to seniors, after she learned the city would cut her hourly wage by \$9.

"I was so angry when they handed this piece of paper to me Monday morning and I have to go in 10 minutes later to teach a class. I lost it," she said.

Risto was making \$29.78 per hour, but an arbitrator used a point system to decide on the wage changes.

The jobs he looked at ranged from lifeguards, to summer camp leaders to teachers of art and music

Drama instructor Brenda Carr's pay will be cut by \$10 per hour.

"It's going to be a huge chunk out of my yearly income. I was banking on it, 'cause I'm heading towards retirement," said Carr.

The workers are circulating a petition opposing the wage cuts.

No one from their union, CUPE 79, was available for comment.