

Wage-frozen city managers beat drums for pay review

Non-unionized workers 'going to be disillusioned and disappointed' after CUPE wins pay hike

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The city's non-unionized managers and supervisors whose wages are frozen are demanding a pay review, in light of raises handed to CUPE members.

Richard Majkot, executive director of an association representing the majority of the city's non-unionized employees, said they could use the Employment Standards Act, a tactic he said was successful in a 2004 dispute.

"There's going to be some major issues if city council doesn't revisit the compensation for non-union employees," said Majkot, executive director of the City of Toronto Administrative, Professional, Supervisory Association.

Non-unionized employees had their wages frozen earlier this year and have spent the duration of the strike toiling to maintain the city's essential services.

"A lot of our members are going to be disillusioned and disappointed," Majkot added.

In April, Mayor David Miller pushed a wage freeze for non-unionized employees through council and cancelled performance bonuses for employees at the top the of their pay scale. It passed 24-17 in council.

But details of the tentative agreement that emerged yesterday included a six per cent wage increase over three years and did not seem to eliminate fully the controversial sick bank system.

The deal with CUPE Local 79 still needs to pass through city council, and Local 416 will vote on its deal today.

The mayor, at a news conference, praised the city's managers for their work during the strike, but offered no indication he was willing to revisit the issue. "I think our management fully understands why this year and next we're trying to constrain wage increases – not just theirs, my own," Miller said, alluding to a freeze of his wages.