



BARGAINING BULLETIN

26 MARCH 2023 7:30 PM

STRIKE COUNTDOWN AND NEXT ACTIONS

Dear NSSBCU members,

Below you'll find a quick overview of the current situation:

1. What happened in conciliation?
2. What happens next?
3. What's our next action?

If you have questions about the strike process, please see the FAQ document attached to this email.

1. WHAT HAPPENED IN CONCILIATION?

- We reached an impasse late Wednesday night because the government's final wage offer would not bring school support workers across the province to a living wage.
- Government is trying to pit members against each other to divide and weaken us. We are strong and united now, and that gives us power. If we let them divide us, we will not be able to win this fight. We have to stay united and not let government destroy the solidarity we've built with each other.
- If we were to accept the government's latest offer, we would finish this round of bargaining no further ahead than we were when we started it two years ago. We know that's not what members want.

2. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- Local bargaining teams will be taking final conciliation meetings with individual RCEs over the course of the next two weeks. At these meetings, RCEs will again present the government's wage offer to our local bargaining committees, and our local bargaining committees will reject them. Each local's appointed conciliation officer will then file their conciliation report. All conciliation reports will be submitted before April 6th.
- On April 6th, the two-week legally-required "cooling-off" period begins. This is the countdown to the day we will be in a legal strike position – April 20th.
- We will not wait until April 20th to increase pressure on government; our escalation campaign, or "strike-avert" phase begins now.
- If you have questions about being on strike, please refer to the Strike FAQ documents circulated with this email. If your question is not answered by the FAQ, please contact your shop steward and they will help you.

3. WHAT'S OUR NEXT ACTION?

- This week, we will kick off our letter campaign. We will be sending letters to our MLAs, the Minister of Finance, and the Premier. You can either write a handwritten letter using the template supplied or use our web-form, which will be circulated early this week.
- On Wednesday, and all Wednesdays going forward, we will wear pink and invite community members and public figures to join us as a show of solidarity for our cause. We expand our social media campaign with memes, videos, and personal testimonials. Tag the NSSBCU accounts in anything you post and we'll amplify it.
- We will continue to increase our public visibility and work together with our allies in schools and in the wider community to share our message with government and the employer.
- Later this week, we'll share more information about further plans for escalation.