



Bargaining Bulletin

CAW Local 555, Unit 1

Issue #13 August 7, 2009

Your team..

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On July 23rd and July 24th our Members voted on whether or not to support a strike mandate. There have been many inquires directed to bargaining@cawlocal555.ca, and also directly to members of the Bargaining Committee, seeking clarification of the meaning of the result.

The result was a majority vote of 58% in favour of a strike mandate. While the CAW National Constitution usually requires a 66% majority in order to authorize a strike action, the 58% majority does put CAW Local 555 in a legal strike position as of September 1st and the CAW National does have the authority to authorize a strike action if, at some point down the road, the Bargaining Committee determines that such a request is necessary.

Should a strike become necessary, it is the normal practice of CAW National to approach the employer to extend basic health (excluding dental, vision and hearing), as well as life and drug coverage.

At this point in time we are still actively negotiating and it has always been the goal of the Bargaining Committee to achieve a fair and equitable agreement at the

bargaining table. Your majority vote is an indication to the university that the issues outstanding - pensions, post-retirement benefits and the joint job evaluation system - are extremely important to our Members and will not be compromised willingly.

Our next bargaining dates are booked for August 19th, 20th and 31st as the university team was not available for the earlier dates we proposed. Your Bargaining Committee will continue to bargain hard to protect all of our Members - past, present and future. We will continue to provide updates as new information is available.

Members are encouraged to show their support by visiting the CAW Local 555 website and signing the template letter to Dr. Peter George. The signed letter should be sent to Dr. Peter George and copied to the CAW Local 555 office so that the union can also forward these letters to each of the members of the Board of Governors.

