



Bargaining Update
Support Bargaining Unit

Dear CUPE member,

As your bargaining committee, our job is to bargain your next collective agreement with the employers, Nova Scotia Health (NSH) and IWK. We have been hard at work over the last several months preparing our list of proposals that outline what we want to achieve in this round of bargaining.

Your committee includes elected members from Unifor, CUPE, and NSGEU who work at various sites across the province in a variety of classifications. We are also supported by experienced, full-time staff negotiators and leaders from the three unions.

We are honoured to sit at the table on your behalf and we are prepared to fight for important improvements workers need and deserve.

Status of Bargaining

We exchanged proposals with the employers in Halifax on Thursday, September 12. The committee reviewed the employer's proposals, and then our negotiations began on September 18 and 19.

There are nine additional bargaining dates currently scheduled, with our next meetings scheduled for October 28-30.

Bargaining, particularly in the complex landscape of health care, can take many months to complete. We will keep you updated as we progress and will continue to work hard on your behalf.

Along with bargaining the collective agreement, negotiations are ongoing to reach an essential services agreement.

What is the Council of Unions?

As a result of legislation passed by the past Liberal provincial government, your union now bargains as part of a Council of Unions.

Unifor, NSGEU, and CUPE form the Support Services Council, and we collectively represent approximately 4,100 workers in a wide variety of roles at Nova Scotia Health (NSH) throughout the province and at the IWK.

What are Essential Services?

We are also now compelled by legislation to work with the employer to establish an Essential Services staffing agreement prior to any legal strike action taking place. An agreement is already in place with the IWK, while negotiations for staffing levels at NSH are ongoing.

Questions?

Please watch your email for further updates. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your Area VP.

In solidarity,

The Council of Support Unions Bargaining Committee