



**Support Bargaining Unit
Bargaining Update**

Dear CUPE member,

Following the call for an early election, the Council of Unions was hoping to continue bargaining on language changes and updates with Nova Scotia Health (NSH) and the IWK, and leave the discussions on pay increases until after the election.

Unfortunately, your employers have been directed by government that they cannot negotiate in any capacity during the election campaign. As a result, **the dates that been scheduled for this week and through November are now cancelled.**

This is disappointing news as we know how long you have been waiting for a new collective agreement and the pay increases you need and deserve. You deserve the same respect as the other three bargaining units.

The government has made some much-needed investment in wages for workers in the other three bargaining units and it is disappointing that people working in Support, who keep health care running from the ground up, are suffering through these delays.

The bargaining committee is prepared to return to the table as soon as the employers are allowed to do so.

In the meantime, we encourage you to be vocal to every candidate in your riding about the importance of this collective bargaining and to reaching a fair agreement as quickly as possible.

Discussions on an Essential Services agreement are scheduled and will continue as planned. The Council of Unions will be continuing any other work that can be done during this election campaign to stay prepared and ready to negotiate.

Please reach out to your AREA VP if you have any questions.