

2013

CUPE K-12

# BARGAINING BULLETIN

September 20, 2013

Bulletin No. 19

## Presidents' Council recommends Provincial Framework Agreement

RICHMOND – A big step towards achieving collective agreements in BC's 60 School Districts has been taken, with CUPE BC K-12 locals voting to recommend a tentative Provincial Framework Agreement to the province's education workers.

The CUPE BC K-12 Presidents' Council convened for the day on Thursday, September 19, following three days of bargaining by the Provincial Bargaining Sub-Committee and the BC Public Schools Employers' Association (BCPSEA).

CUPE Local Presidents and leaders from 57 CUPE School District Bargaining Units, as well as representatives from 12 bargaining units represented by other unions, considered in detail the tentative Provincial Framework Agreement signed late Wednesday night.

Highlights of the Agreement include a 3.5% wage increase for CUPE education workers and the updated BLUEnet pay-direct drug benefit card, combined with the Blue Rx Formulary for most Locals. Those with BLUEnet or Pharmacare formulary may move to the updated coverage through local discussion.

Major sick leave cuts proposed by the employer during bargaining are off the table.

The Agreement standardizes the term "Education Assistant" in collective agreements and the School Act, and establishes a committee to improve hours for Education Assistants, through the creation of "whole" EA jobs. This committee will also look at recognizing EA qualifications and credentials.

CUPE K-12 Locals will now conclude local bargaining with School District employers. Once local bargaining is completed, the provincial settlement and the local settlement will be considered together at local ratification meetings.

We encourage members to review a copy of the tentative Provincial Framework Agreement [here](#).

Your CUPE BC K-12 Presidents' Council Bargaining Sub-committee consists of Colin Pawson (Chair, Metro Vancouver), Wendy Johnson (Thompson-Okanagan), June Kaiser (Metro Vancouver), Leslie Franklin (Fraser Valley), Cheryl MacLeod (Kootenays), Daphne Ross (North Island), Jan Peever (South Island) and Paula Cox (Northern Area). Bill Pegler is the Chief Spokesperson at the table.

The Canadian Union of Public Employees represents more than 27,000 education BC workers in the K-12 system.

For more information, contact your CUPE local or visit [www.bcschools.cupe.ca](http://www.bcschools.cupe.ca). Twitter & Instagram: CUPEbcschools.

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