



November 23, 2012

**Bulletin No. 7**

### **Provincial contract talks tabled**

Provincial K-12 contract talks have been put over until January. After seven days at the bargaining table in Vancouver, CUPE's K-12 provincial table adjourned to give the employer and the Ministry of Education an opportunity to properly prepare for support staff bargaining.

K-12 Presidents' Council chair Colin Pawson said that while the delay is disappointing, "We will hold the employers to their commitment to bargain a collective agreement when we return to the table in January."

The Bargaining Subcommittee also held an evening session this week for a presentation by Nancy Hoyano. The Langara College instructor presented her White Paper entitled [\*A Call for Standards of Practice for Education Assistants\*](#). The paper includes important information on steps being taken to improve training standards for EAs and to improve recognition and respect for the work BC's education assistants do.

Your Bargaining Subcommittee also began to explore the possibility of a provincial benefits plan. We will continue to investigate this plan to determine if economies of scale and administrative savings can deliver improvements to our CUPE K-12 members.

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