



July 13, 2011

Bulletin No. 5

CUPE and BCPSEA continue provincial discussions

BURNABY – Representatives of the CUPE BC K-12 Presidents' Council Provincial Bargaining Committee met with the BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) on July 8 to continue provincial discussions. The parties are set to meet again on August 16 & 17 in Vancouver.

The meeting with BCPSEA continued both parties' commitment to working together to ensure the process is respectful and productive. Representatives from CUPE focused on putting forward an agenda of recognition and respect. The Committee was pleased to have Tim DeVivo from the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) in attendance to represent non-CUPE affiliated support staff unions.

On progress of bargaining, both parties exchanged a complete set of items for discussion. BCPSEA and CUPE agreed to recommend to their respective members that these provincial items be held in abeyance pending the outcome of the provincial discussions. CUPE and BCPSEA have agreed to avoid negotiations through the media in the hopes that a deal can be made. Your committee is at the table, determined to negotiate in good faith, to seek a fair settlement. The discussions to date remain positive and productive.

Representatives at the July 8 meeting were Linda Toop, a clerical worker from the Fraser Valley region, Daphne Ross (Education Assistant; Vancouver Island North), Jan Peever (Custodian; Vancouver Island South), Marcel Marsolais (Carpenter; Lower Mainland), Bill Zeman (Construction Coordinator; Okanagan), Lorraine Prouse (Aboriginal Education Assistant; Northern BC), and Ann Purvis (Education Assistant; the Kootenays). They were supported by CUPE National Representatives Susan Zander (Burnaby), Kevin Rose (Terrace), Rob Hewitt (Kelowna), and CUPE K-12 Coordinator Bill Pegler, who also serves as the chief spokesperson.