**CUPE 622 Bargaining Update**

**Friday February 9**

**BARGAINING UPDATE**

First, we want to thank everyone who came out to the info sessions we held this week. This has been a challenging round of negotiations, and your support of the bargaining committee is crucial.

We met with the employer earlier this week (February 6) for a full day of negotiations. We’re disappointed that very limited progress was made. Our goal was to have meaningful discussions about your key priorities and find common ground with the employer where possible.

Unfortunately, the City insists that the union must agree to their concessionary proposal around hours of work if we want bargaining to continue. We have made it very clear to the employer that the union is not willing to consider any concessions.

**NEXT STEPS**

We have two bargaining dates set for March 22 and 27.

Prior to those bargaining sessions we will be working with our CUPE National Representative, CUPE’s municipal coordinator, and our CUPE Communications Representative to refine our negotiating strategy and start to execute our external communications plan.

Other municipalities in this region, including the City of Pitt Meadows, have bargained fair collective agreements with CUPE locals that recognize the value of the services CUPE members provide. CUPE 622 members in Maple Ridge deserve the same.

**STAY UP TO DATE ON BARGAINING**

The best way to make sure you receive all future bargaining updates is to ensure that CUPE 622 has your up-to-date contact information by emailing your personal (non-work) email **address to the Union Secretary** [**Cupe622secretary@gmail.com**](mailto:Cupe622secretary@gmail.com)

Please watch for an important email update following our next bargaining dates.

If we continue to make limited progress at the bargaining table, we may need to schedule meetings with you to discuss and plan the steps necessary to reach a new collective agreement.

If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact me by **email ;**

**Neerje Harvey, President**

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