

**Local 71 CCRCE**

# **Strike Vote**

**Information package**

# Presidents message



NSGEU President Jason MacLean

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After 12 days at the bargaining table, your Bargaining Committee has filed for conciliation, which is the next necessary step before job action can be taken.

Your Bargaining Committee is seeking a strike mandate from you, the members, prior to going into conciliation. We need a strike vote from all members of Local 71 to reach a fair agreement.

Your employer, the Chignecto-Central Regional Centre for Education, has approached this round of bargaining by proposing numerous take aways from your Collective Agreement.

With the hard work of your bargaining committee, we have convinced the employer to remove some, but there are still major concessions on the table that your employer has not moved on.

In addition, they have refused to consider what your Bargaining Committee considers to be vital Union proposals.

Your bargaining committee seeks a strike vote to help get these concessions off the table at the Chignecto-

Central Regional Centre for Education and to help us to make further improvements to your Collective Agreement.

This information package was prepared to answer your questions and to provide information on the voting process. Please share information, talk to your co-workers and vote!

A strong strike vote is the only way to conclude a fair Collective Agreement on your behalf.

In solidarity,

Jason MacLean  
President, NSGEU

# Why your bargaining committee needs a strike vote

The bargaining committee for Local 71 is asking you, the members, for a strike vote in order to achieve a fair collective agreement in this round of bargaining.

With the completion of bargaining for NSGEU members in other Regional Centres for Education, your bargaining committee had been hopeful that a deal would be negotiated with your employer, CCRCE, at the bargaining table. However, following 12 days of negotiations there are major concessions remaining and your employer refuses to budge. The major concessions remaining on the table are:

- Changing vacation taken in time to a percentage in pay for ten month employees.
- Restricting Administrative Assistants from increasing to and maintaining 40 hour positions.
- Limiting laid off employees' rights to pick up casual hours when working in a reduced or term position.
- Restricting the recall rights of partially laid off (reduced) employees.
- Reverting a three day leave for appointments to be taken from sick banks.

This is in addition to the wage mandate and freeze of a sick leave pay-out, deemed to be a Long-Service Award.

The wage rates set out in the Public Services Sustainability Act (Bill 148) as follows:

July 1, 2015	0%
July 1, 2016	0%
July 1, 2017	1%
July 1, 2018	1.5%
June 30, 2019	0.5%
July 1, 2019	1.5%
June 30, 2020	0.5%
July 1, 2020	1.5%
June 30, 2021	0.5%

[Click here](#) for link to outstanding proposals.

With little interest, on behalf of the employer, in getting these issues off the table, the Union filed for conciliation.

Your Bargaining Committee needs a strong strike vote from you, the members, to back the demands for a fair Collective Agreement at conciliation.

Please join us on Monday June 25 for our Telephone town hall and VOTE "YES" on June 26.

## Local 71 Telephone Town Hall

**June 25 6:30 – 8:00 pm, NSGEU Office**

You should receive an advance call reminding you of the Town Hall a few days before. If you do not receive this call, or if you are unsure if we have an up-to-date phone number for you, please contact us by calling

902-424-4063 (toll-free 1-877-556-7438) or email us at [inquiry@nsgeu.ca](mailto:inquiry@nsgeu.ca)

You can also join the call by dialing 1-877-229-8493 ext.114013

## How to vote on June 26<sup>th</sup>

On Tuesday, June 26, you will receive an email with voting instructions including a link and a PIN number.

The email will be sent to all emails currently in our database. If you click on the link, you can use your PIN to vote on the employer's final offer. Members will not receive voter information via mail. Included in the voting instructions will be the option to vote by phone.

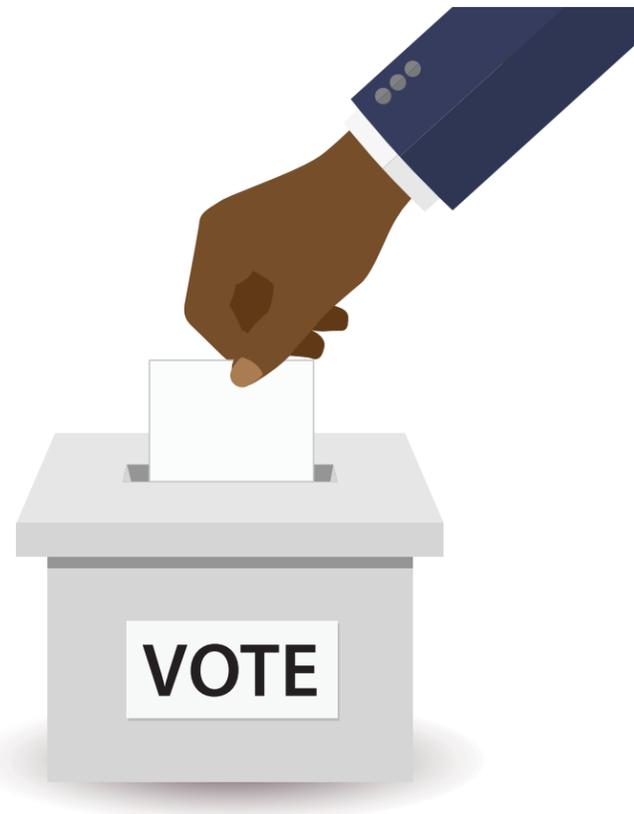
The NSGEU's constitution requires that all votes be held by secret ballot. This method of voting is secure and secret, as required. No one will know how any individual member has voted.

Electronic voting will be open until 5pm Thursday June 28.

**If you do not receive the voting information before noon on Tuesday, June 26, please call the NSGEU office at 902-424-4063 or toll-free at 1-877-556-7438.**

We also ask that you talk to your co-workers and ask them if they have received the voting instructions. If they haven't, you can remind them to check their junk mail folder, or ask them to please call the NSGEU.

**On June 26<sup>th</sup> you will receive an email with voting instructions including a link and a PIN number.**



## Strike vote: frequently asked questions

### Q: Why are we taking a strike vote?

A: Your Bargaining Committee and your employer are at an impasse. Further progress at the table is unlikely, and the NSGEU has applied for conciliation. We have gone through this process before, and we were successful in our objective. A strong message must be sent to the employer that you are serious about achieving a fair Collective Agreement, which protects your job and the jobs of your co-workers

### Q: What is conciliation?

A: Conciliation is a process whereby an impartial third party, a Conciliation Officer, is appointed by the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education and assists the parties (the Union and Employer) in reaching mutually agreeable solutions to outstanding issues. The parties to the Collective Agreement meet and, together with the Conciliation Officer, try to reach a Collective Agreement.

### Q: Will we be on strike soon after the vote?

A: No. The strike vote is intended to show your employer that you and your co-workers are serious about achieving a fair Collective Agreement. The Bargaining Committee will attend conciliation with the employer and a Conciliation Officer, from the Department of Labour and Advanced Education. After conciliation, the Conciliation Officer will file their report. This will trigger a 14-day cooling off period. During this time, you will have an opportunity to vote again on whatever offer has resulted from conciliation. So, this first vote does not put you out on strike.

### Q: What will I gain by voting YES for a strike?

A: A vote to strike will send a message to the employer and government that they need to take negotiations seriously. A vote to strike will apply pressure on the employer that they need to come to the table prepared to finalize a fair Collective Agreement. Without a vote to strike, your bargaining team have no leverage at the table and the employer will continue to table concessions and drag the process out even longer.

**Local 71 CCRCE**

# **Strike Vote**

**June 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>**

**NSGEU**