



Thanks to all professional services bargaining unit (PSBU) members that were able to attend the memberships meetings that we held on November 22, 2018.

Below are the speaker notes from Chair Bond, as well as questions that were asked by the members in the two sessions.

While your bargaining committee is wanting to be transparent, we do not want to put into writing any information that may be misconstrued or misunderstood. We are asking you to follow-up with your local bargaining committee rep for answers to these questions.

We have additional bargaining dates in January 2019 and will be looking to 'meet' with our members to provide further updates.

Good afternoon members.

My name is Bonnie Bond, and I am your bargaining chair of our professional services bargaining unit which is typically referred to as "PSBU". I will make a brief statement, read the SGEU statement of equality; do introductions of elected members and then open the floor for questions.

I will now read the SGEU statement of equality:

All SGEU meetings and events will be held in an environment free of harassment and/or discrimination. SGEU has a zero tolerance for any harassing and/or discriminatory acts, behaviours and comments.

Harassment is any behaviour that undermines the dignity, self-esteem or security of an individual, or creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile or offensive environment.

Our union will not tolerate any forms of harassment and/or discrimination which violate any person's or class of person's right to be treated with dignity and respect.

This meeting will occur on Treaty 4 and 6 territory, and in the homeland of the Metis Nation.

I will now introduce the bargaining committee members and campus reps by city. Please give everyone a wave when I read your name:

Debra Stevenson, campus chair, Saskatoon/SPAO

Derrick Gagnon, bargaining rep, Saskatoon/SPAO

Brent Wilderman, acting campus chair, Moose Jaw

Ellen Leaman, bargaining rep, Moose Jaw (sick today)

Deb Zawada-Wiebe, campus chair and bargaining rep, PA

Jon Burke, campus chair and bargaining rep, Regina

Kathy Mahussier, SGEU labour relations officer



As a re-cap of what is happening with the employer at the bargaining table, I hope that you have read the latest update.

We have met with the employer on numerous occasions in the past 18 months. We continue to work through language but are not making any headway in regards to getting a final deal in which to bring to our membership. With the minus 3.5 still on the table, we haven't even considered presenting our monetary package.

Your elected representatives (known as stewards) continue to work on your behalf when members bring forward concerns. They are the first contact with our members and are greatly under appreciated. I want to publicly thank them for their hard work on our members' behalf.

We are in 'crisis' mode in Saskatoon as there are not enough stewards to cover the many meetings, screenings and interviews. Please consider putting your name forward if you'd like to help your co-workers by stepping forward. Training will be provided. In fact, there is union observer training scheduled for January 2019; one for the southern folks in Regina on January 22 and one for northern folks in Saskatoon on January 24. This training will take place at the SGEU offices in those cities. All expenses will be covered including mileage, meals, and union leave.

We are trying to find out if anyone has submitted their job information questionnaires (JIQ) to their supervisor for re-evaluation and are having trouble getting them signed and forwarded for evaluation in a timely manner. Please let your campus chair know.

I would now ask Kathy Mahussier, our SGEU labour relations officer, to say a few words.

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Thanks Kathy.

Now I will open the floor for questions and comments. I will go around the province by city.

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Thanks everyone for their time today. Please let us know what you think of this format and this type of communication. A copy of this brief presentation will be posted on our ps.sgeu.org website for those not able to attend today.

Your bargaining committee appreciates your support. Have an AWESOME day!

Below are questions asked by the members.

Questions

- What about the -3.5% still on the table?
- Where is SPFA in regard to bargaining?
- What about the employer taking away back-pay?
- What is the hold up with bargaining?
- Is the bargaining committee looking for a strike vote from us?
- What are the takeaways from employer?
- What can members do to show the employer that we want a new deal?
- Understood that new job information questionnaire (JIQ) template caused some JIQs to go down.
- Recently submitted JIQ for re-evaluation and the points didn't change; but duties and responsibilities did. Why?
- Can we refuse to rewrite our JIQ?
- What is happening with market stipends?
- What were the top items that came out of proposals conference?
- What are the top 3 bargaining items?

As a union, we are only as strong as our membership.

We look for your continued support during these difficult bargaining times.

Merry Christmas to all! Safe holidays – see you next year!!

In solidarity,

Your PSBU bargaining committee