

Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union

Professional Services Bargaining Unit

November 2018

Your Professional Services Bargaining Unit (PSBU) bargaining committee met with Saskatchewan Polytechnic management from Oct. 2-4.

PSBU is growing increasingly frustrated with the lack of progress in negotiating with management, but we continue to strive for a fair collective agreement.

While we continue to work through proposed changes in language, we are disappointed that management has still not withdrawn their monetary proposal regarding a minus three point five (-3.5) per cent wage reduction. This decrease is not acceptable. We believe that any wage concessions are not only bad for the membership but would also hamper the employer's strategic plan of being the #1 Polytechnic in Canada by 2020. Not only have we fallen behind the cost of living for over a decade, but your bargaining committee has no interest in further falling behind by accepting a reduction for our membership.

Unfortunately, despite your bargaining committee's continued requests to have this removed, Saskatchewan Polytechnic negotiating team have not confirmed the removal. Recently, public statements by Minister of Education Don Morgan and Finance Minister Donna Harpauer confirm that the -3.5 per cent salary reduction is off the table. Minister Harpauer stated publicly, 'It's no longer on.'

We have six more days of negotiations scheduled for January 2019 where we will continue to work hard in getting our members a fair collective agreement.

We appreciate your continued support.

In solidarity,

Bonnie Bond, Bargaining Chair
Jon Burke, Regina Campus Chair
Derrick Gagnon, Saskatoon Campus and Administrative Offices
Ellen Leaman, Moose Jaw Campus
Deb Zawada-Wiebe, Prince Albert Campus Chair
Kathy Mahussier, Labour Relations Officer, SGEU

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