



CUPE 4153 Update

April 15th, 2025

Our Local Bylaws

On April 3rd I sent out all the documents to prepare everyone for a review of our bylaws and consideration of new proposals submitted by members.

The deadline for submitting bylaw proposals is in two days - Thursday, April 17th. The Bylaw Committee will be meeting to review all the proposals submitted and check them against the National Constitution. A list of approved proposals will be provided to members to consider before our Bylaw Meeting on May 3rd. This is an opportunity for all members to have a voice in how our Local operates and governs itself.

The meeting to review, discuss and vote on Bylaw proposals will be held on May 3rd from 9am to noon at the HWETL office where we have our monthly union meetings (105 Nebo Road). We do need quorum for this Special Meeting meaning we need at least 20 people in attendance for the meeting to go ahead.

OSBCU Survey

For those of you that haven't been around for long - the OSBCU is the Ontario School Board Council of Unions. They are the bargaining representative for 57,000 CUPE School Board workers across Ontario. They bargain certain terms in our 2 part Collective Agreement that deal with our wages, benefits, vacations, etc. Our current contract expires August 31st, 2026 and the cycle of bargaining has already begun on our side. The OSBCU is looking for input towards what their goals in bargaining will be for next year. YOU are the members they need to hear from. YOU are in the schools doing the work on a day to day basis. YOU deal with staff shortages. YOU are the boots on the ground they need to hear from.

As part of the organizing/mobilizing exercises all Locals did last time before bargaining - OSBCU is following the same pattern this time around and asking Locals to have at least a 60% participation rate in the survey. I would like to think that everyone would want to put in their two cents worth about what's most important to them in the workplace, but I know from experience that isn't the case. I know we can get to 60% on this survey though.

To get through the survey, it should take you about 10 minutes. What's 10 minutes out of your week to tell the people who face off against the government about our next contract about what you think is important for the safety, security and finances of our members across the province?

What's right in front of us now is facing the same government who tried to use the notwithstanding clause against us and force us back to work and legislate a contract on us with no bargaining. We bargain early in the process to get what OUR members have made priorities - not get left with the scraps from others and their bargaining priorities.

You can find the survey by clicking [HERE](#). **Please DO NOT share this link or survey on social media as per requests from OSBCU to keep the survey responses limited to CUPE School Board workers.**

This is a short week for all of us and it's a busy time of year - spring is warming things up and people are getting gardens and lawns ready for summer, lots of religious observations for a number of faith groups and if you're a parent of a post secondary education kid - it's exam and move back home time! Or in my case, it's a "drive to college, move kids stuff back to moms and then take some of that same stuff and move it to her new co-op housing then drive back home" kind of day on Thursday....yay me!

Have a great long weekend everyone - enjoy your time away from the workplace with people who enrich and appreciate you whether they're family, friends or someone you just met! Oh, and if you happen to run across any leftover carrot cake after this weekend - it can be left on my desk in the office. Just saying....

Cheers,

Blake