



**Bargaining Update  
Support Bargaining Unit**

Dear CUPE member,

Your bargaining committee has been hard at work preparing to bargain your new collective agreement. The committee is made up of Unifor, CUPE and NSGEU elected members for each of the unions.

The committee has met nine times throughout the spring preparing proposals for bargaining. These proposals were decided upon by member surveys, grievances, and conversations with our members within the workplaces. We have heard what is important to you and will bring this forward to the employers on your behalf. The committee is currently finalizing these proposals which will be exchanged with your employers (NSH and IWK) on **Thursday, September 12th**.

The committee has also confirmed eleven additional dates (if needed) through the fall to bargain your collective agreement.

Along with bargaining, the Council of Unions has been bargaining an Essential Services Agreement (ESA) with the employers in the event of job action. We are pleased to say the IWK ESA has been completed and the work is ongoing with NSH.

*What are Essential Services?*

As a result of legislation passed by the past Liberal provincial government, CUPE now bargains as part of a Council of Unions. Along with NSGEU and Unifor, we collectively represent approximately 4,000 health support workers working in a wide variety of roles at Nova Scotia Health (NSH) throughout the province and the IWK. We are also now compelled by legislation to work with the employer to establish an Essential Services staffing agreement prior to any legal strike action taking place.

The committee wishes to thank you for your patience and support as we move through this process. Please watch your email closely over the coming weeks for updates. Please share this message with your coworkers and if they aren't receiving these messages, please tell them to reach out to us. We need all our members personal email addresses to keep them informed and voting in the future.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your Area VP.