



NEGOTIATIONS NEWSLETTER #12

vccfa@telus.net

(604) 688-6210

www.vccfa.ca

March 14, 2005

The Make It or Break It Week

The strike votes at Malaspina and Capilano have sparked the Ministry of Labour to pay attention to college and institute faculty bargaining.

The Ministry has invited all managements and all unions to gather for what looks to be an intensive weeklong bargaining session in Vancouver.

We understand that all outstanding common and local issues can be addressed.

There will be a sequence of meetings with Malaspina and Capilano being addressed first. Next, common table items will be up. Bargainers have worked to resolve all non-cost issues. Remaining cost items plus local issues will be addressed. This process gives us some hope of reaching a speedy resolution.

However, all members must remain aware that if it doesn't work the VCCFA will have little alternative but to address the impasse by joining with other locals and conducting strike votes.

We'll do our best to keep you as informed as possible.

	local	e-mail address
Mark Goertz	871-7183	mgoertz@telus.net
Karen Griffiths	443-8327	bustergee@hotmail.com
Vinit Khosla (Chair)	871-7255	vkhosla@shaw.ca
Ingrid Kolsteren	688-6210	ikolsteren@telus.net
Maggi Trebble	871-7254	trebbles@hotmail.com
Rose Marie Watson	443-8495	ebwatson@shaw.ca
Linda Sperling (Federation of Post-Secondary Educators – spokesperson)		

Post-Secondary Educators Common Table Bargaining Bulletin

Bargaining Heats Up for Post-Secondary Educators

Common table bargaining began again on Tuesday, March 8.

In the meantime, a number of developments at local tables – in particular strong strike votes at Malaspina and Capilano and preparation for more strike votes at other locals – placed additional pressure on all employers and the government to bargain collective agreements in a timely way.

Many employers would not join unions at the common table so this round of bargaining has been particularly frustrating. Progress at local bargaining tables has also been slow.

Since returning on March 8, the union negotiating committee and the employers have engaged in extended meetings. The parties have now had an opportunity to thoroughly canvass most key issues. Union representatives George Davison for FPSE and Dan Bradford for the BCGEU

expressed some optimism that the common table has developed momentum. The parties signed off language in a number of areas including: international education, education technology, respectful workplace behaviour, partial sick leave and partial disability benefits, health and safety equipment, and variances to ensure the aboriginality of Nicola Valley Institute of Technology as part of the Common Agreement.

The major issues are salary, secondary scales, bars to progression on scale, targeted labour adjustment, benefits and professional development.

Government has become involved in assisting settlements at Malaspina and Capilano. Strike action at these locals has been put on hold.

A plan for intensive bargaining of common and local issues for all employers and faculty unions in our sector has been developed for the week of March 14th.

Check www.vccfa.ca for updates.