

# Power Notes

## I.B.E.W. Local 2067

### Newsletter #14 / November 23, 2018

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#### Bargaining Update

Brothers and Sisters, in mid-August, we sent out a bargaining update newsletter indicating that we were looking to resume collective bargaining with a more rapid approach with the intent of having an tentative agreement brought to the membership prior to the beginning of another calendar year.

The past 2 years have been difficult for Unions engaged in public sector bargaining. The government's desire to achieve budget savings through the collective bargaining process has placed significant pressures on unionized employees and the employers of unionized work groups.

Although we have made progress and are close to achieving a Memorandum of Agreement, we have not yet reached a position that the committee feels comfortable with bringing it to the membership. We are still optimistic that an agreement will be reached prior to the end of the calendar year but given the proximity to the holiday season it would be unlikely to have it ratified until early in the New Year.

We will continue to work towards an agreement and will also continue our discussions with the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour Public Sector Bargaining Committees to exchange information from each group's interactions at the bargaining tables and learn from each other experiences.

Through discussions in various locations, we have learned that there is still a lack of understanding on how Essential Services and *The Saskatchewan Employment Act* affect our membership when it comes to collective bargaining. Attached is a description of how the initial implementation affected our membership followed by the changes that come into effect in 2016 after the Supreme Court of Canada deemed the Act to be unconstitutional.

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