



PSAC Local 901

Bargaining Communique # 15

March 8th, 2022

Ratification Success- Renewed Collective Agreement!

Yesterday 901's membership voted in favour of ratification - Unit 1 finally has a renewed collective agreement! Overall, we are pleased with the agreement and believe that we have made significant gains. We hope that gains made, particularly in areas of equity and inclusion, will act as footholds from which further progress will be made for our members and other academic sector workers. Some of elements of the new Collective Agreement include: a new Mental Health and Hardship Fund, a Professional Development Fund, paid training on sexual violence prevention and anti-racism, longer sick leave, better language around leaves including a new gender affirmation leave, and easier accommodations processes. All changes to the collective agreement can be found in full in the Ratification Kit that went out to members on Friday.

This round bargaining was limited by Bill 124, which put strict limits on public sector increases to compensation and benefits. 901 recognizes that the Bill unfairly constrained the wages and benefits of graduate student workers at Queen's the majority of whom are living in financial precarity, and while we hope that funds acquired in this round will help we know that it is not enough. We will continue to work towards alleviating economic based pressures on 901 members including insufficient and unrealistic funding packages and inadequate affordable housing.

Thank you for your active participation in this bargaining process, for filling out in surveys, and attending townhalls, meetings, rallies, etc. over the past couple years. This is your agreement and we look forward to empowering you to make the best use of it!

Once the Employer has also ratified the agreement, it will go into effect.

In solidarity,
Your Bargaining Team,
Astrid, Rohit & Brittainy