

## STRIKE REFERENDUM BALLOT -- IMMEDIATE ATTENTION!

On Friday, November 21, Mediator Ed Sims had planned to report out to the Labour Minister. However, after caucusing with the University negotiators, Mr. Sims adjourned mediation with no further progress having been made. No future meetings were scheduled.

We must get a contract signed *this year*. We are not covered by the Federal wage freeze legislation. We may be covered by parallel provincial legislation, but the soonest this could occur would be in January.

Our Contract Committee has been bargaining since August, and none of the major items have been settled. We have told the mediator that we want a contract by the end of November, but the University continues to stall. The Contract Committee is convinced that *only the strong support of the membership* can get this thing settled.

At a mass membership meeting on November 20, we voted overwhelmingly to hold a strike referendum.

A favourable strike referendum is not a decision to go on strike. Any such decision, including the timing and length of a strike (i.e., one day strike(s), one week strike, indefinite strike, etc.) must be made at a subsequent mass membership meeting. But a favourable strike vote will greatly improve our bargaining position. We discovered last year that once the University knows that our membership is prepared to take strike action if necessary, it will make major concessions.

Hopefully, a strike will not be necessary. This ballot will be counted Wednesday night, and your steward will be informed of the result on Thursday.

A SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING will be held Thursday, November 27, at 5:00 pm, in IRC Lecture Hall #2. The purpose will be to DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF THIS REFERENDUM and/or POSSIBLE FURTHER ACTION. This could be the most important meeting yet, and it is ESSENTIAL THAT EVERYONE BE THERE.

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### BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS - READ CAREFULLY:

As time is running out, speed is essential. THEREFORE THIS BALLOT WILL BE DELIVERED AND COLLECTED BY HAND.

It will be distributed to you on Monday, and picked up on Wednesday morning. Stewards and Union representatives will be responsible for this. HOWEVER, THE ONUS IS ON YOU TO SEE THAT YOUR BALLOT IS RETURNED. IF IT HAS NOT BEEN COLLECTED BY WEDNESDAY AT 2:00 PM, PHONE THE UNION OFFICE AT 224-5613 or 224-4212 SO THAT WE CAN COME AND PICK IT UP.

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SIGN YOUR RETURN ENVELOPE OR YOUR BALLOT IS SPOILED!!!!!!!!!!

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