

# CUPE 3906 STRIKE VOTE FAQ

## WHY ARE WE TAKING A STRIKE VOTE, DOES THIS MEAN THAT WE'RE GOING ON STRIKE?

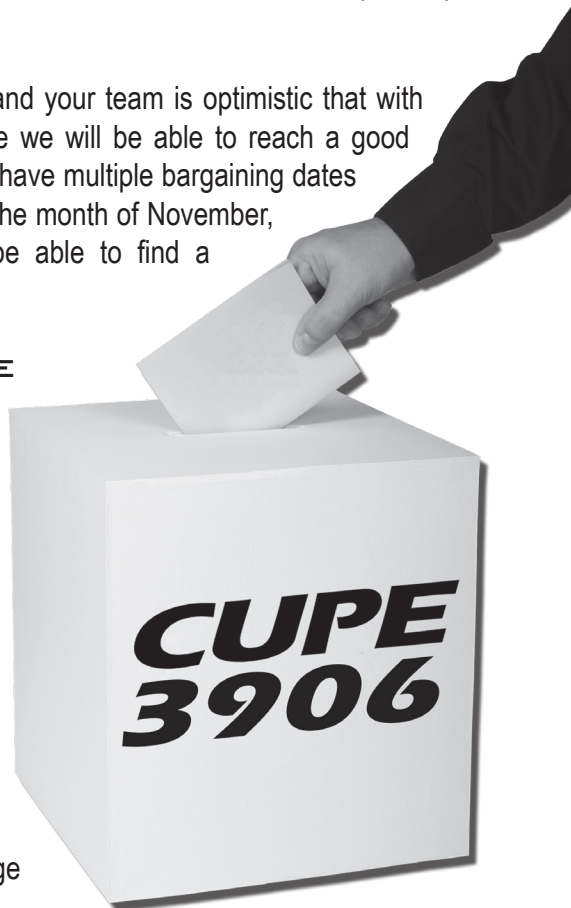
We are taking the Strike Vote to give your bargaining team the power of a solid mandate when they meet with the Employer to continue bargaining. While we have found agreement on a number of issues, the parties are still far apart on the top three issues identified by the membership: **wages, benefits and workload** (for more information check out the latest bargaining bulletin at [www.cupe3906.org](http://www.cupe3906.org)).

A successful mandate from a strike vote doesn't mean that we are automatically going on strike. It simply gives the bargaining team the ability to call a strike later on in the process as a matter of last resort. While this is the only vote that will be taken before ratification, we will continue to consult with the membership to help us decide what next steps to take.

Bargaining is progressing well, and your team is optimistic that with the support of a strong mandate we will be able to reach a good deal without going on strike. We have multiple bargaining dates scheduled with the Employer in the month of November, and are hopeful that we will be able to find a resolution to outstanding issues.

## WHY SHOULD I VOTE YES IN A STRIKE VOTE?

A yes vote is a sign of support for your bargaining team, and the top bargaining priorities, namely **wages, benefits and workload**. It will give your team the ability to return to the bargaining table with the full strength of the membership behind them. We hope that this would give us the final push we need to be able to make progress on issues like wage and benefit improvements.



## WHAT HAPPENS IF THE STRIKE VOTE ISN'T SUCCESSFUL?

To be perfectly frank, without a solid mandate in a strike vote it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to make any wage or benefit improvements in the first few years of a new contract. Practically speaking, this will mean that the majority of members would not see any financial improvements during the remainder of their time at McMaster.

## WHAT IS THE STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS?

Bargaining is going well, and we have a number of dates at the table with the Employer in the coming month. We are, however, far apart on the top issues from the membership. For more information come out to the **Special General Membership Meeting at 5:30 on November 10th** in the **DeGroot School of Business (DSB) B105** or check out the latest Bargaining Bulletin at [www.cupe3906.org](http://www.cupe3906.org).

## WHO CAN VOTE?

To be able to vote you need to be:

- working as a TA or RA-in-lieu in this term
- have worked as a TA or RA-in-lieu in either the Winter or Summer terms
- have a contract-in-hand for a TA or RA-in-lieu position in the upcoming term

## WHEN AND WHERE DO I VOTE?

Voting will begin at the end of the **Special General Membership Meeting on November 10th at 5:30pm** in **DSB B105**. Voting will then continue from **10:00am-5:00pm** in the lobby of **Mills Library on November 11th and 14th**.

## HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Come out to the **Special General Membership Meeting at 5:30 on November 10th** in **DSM B105** or check out the latest Bargaining Bulletin at [cupe3906.org](http://cupe3906.org). If you have any other questions you can email [bargaining@cupe3906.org](mailto:bargaining@cupe3906.org).

