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Nunavut work

City of Iqaluit Bargaining Update #2

Bargaining with the City of Iqaluit has reached impasse. In February, your Bargaining Team presented the City with a reasonable deal, proposing a 2% wage increase per year, merely matching the increased cost of living. It was made abundantly clear to the City that this was the Union's final proposal.

Yet, the Employer came back with an insulting counterproposal, including a meager 4% wage increase over 5 years (0% in 2020, 2.5% in 2021, 0.5% in 2022, 0.5% in 2023, and 0.5% in 2024). This offer is disconnected from reality.

It is disconnected from the increased cost of living in Iqaluit.

It is disconnected from the sizeable surplus the City has built in recent years.

It is disconnected from the sacrifices made by employees who recently endured a two-year wage freeze and numerous concessions.

And it is disconnected from Mayor Kenny Bell's "very basic campaign promise of being there for city staff and making the City of Iqaluit an employer of choice"¹.

The Union has filed for Conciliation. But no one should be mistaken: The Union's final proposal is reasonable. A deal is well within the City's reach. The only ones who truly stand to benefit from conciliation is the southern law firm hired by the City.

In the weeks to come, your Bargaining Team will meet with all members, in small groups, to answer questions and discuss upcoming actions.

Thank you for supporting your Bargaining Team.

Your PSAC/NEU Bargaining Team:

Susan Avery, Tracey Oram, Chris Wilson, Mary Anne Walker, PSAC Regional Representative and Martin Rioux, PSAC Negotiator.

¹ Kenny Bell, cited in "Iqaluit City Hall is on the Move", *Nunatsiaq News*, February 20, 2020.