



Representing Contract Faculty, Teaching Assistants, Graduate Assistants,
and Part-Time Librarians and Archivists @York University, Toronto

Canadian Union of Public Employees/Syndicat canadien de la fonction publique local/section locale 3903

November 2nd, 2018

Update on October 30 Levies Vote

On Tuesday October 30th, our Local held a Unit-specific secret ballot vote on introducing a 1% 4-month levy (special assessment) to help improve our financial position. The results of this vote can be found [here](#). Pursuant to article B.4.2(a) of the [CUPE Constitution](#), the Executive Committee then submitted the levies, approved by Units 1 and 3, to the National President's Office (NPO) for approval. Given that any levy would affect the entire Local, the NPO indicated this Unit-specific vote contravened the National Constitution, and was ruled out of order. "Any assessment must be approved by a majority of members voting in a referendum or at a regular or special membership meeting" which, in the context of the Article, the NPO maintains means a majority of members of the Local in an all-Units vote.

The NPO notified us that given that members were informed that the vote was on a per-unit basis, and that the vote was conducted in this way the vote is invalid. Another vote will be required if the Local still wishes to have a levy approved. The Executive Committee had not sought approval from the NPO prior to our meeting for the specific levy motion, since any motion is subject to amendment by the membership at the General Membership Meeting (GMM) and the NPO required the exact wording of the motion as passed, as well as the results.

The Executive Committee has called a Special General Membership Meeting (SGMM) for Tuesday, November 13th, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, in Harry Crowe (109 Atkinson) to address this situation, as well as to address the situation this puts our Local in. Both the Executive Committee and our National Service Representative will be present to answer questions.

Members interested in submitting questions to the NPO are asked to please e-mail the Chairperson, Devin Lefebvre (cupe3903chairperson@gmail.com), by Wednesday, November 7th. As always, members are encouraged to attend the November 13th SGMM and the November 23rd GMM, as well as to email the Chairperson with any procedural questions they may have.

Sincerely,

Devin Lefebvre
Chairperson, CUPE 3903

Michael Laurentius
Secretary-Treasurer, CUPE 3903