

For immediate release
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UPSE, Provincial Government reach Tentative Agreement

Negotiators for the provincial government and the P.E.I. Union of Public Sector Employees have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract for the largest bargaining group in the province. The previous agreement expired on March 31, 2007. Once ratified, the collective agreement will cover over almost 3,000 employees of the provincial Civil Service, the Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission and the P.E.I. Workers' Compensation Board.

“The teams agreed to meet once more before heading into binding arbitration, and were successful in their efforts to reach a tentative agreement through negotiations. This is always the objective of any bargaining team, and we are pleased their hard work and dedication had a positive outcome,” states UPSE President, Shelley Ward.

“The UPSE bargaining team is recommending ratification of the proposed settlement. Information on the contents of the tentative agreement will be mailed out in the near future and explanatory meetings will be held throughout the province soon after that. Further details on these meetings will be provided when available, as will the deadline date for the ratification vote,” states Bargaining Team Co-chair, Bill MacMillan.

“I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our Bargaining Team. This was a difficult round of negotiations and there were many complex issues to deal with, but they remained united and worked together for the benefit of the membership. I also want to acknowledge the assistance of Negotiator, Tom Mann, who worked with the team through the conciliation process and helped them to reach this outcome,” concludes Ward.