

PSAC achieves an agreement with Treasury Board on mental health task force



Members of all Treasury Board bargaining teams, Ottawa, March 27, 2015

Photo: Patrick St. Georges

PSAC spent the week of March 23, 2015 in negotiations with Treasury Board, where we reached an agreement with Treasury Board on the establishment of a joint task force on mental health. PSAC tabled the proposal in January to ensure a more proactive approach to improving mental health.

The task force, made up of an equal number of union and employer representatives, will have a long-term focus on the successful implementation of measures to improve mental health in the workplace.

“This is a major victory for our members and for all Canadians who depend on federal public services,” said Robyn Benson. “Through this joint task force, PSAC will ensure that the government lives up to its commitment for concrete action that leads to lasting change on improving mental health in the workplace.”

PSAC continues to defend our sick leave and we maintained our position to not accept any concessions. Negotiations will continue in May.



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Bargaining teams also focused on the following issues:

PA: We tabled proposals to further enshrine seniority provisions in the collective agreement. We also made proposals to improve vacation leave scheduling, leave for union business, and the No Discrimination clause.

FB: We repeated our demand for a pension commitment that reflects our work as law enforcement personnel. We also discussed legal indemnification rights for FB workers, protections regarding paid holidays, improving access to telework for non-uniformed officers, and issues related to inland enforcement.

TC: We worked with the TI subcommittee to better understand the work and challenges of this group. We also negotiated an improvement to compensatory leave, expanding the period members can take their compensatory leave to September of the following year from which the overtime was performed.

SV: Our team tabled a proposal on acting pay to ensure a fair monetary gain for employees performing duties in higher classifications, as well as a proposal reinforcing the employer’s obligation to provide a hard copy of the collective agreement to all of our members.

EB: We discussed the EB pay study and the impact of a recent grievance decision, as well as Appendix D on class sizes. We also raised the problems our members face due to the lack of a superintendent in Ontario, which has made the guidelines directed at schools difficult to follow.