

FACT vs FICTION SHEET

CUPE LOCAL 830, CITY OF CHARLOTTETOWN

WATER AND SEWER WORKERS ON STRIKE



There is misinformation about our situation, and we would like to take this opportunity to share the facts. For over 60 years, CUPE Local 830 water and sewer workers have ensured that the City of Charlottetown's water supply is safe and that water and wastewater systems are maintained. The City Council has the power to put an end to the strike.

Contact the Mayor and your Councillor today.

FACT

CUPE Local 830's contract expired on December 31, 2022, and they have been bargaining for over 2 years. The employer is trying to strip away job security clauses that already exist in the collective agreement to protect workers.

CUPE Local 830 is seeking a wage increase of 3.5% per year. This fits within the city budget. CUPE Local 830's wage increase will only cost an additional \$26,440 per year. The City and the Water and Sewer Corporation recorded 4 consecutive operational budget surpluses of over \$18 million from 2020 to 2024. The City and the Corporation have more than enough money to cover the cost of this wage increase while still maintaining a surplus.

The comparators used in the employer's rationale for the offer are not reflective of the work our members do in water and sewer services. In fact, some comparators given didn't even exist, i.e., Backhoe Operator for the City of Summerside. Additionally, the City chose the municipalities with the lowest wages, whereas Charlottetown should be a leader in fair wages for these essential water and sewer workers. The City has award-winning water because of the work done by CUPE Local 830 members.

FICTION

The City says that they are respecting the collective bargaining process and are committed to reaching a fair and responsible agreement.

The City says their wage offer of 2% per year is both fair to employees and fiscally responsible for taxpayers.

The City says that if this offer is accepted, it would mean that water and sewer workers in Charlottetown would earn comparable wages to others in the industry in the Maritime provinces.