

October 21st, 2025

Mayor Brown, Deputy Mayor Jankov, Councillor Muttart, Councillor Beck, Councillor Tweel, Councillor Ramsay, Councillor Doiron, Councillor McAleer, Councillor MacKinnon, Councillor McCabe, and Councillor Bernard.

CUPE Local 830, Charlottetown Water and Sewer workers have been on strike for 85 days.

This is the current situation:

- You are voting on a resolution tonight to accept the UPSE collective agreement.
- The UPSE agreement includes monetary and non-monetary improvements.
- By comparison, CUPE Local 830 is defending long-standing language and asking for fair wages.
- UPSE was in bargaining for one day and a half.
- By comparison, CUPE Local 830 has been on the line for 85 days. This is the longest strike in City Hall's history. This is not bargaining as usual.
- By acting as if this is business as usual, you are hurting your City employees, the residents and the businesses. You need to look at this situation differently.

It is time for you to take this opportunity to give your bargaining team a new mandate to settle this strike now.

Rob Howatt, on behalf of the members of CUPE Local 830

Attachment Press release

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Canadian Union of Public Employees • Syndicat canadien de la fonction publique

For immediate release October 21, 2025

CUPE Local 830 Condemns City Hall Trespass Orders Amid Ongoing Strike

Charlottetown, PE. October 21, 2025

Despite CUPE Local 830 still being on strike and making significant movement on its latest offer, the City has failed to reply. Instead, the response was loud and clear, with police showing up at the homes of four strikers and a servicing rep serving them trespass orders, issued without warning, explanation, or any established City Council meeting rules, effectively banning them from City Hall.

Among those served was CUPE Local 830 President Robert Howatt, a volunteer firefighter, who received the notice upon returning from an emergency call.

"I was out on a call; I still respond because I care deeply about the residents of this city. The police knew that, and they were waiting in my driveway when I got back." CUPE 830 President Rob Howatt, volunteer firefighter and heavy machinery operator.

These orders appear to be in answer to workers voicing their disappointment with the council at the last regular council meeting, where Mayor Philip Brown broke a tie vote on a motion to meet with CUPE Local 830, showing no acknowledgment or empathy toward the city's frontline workers.

Ashley Clark, CUPE PEI President, present during the council meeting, added:

"The way half of the City Council, and especially Mayor Philip Brown, responded when faced with direct accountability was shameful. This is no way to treat your employees, and it raises serious concerns about the future of labour relations in Charlottetown."

CUPE Local 830 is currently exploring legal avenues to challenge the trespass orders, which they view as punitive and unjust.

City Council needs to give a new mandate to their bargaining team. CUPE Local 830 calls on the City of Charlottetown to engage in meaningful dialogue and reverse these punitive actions.

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