

## **General Strike Information**

September 2, 2011

Many people are asking what this strike is all about.

At this time, the colleges have provided a good offer that increases the average salary for support staff to more than \$59,000 after three years. If OPSEU, the union representing the support staff, were to accept the offer, each full-time support staff member would receive a salary increase of 4.8% over the next three years:

- Year 1 – a salary increase of 1.5%
- Year 2 – an additional salary increase of 1.5%
- Year 3 – a further salary increase of 1.75%

The offer from the colleges does NOT reduce job security or increase the use of part-time employees instead of full-time employees.

The Union has rejected the offer and is asking for:

- 6.1% salary increase over two years
- Additional costs for retiree benefits
- Additional paid leave time for union activities

Although we want to reach a negotiated settlement that is reasonable to our employees, it must also be affordable to the colleges. We hope that OPSEU will call off the strike and return to the bargaining table so that we can reach a resolution.

More details about the bargaining process can be found at [www.theCouncil.on.ca](http://www.theCouncil.on.ca) and [www.opseu.org](http://www.opseu.org)