



April 2024 – Labour Relations Update

County of Wellington

CUPE Local 973 - Status of Negotiations

The one-year Collective Agreement that was in place for 2023 expired on December 31, 2023, but remains in force for now as a matter of law.

The County of Wellington highly respects and values our CUPE employees and honours the collective bargaining process. The County of Wellington has engaged in good faith collective bargaining with our only union, CUPE Local 973, which represents approximately 160 Social Services employees, working in Children’s Early Years, Ontario Works and Housing Divisions. The negotiations are following an entirely normal course. Conciliation is the next step in the negotiating process.

The County has been assigned a Conciliator by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. Conciliation is a legal requirement before any further job action can occur. On Monday, May 13, 2024, the County and CUPE Local 973 representatives will meet again to continue negotiations. Conciliation is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

Although we are hopeful an agreement can be reached, we are taking a cautious approach. Due to this, we feel it is important to provide updates on the status of negotiations as they progress. At this stage in the process, we are unable to share the details regarding the items being discussed at negotiations.