



72-hour strike notice issued by Vancouver Public Library workers

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City of Vancouver fails to bargain again

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. outside Vancouver Public Library, Robson and Homer entrance

VANCOUVER – After another failed mediation session with the City of Vancouver, library workers represented by CUPE 391 have been forced to issue 72-hour strike notice. They cite as cause the same stubbornness and unwillingness of the employer to bargain any issues of importance to the library workers, like **pay equity**.

"Not a single library workers' issue has been addressed in the days of talks that took place," says Ed Dickson, CUPE 391 bargaining committee chair. In addition to their pay equity concerns, the library workers would like to see fair treatment of part-time and auxiliary staff, benefit improvements and some protection against contracting out.

"The City of Vancouver's complete failure to bargain shows me that they are trying to force an all out strike in Vancouver," says Dickson.

"What is it going to take for the City of Vancouver to actually bargain?"

Dickson says responsibility rests squarely on the shoulders of Mayor Sam Sullivan to seek a political solution to avert a massive civic strike in Vancouver that could escalate to the entire Lower Mainland and affect everything from civic services to Olympic construction to tourism.

CUPE 391 represents the 900 employees of Vancouver Public Library.

To view full Pay Equity Report click http://www.cupe.bc.ca/files/library_pay_equity_july_2007.pdf

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