



Wood Buffalo Housing Lockout Ends With Ratification Vote

For Immediate Release

FORT MCMURRAY, AB, October 17, 2019 – The bargaining teams of Wood Buffalo Housing (WBH) and CUPE 1505 met October 4-7, along with the mediator appointed by the Labour Board, for bargaining in an attempt to come to an agreement that would end the lockout. On Sunday, the third day of bargaining, negotiations went early into the morning hours on Monday and concluded with CUPE and WBH agreeing to support the mediator’s recommendations. CUPE agreed to bring them back to the members for a ratification vote.

The vote was held on Wednesday, October 16 and a majority of members voted “yes” to accepting the proposal on the table.

“We are very pleased to say that our CUPE Local 1505 members voted last evening to accept the mediator’s recommendations,” says Henry Hunter, “which means the collective agreement has been ratified. The staff will return to work on October 23, and we are very excited to welcome them back.”

“It has been a long five months, for our employees, our tenants, and the community, but we feel confident that this new collective agreement will help Wood Buffalo Housing on our path to achieving a sustainable future. We look forward to moving forward together and continuing our work of ensuring that every person in Wood Buffalo has access to safe and affordable housing.”

- 30 -

Media contact info:

Christina MacKay
Manager of Marketing and Communications
Wood Buffalo Housing
Phone: 780-799-4034
E-mail: christina@wbhousing.ca