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July 7, 2008

Negotiations still going strong!

Despite summer vacations, collective bargaining is still going on between the parties in their attempt to conclude the renewal of the APS collective agreement.

In the aftermath of the signature on the framework, a writing committee was set up to translate principles into clauses both in English and French, as both languages share equal status in the APS contract. The deadline the parties had given themselves to complete the task was June 13.

Although most of the task was done, some work still needs to be completed. The APS team will meet during the weekend of August 8th to review the results, as well as to plan it's course of action for the next set of meetings with the employer scheduled for August 21, 22 and 23.

Some items have been discussed but are not resolved, such as the question of job reviews; other points simply have not been put on the table yet, such as our participation in the CCSB and the dental plan.

Despite the workload, negotiations are still sailing under favourable winds and APS is still hopeful to provide its members an upgraded work environment as the result of this negotiation.