



IUOE LOCAL 772 MEMBERS AT CITY OF HAMILTON WATER & WASTEWATER FACILITIES FACE STRIKE DEADLINE

HAMILTON, ON, MAY 6, 2025 - Fifty-two certified operators and tradespeople at the City of Hamilton's water and wastewater facilities, represented by the International Union of Operating Engineers ("IUOE") Local 772, are preparing to strike at 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, May 14, if a fair agreement is not reached by then. The workers recently delivered a 100 percent strike mandate.

"The City of Hamilton was given notice eight years ago of the outdated and unfair schedule of wage rates and inequity of wage rates between departments that needed to be corrected," said Greg Hoath, IUOE Local 772 Business Manager and Lead Negotiator.

He added, "The IUOE gave notice during the last round of bargaining four years ago. We have two proposals, one to eliminate the certification-based wage system that was nearly unachievable and at best would take 10 years to achieve a top rate, hindering the ability to retain qualified professionals. The other proposal was for wage parity between similar classifications within the City of Hamilton. The City had no counter on the union position, but didn't deny the notice given four years ago."

Despite significant challenges in attracting qualified personnel to fill essential roles, the union is not seeking market adjustments. "We are more than justified in our reasonable request for fairness," said Hoath. "Members have prepared and are committed to fair and equitable treatment by the City of Hamilton."

This group of provincially-certified and licensed professionals is responsible for delivering safe, clean drinking water, and environmentally compliant clean wastewater discharging for the city. "These dedicated employees desire to continue providing effective, efficient service to the citizens of Hamilton. We remain hopeful of reaching an agreement," Hoath said.

Mediation between the parties is scheduled for May 13.

Call and email the following to file complaints during the strike:



- Yakov Sluchenzov, Director, Employee Health & Labour Relations, 905-978-3517, Yakov.Sluchenzov@hamilton.ca
- Julie Shott, Manager Labour Relations, 905-977-8447, Julie.Shott@hamilton.ca
- Shane McCauley, Director - Manager - Plant Maintenance & Technical Services, Shane.McCauley@hamilton.ca
- Deborah Goudreau, Plant Manager, 905-973-2692, Deborah.Goudreau@hamilton.ca
- Marnie Cluckie, City Manager, 905-546-2489, citymanager@hamilton.ca
- Nick Winters, Director, Hamilton Water, 905-973- 4970, Nick.Winters@hamilton.ca
- Hamilton Water department, 905-546-2489, AskCity@hamilton.ca
- Office of the City Clerk, clerk@hamilton.ca
- Andrea Horwath, Mayor City of Hamilton, 905-546-4200, mayor@hamilton.ca
- Tammy Hwang, City Councillor, Ward 4, 905-546-2113, ward4@hamilton.ca