29 September 2023

Dear Stakeholder,

As we shared previously, in an effort to reach a final agreement on outstanding issues and end the strike, the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library (BWGPL) Board applied to the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB) to request first collective agreement arbitration.

Earlier today, we received a response from the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB), approving our request for first collective agreement arbitration.

The arbitration process will appoint a neutral third party to assess the outstanding issues between CUPE 905 and the BWGPL. The decision maker will issue a final binding decision, which must be carried out by the Board and CUPE 905.

At this point, we await the scheduling of a hearing date, where an arbitrator or a board of arbitration will issue a final binding decision. During the waiting period, employees will return to work and our Library will reopen for in-person services as soon as possible. We will update the community through our Library website and social medias once an opening date is determined.

Matthew Corbett Chief Executive Officer