



August 25, 2023

## BWGPL Community Update

Dear library patron,

In an effort to end the 36-day strike by CUPE 905, the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library (BWGPL) Board has applied to the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB) to request first collective agreement arbitration.

If approved by the OLRB, a neutral third-party arbitrator will be agreed upon or appointed to assess the outstanding issues between CUPE 905 and the BWGPL. The arbitrator's role is to issue a final binding decision and settle the contract.

Our goal has always been to achieve a negotiated collective agreement with CUPE 905. However, this strike has gone on for too long and it is time to take appropriate steps to reopen the library and continue serving our community. Up to this point, negotiations have not resulted in adequate progress, so we are taking the steps necessary to resolve outstanding issues and reopen the community's library. We are prepared to accept the results of a neutral third-party arbitrator.

At this stage, we await the OLRB's decision on our application. Once a decision has been made, we will share an update with the community and what it means for our Library and our residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Corbett', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Matthew Corbett  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library

