



14 September 2023

Dear Stakeholder,

On August 25, the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library (BWGPL) Board applied for arbitration with the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB) in an effort to reach a final agreement on outstanding issues and end the strike.

As part of the arbitration process, a mandatory mediation session was scheduled for today, Thursday, September 14. This mediation session will be followed by a hearing on Thursday, September 21 to determine our approval status for arbitration.

Our bargaining team went into today's mediation session in hopes that the CUPE 905 would accept arbitration and come to a mutual agreement on appointing an arbitrator to move the process along as quickly as possible, dismissing the need for the hearing date on September 21. The Library's Board and bargaining team are both eager to proceed with the arbitration process and came to today's session with a recommendation to assign leading arbitrator, William Kaplan, to the case.

Unfortunately, during today's session, CUPE 905 continues to reject arbitration and was unwilling to respond to the Library's most recent proposals in an attempt to negotiate and settle outstanding issues. This means that both parties will reconvene on September 21 for a hearing. At that time, the OLRB will hear submissions from both parties to assist them in determining whether our request for arbitration has been approved.

We will share an update with the community following the hearing on September 21.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Corbett', written over a horizontal line.

Matthew Corbett
Chief Executive Officer

