

Charlottetown Area Office, 100 Capital Drive, Charlottetown, PEI C1E 1E7

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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**2 CUPE Locals, Ratify 3-Year Contract  
with the City of Charlottetown**

**Charlottetown** – “Charlottetown’s Water & Sewer Utility workers, as well as the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) workers for the City, have both recently ratified a 3-year Collective Agreement,” says Bill McKinnon, National Representative for the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE).

CUPE Local 830 represents 24 employees at Charlottetown’s Water & Sewer Utility, and CUPE Local 501 represents 8 Waste Water Treatment Plant employees for the City.

Local 830’s employees maintain the water distribution and collection system for the City, while Local 501’s employees operate the Waste Water Collection and Treatment Facility on Riverside Drive. Both locals were without a contract since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.

Local 501’s WWTP employees were able to resolve their collective bargaining in conciliation on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010, with their new collective agreement signed and sealed on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Local 830 reached their tentative agreement at the table on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 with their new collective agreement signed just yesterday (March 24<sup>th</sup>).

“We were very pleased with the package we were able to negotiate for our members, particularly in these difficult economic times. Both locals negotiated wage increases of 7.7% over the three years of their respective contracts (2.5% in 2010; 2.6% in 2011, and 2.6% in 2012). Additional improvements included: bereavement and sick leave for Local 830; and, overtime and service pay for Local 501.

Although we did not accomplish everything which we set out to do (as one rarely does at the bargaining table), the unanimous vote by our membership, was that each Local spoke volumes about what they thought of our work. Overall, a fair agreement for both sides,” concluded McKinnon.

**For more information, please contact: Bill McKinnon at (902) 439-1055.**

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