



Statement from the Chief Administration Officer

Date: January 25, 2017

Town CAO Phil Handrahan Provides Statement Regarding Recent Mail Out by CUPE Local 1188

The Town of Sackville is currently in contract negotiations with the Town's employees that are represented by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Locals 1188. Both parties are currently at the table with a conciliator.

While the Town is confident that a settlement can be reached at the bargaining table, CUPE Local 1188 recently distributed information on the negotiations directly to citizens. The Town will continue to respect the negotiation process, however felt it was important to respond publically that the information presented by CUPE Local 1188 is inaccurate and simply, not true. For example:

- The forecasted increase in the cost of living is not 2.7%. The Consumer Price Index, which is public information is actually 2.2% for 2016.
- Sackville Town Council has never made the claim that municipal workers are overpaid.
- The Town has not recently awarded a generous wage adjustment to its management staff. There has not been a wage adjustment for management since 2015.
- The Town at no point has even raised the subject of rolling back wages. In fact, the Town has offered adjustments to several classifications over and above an anticipated annual wage adjustment, which remains an outstanding item.

The additional information referred to in the CUPE flyer is just as inaccurate and the Town believes that inaccurate information such as this provides no value to the negotiation process. The Town is committed to a negotiation process that will see both parties discuss and seek a settlement at the bargaining table and one that is based on a factual and accurate information.

The Town values the important work that our employees do, and believes a negotiated agreement is what is best for both parties. We remain committed to working on reaching a negotiated settlement that is fair for Town employees, and affordable for our citizens.

In the meantime, it is business as usual with the Town continuing to provide exceptional programs and services to the citizens of Sackville throughout the negotiation process.