



Issue # 9

November 7, 2022

Members refused to be intimidated, public outrage spread and Unions stood together! We have won a huge victory on our path to a fair settlement! Members are returning to work!

Ford retreats on Bill 28 and scraps it entirely!

More than anything, it was the courage of CUPE education workers that shook Doug Ford and forced him to back off. As Unions geared up to wage a province-wide massive fight to defeat Bill 28, Ford announced that he would withdraw it.

Monday, November 7, 2022, was a momentous and memorable day. After Ford announced his decision, Union Leaders marched into his office and demanded that he *put it in writing on the spot*. He had no choice. The threat of fines is gone, the imposed Collective Agreement is gone, the strike ban is gone – **the entire Bill 28 is gone**.

Back to the bargaining table and back to work – at least for the time being

OSBCU CUPE put strike action on hold following Ford's retreat on his repressive legislation. We will return to work tomorrow, Tuesday, November 8. Ford tried to take away our right to strike but we protected it – and we still have it. Now we are back to a more normal collective bargaining situation: Talks will resume to reach a negotiated settlement; we will continue to strengthen member solidarity and support from parents and other allies. *We will take strike action again if necessary!*

Now is a time for celebration of what we have accomplished together

Ontario education workers, including Toronto Education Workers/Local 4400 Members, are heroes in the eyes of working people across Ontario and across Canada. This battle has been in the news around the world – our defiance of Bill 28, and its defeat, will lift the spirits of workers everywhere who are in tough struggles like ours.

Now is a time to acknowledge, to each other, the courage we have shown!

Let's go back to work proud of our fight to protect our rights!

Let's thank everyone who supports us, especially parents, teachers and family members.

Let's not let down our guard or relax our readiness to fight. Tough days still lie ahead. The task of winning a fair settlement remains.



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