

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2018

Workers' defence of pension rights at Carleton reaches Ontario Labour Relations Board

OTTAWA, ON – The union that represents striking workers at Carleton University has filed a complaint of unfair labour practice with the Ontario Labour Relations Board against the university.

“We are calling out the university’s administration for bargaining in bad faith,” said Jacynthe Barbeau, negotiator for CUPE.

Carleton’s workers took to the picket lines last week in a fight to maintain bargaining rights and protections around their pensions. But since the strike began, the university has issued a series of “knowingly false and/or misleading communications,” charges the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), which represents **Carleton’s** administrative, technical and library staff.

“Since the strike began, Carleton has misrepresented and mischaracterized its own position and the union’s, including the issues that led to the strike. But this type of behaviour only helps to prolong the dispute and prevent the kind of negotiations that are needed to resolve it.”

Barbeau pointed out that, despite claims by Carleton’s president, the University had not made any request to CUPE, verbal or written, to return to the bargaining table.

“We are ready to work creatively and collaboratively with Carleton to end the strike. But our determination to keep the rights and protections around our pensions doesn’t give the university’s administration permission to mislead Carleton’s workers or the public,” she concluded.