



ETFO CB eNEWSLETTER



August 14, 2023

ETFO President Karen Brown Announces Central Strike Votes in September/October

This afternoon, President Karen Brown announced that ETFO is planning to take central strike votes beginning in mid-September.

In her announcement at ETFO's 2023 Annual Meeting, President Brown said:

Throughout this past school year, ETFO has tried to bargain in good faith with this government. We have come to the bargaining table with reasonable proposals around special education, around class size and around violence in schools. ETFO's proposals would have ensured our members had agreements that kept up with inflation and could address the recruitment and retention of much-needed education staff. All of you know that there is a staffing crisis in our schools. You see it every day because staffing shortages have an accumulating, negative impact on the school environment and on the learning and well-being of students.

....

We have had 30 teacher/occasional teacher and education worker central bargaining meetings this year. And we don't have meaningful agreements to show for it at either table.

In response to our constructive proposals, the government has refused to engage meaningfully and has recently insisted on tabling proposals that are tantamount to strips – to your salary, your benefits, and your working conditions.

We have reached a tipping point. ETFO's patience has run out. Our members' patience has run out. We now need to pressure this government to come to the table and start to bargain seriously with us.

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Which is why, today, I am announcing that ETFO will be engaging with our members this fall and asking them for a central strike mandate. All-member meetings will be held across the province starting mid-September so that your union can discuss our concerns directly with you, answer your questions and hold in-person central strike votes.

The full text of President Brown's speech, as well as a video of the speech are available [here](#).

Visit ETFO's Collective Bargaining Website for More Information about Central Strike Votes

ETFO's [Collective Bargaining website](#) is an important resource for bargaining and central strike vote information.

Visit our central strike vote [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#) section.

Check out ETFO's central strike vote [media release](#).

Download and use [shareables](#) to spread the word about ETFO's central strike votes.

As more information becomes available about bargaining-related events, including central strike votes, it will be posted on the [ETFO CB website](#).

Please check in frequently for updated information.

NOTE:

ETFO local offices are closed in August. Please do not contact your ETFO local about central strike vote meetings at this time.

Your ETFO local will be providing you with central strike vote details in early September. If you have questions about central strike votes prior to September, email your question to the provincial office through ETFO's [Contact Us](#) option.

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#ETFO2022

