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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
June 17, 2010

Talks break down between NSGEU Local 60A and the Pictou County Shared Services Authority (PCSSA)

Talks broke down between members of NSGEU Local 60A, employees of Pictou County Shared Services Authority (formerly known as the Pictou County District Planning Commission), and their employer on June 17.

“Going into conciliation, the Bargaining Committee was hopeful but wary that they could reach an agreement with the assistance of the conciliator,” says Joan Jessome, President of the Nova Scotia Government & General Employees Union (NSGEU). “Unfortunately, the glimmer of hope has faded for now.”

Members of the Local 60A Bargaining Committee are disappointed. They had modified their proposal significantly as they tried to reach an agreement.

In the end, the employer’s final offer included items that were unacceptable to the Committee, including a demand for concessions on pension contributions.

The women and men who work for the PCSSA and the East River Environmental Control Centre keep buildings and homes safe for the citizens of the county, and maintain the waste treatment facility to ensure a safe and healthy river system.

“The 13 members of Local 60A remain firm in their resolve to achieve a fair first contract that is respectful and in-line with other Municipal agreements in the province,” says Jessome. “We did not reach that agreement yet.”

The workers have been locked out by their employer since May 31. This will be their first collective agreement. Bargaining began in January. This concludes 2 days of conciliation that began on Wednesday.

There are no dates set for further negotiations.

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The Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union represents over 28,000 women and men who provide quality public services Nova Scotians count on every day.

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