

STRIKE ISSUE EXPLAINER



OUR EMPLOYER CAN AFFORD WAGE INCREASES

Improving wages is our top bargaining priority. It's not only essential in these challenging economic times – it's achievable.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

The cost of living continues to rise. BCGEU members are struggling to afford working for the BC Public Service while public demand for services is increasing. Yet, in response to current economic pressures, the government has introduced hiring restrictions and insists there isn't enough money for meaningful wage increases. But our union has done the research and the government's narrative doesn't match the facts – not only is this the moment to invest, but the means are also available.

WHAT'S OUR DEMAND?

Fair and competitive wages that reflect the cost of living, retain skilled workers, protect public services and create economic stability. Our employer should find the will to:

- Redirect spending on (expensive) management roles to frontline, direct service positions.
- Use some of its \$12 billion in contingency funds.
- Pursue new sources of revenue, like collecting a fair share of corporate profit generated from our public resources and increasing taxes on B.C.'s wealthiest five per cent.

ARE YOU SIGNED UP FOR BARGAINING UPDATES?

Log into the BCGEU Member Portal at
my.bcgeu.ca/login to make sure your personal email is up to date.