



Why are we having a strike mandate vote?

Our collective agreement expired on December 31, 2021. We have been actively bargaining with Telus since October of 2021. From the very first exchange of proposals, Telus has set a very aggressive tone and made it clear that they expect us to accept concessions that threaten our members' futures. In order for bargaining to be successful, we need to pressure the employer to take our proposals seriously and back off of their unnecessary concessions.

Telus needs to respect the work done by our members. A strong strike mandate shows the employer that we are serious about our proposals, and that our members are mobilizing to support them.

What kind of strike mandate vote do we need?

The most effective strike mandate vote has a high turnout (the number of members who vote) and a strong strike mandate (the proportion who vote yes). If we get both a high turnout and a strong strike mandate, the employer will know that we are serious about our proposals.

A high turnout is important because it shows that a wide cross-section of the membership is engaged and mobilized about the bargaining process. A strong yes vote is also important because the union is strongest when it is united. The employer will be much more fearful of a strike – and more likely to negotiate seriously – if they know that the vote represents a real threat, and not just a bluff.

A clear YES vote is a strong source of our bargaining power.

Does a 'yes' vote mean that we're going on strike?

A strong strike mandate vote does not necessarily mean we will strike, but it does indicate that we are ready to do so if necessary. However, should an impasse be declared either party may file for the assistance of a Federal Conciliator to assist in resolving the Parties differences.

The conciliation officer has a 60 day mandate, but the parties may, if they both agree, request an extension of the time for conciliation. At the end of the conciliation period, a 21-day cooling off period begins. A strike or lockout cannot take place until the 21-days have expired.

What will happen if I vote YES? What will happen if I vote NO?

With a strong YES vote to the strike mandate, it is very likely that a fair contract can be reached at the bargaining table. If the membership votes NO, bargaining will continue, but we will be disadvantaged. There will be minimal gains made in the contract, and there will be losses to benefits, pensions, and job security. - Again!

We trust that members will make the choice that benefits all of us by delivering a strong YES vote.