

SOLIDARITY PACT: Ontario public sector unions pledge to work together

We, the undersigned labour unions and associations that represent Ontario Public Service (OPS) employees, pledge to join forces and support this solidarity pact. Our convergence stems from the need to protect public services in Ontario, ensure good jobs, fair contracts, liveable wages and decent benefits for employees, retirees and our families.

As professionals, our hard work touches the lives of all Ontarians on a daily basis. We are the ones that make the Ontario government work. In return, we ask that our employer, the Ontario government, show us the respect, dignity and fairness we have earned and deserve.

Instead, the government is taking a mean-spirited approach to labour negotiations and it is seeking vindictive cuts, concessions and claw-backs.

In a historic move, we pledge to work together to withstand these aggressive attacks.

Today, we join forces in defence of all OPS employees. In signing our solidarity pact, we send a message to the government that OPS employees will not be a scapegoat for the government's financial situation; a crisis that we did not create. We affirm our commitment to act in a united fashion to defend and protect the rights of more than 57,000 OPS employees.

The undersigned agree to act together in respect to these areas of common interest. To ensure this, the parties will communicate and coordinate accordingly. The parties agree to respect this common approach throughout 2014.

We pledge to work together to do the following:

- Defend the importance of keeping Ontario's services public;
- Advance the social, economic and general welfare of all employees in the OPS;
- Support each other in protecting the provisions of our collective agreements;
- Protect the long-term viability of the OPS;
- Establish strong working relationships with all OPS labour unions and associations;
- Act to defend and protect the civil rights and liberties of employees and protect the rights and freedoms of trade unions in Ontario.

Signed on Wednesday April 16, 2014 in the City of Toronto, Ontario by:



Gary Gannage, President

Association of Management, Administrative and Professional Crown Employees of Ontario (AMAPCEO)



Smokey (Warren) Thomas, President - Ontario Public Sector Employees Union (OPSEU)



Ping Wu, President - Professional Engineers Government of Ontario (PEGO)