

Cooling off period legislation tabled today

At approximately 1400 today, new legislation was introduced by the Minister of Labour, Graham Bruce. The legislation imposes a 20-day cooling off period for striking CUPE members at UBC, and further orders UBC and the CUPE locals to return to the bargaining table within 72 hours.

Once the legislation is enacted, no job action by CUPE 2278 and 2950 is permitted through March 31, 2003.

In addition, Richard Longpre, assistant deputy minister for the Ministry of Skills Development and Labour will take part in assisting the collective bargaining process during the cooling off period.

CUPE workers should be back at work tomorrow.

This move will relieve UBC students from having to cope with picket lines on campus as they work to complete their semester. The last day of scheduled classes is April 9, and exams are scheduled to run April 14 to 30, 2003.

Picket lines moving to University gates – Picket lines are currently moving from their locations at specific buildings on campus and are gathering at Gate #1.

At 1415 today, CUPE 2950 informed its members it was on full strike, and has instructed them to gather at Gate #1 for a protest rally.

Coast Mountain Bus Company has been informed of this development. With picketers at Gate #1, and buses will be turning around at Blanca Street.

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The University of British Columbia is negotiating new agreements with all of its staff unions and associations. During this time, UBC is committed to factual, timely and transparent communication with the campus community. Past issues of the Bargaining Bulletins are available at www.hr.ubc.ca/general/bargaining.html.

For more information, please contact your Human Resources Advisor.