



## MEDIA RELEASE

12 March 2018

For Immediate Release

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# City of Whitehorse Workers and Transit Vote Overwhelmingly to Strike

Conciliation talks between the City of Whitehorse and its workers from City of Whitehorse and City of Whitehorse Transit broke down. Subsequently, a strike vote was held. Workers from City of Whitehorse Transit (Local YO22) and City of Whitehorse (Local YO23) provided their bargaining teams with clear strike mandates over the employer's attacks on severance pay and their attempts to create a two-tiered system that harms newer employees.

City workers represented by PSAC came out in extremely high numbers to strike vote meetings held through last week and weekend. These meetings provided an opportunity for the membership to hear the latest from the bargaining team and decide how they wished to proceed. Members were very clear that they support their bargaining team and are ready to strike if necessary.

YEU President Steve Geick said "I am glad to see the City workers showing support for their bargaining team by giving such a strong strike mandate. Hopefully, we will be able to reach a deal with the City at the table, and not have to use it."

"It's unfortunate that an act of solidarity is needed to level the playing field," stated Jack Bourassa, Regional Executive Vice President North for the Public Service Alliance of Canada, "I sincerely hope mayor and council come to their senses and avoid any disruptions in service."

Mediation talks are scheduled between the City of Whitehorse and its workers from both Local YO22 and Local YO23 to occur mid-March. The Union hopes the City listens to its workers and returns to the table ready to negotiate a fair deal.

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