



## **Before you make a choice – get the answers**

### **If I signed an AEU card, do I still have to vote?**

Everyone in Units I and II is entitled to vote. There will be a separate vote for each Unit. If you signed an AEU card – thank you. But we still need your vote! If you signed a CEP card and have changed your mind – you can still vote to remain with AEU. We urge you to remain with AEU who has always been there for you.

### **I thought signing a card was just to show I was interested in looking at CEP? Why are we voting?**

If you signed a CEP card, you were actually asking to be a member of CEP. These cards have now been sent to the Ontario Labour Relations Board and CEP is asking that a vote be held to determine if they are going to be the new bargaining agent. If that wasn't your intention, you will have an opportunity when the vote is held to vote for AEU and say no to CEP.

### **If a vote is held, and CEP wins, can I stay with AEU if I didn't vote for CEP?**

**No.** Whichever union receives a majority of votes (50% plus 1), that union will be the bargaining agent. For example, if a majority of members in Unit I vote to remain with AEU, then the entire bargaining unit remains with AEU. The same applies for Unit II. Similarly, if a majority in either unit votes for CEP, then the entire bargaining unit goes with CEP.

### **If we go with CEP, do we get to keep the dues we've paid?**

**No.** The CEP Local will be starting off with an empty bank balance because all the dues collected when AEU was the bargaining agent, remain with AEU, including the strike fund. There is legal precedent already established for this. Right now, AEU receives a little over \$10,000 a month in dues from Units I and II combined. Joining CEP means that 0.78% of the current dues rate of 1.035% goes immediately to CEP national each month. That's \$7,800 a month.

### **What happens if we go on strike?**

As an AEU member, you're entitled to strike pay from the first day that you are on strike – or respect an AEU sanctioned picket line. As a CEP member, you have to wait 15 days before you receive strike pay and it's not retroactive. The CEP Constitution says you're entitled to \$250 per seven day period after the 14 days. The AEU membership determines the amount of their strike pay.

**More questions?** Contact any member of the AEU executive: [www.aeu-sea.ca](http://www.aeu-sea.ca)

A message from the Alliance Employees Union