

Timeline Of Negotiations

Date	Detail
June 18, 2015	Notice to Bargain received from NSTU.
July 31, 2015	Expiry of Collective Agreement (Term: August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2015)
September 29, 2015	Exchange of Proposals: Government position was a 2% wage increase over five years, and phasing out the public service award. The NSTU counter offered with a proposal for a 3% wage increase over four years. Government agreed. The NSTU requested that public service award be calculated based on wage levels at retirement rather than wages at April 1, 2015. Government agreed.
November 12, 2015	Tentative Agreement reached. NSTU leadership recommended the agreement to its membership.
December 1, 2015	Ratification Vote. With 94% NSTU membership voting, 61% rejected tentative agreement.
December 7, 2015	NSTU invited government back to the bargaining table.
January 17, 2016	Bargaining resumed. Government's position included keeping the agreed-to wage package and changes to the phasing-out of the public service award.
June 2, 2016	Government filed for conciliation.
September 2, 2016	Tentative Agreement reached.
October 4, 2016	Ratification Vote. With 94% of NSTU membership voting, 70% rejected second tentative agreement.
October 17, 2016	Government asks for the continuation of the Partnership on Systemic Working Conditions to address classroom issues. On October 19, the NSTU agreed to keep working on classroom issues outside of negotiations.
October 25, 2016	NSTU Strike Vote. With over 100% of NSTU membership voting, 96% voted in favour of strike.
October 27, 2016	NSTU writes letter requesting a conciliation board. Government responded that it would go back to the table, but the wage offer would remain the same.

November 1, 2016	Timeline for appointment of conciliation board lapsed; NSTU declines conciliation board, stating they would not go back to the table with pre-conditions.
November 3, 2016	NSTU writes letter requesting the appointment of a Mediation Officer.
November 8, 2016	The Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development announced that provincial assessments would be suspended until the working group had determined a way forward.
November 9, 2016	The NSTU said they would postpone their involvement in Partnership on Systematic Working Conditions and not attend a meeting scheduled for November 10. The Minister of Labour and Advanced Education declined the NSTU's request for mediation, citing that mediation was unlikely to resolve the dispute at the time.
November 17, 2016	At the request of the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Conciliation officer invites NSTU back to table; NSTU accepts.
November 21, 2016	Conciliation: In addition to everything in its previous offers, government put forward \$10 million to be dedicated to classroom issues and working conditions, with direction on spending to be determined by the partnership group of teachers, the NSTU, school board and the department. NSTU put forward proposal with approximate cost of \$508 million, including 8% wage increase.
November 25, 2016	Conciliation talks break off.
November 28, 2016	NSTU announces its plan to engage in work-to-rule strike action
December 5, 2016	NSTU work-to-rule strike action begins.
December 17, 2016	Conciliation resumes
January 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 2017	Conciliation continues
January 18, 2017	Tentative Agreement reached.

January 20, 2017	NSTU's Provincial Executive vote to recommend acceptance of the tentative agreement and suspend and phase-out work-to-rule strike action, effective Monday, January 23, 2017.
January 27, 2017	NSTU announces teachers will resume work-to-rule strike action effective Monday, January 30.
January 30, 2017	NSTU resumes work-to-rule strike action.
February 9, 2017 (rescheduled from February 8th due to school closures due to inclement weather)	Ratification Vote for third tentative agreement. With 106% of NSTU membership voting, 78.5% reject agreement.