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## **Windsor deal should spur talks in Toronto, mayor says**

'Urgency' needed to end month-long strike

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A tentative deal to end a long civic workers strike in Windsor could bode well for efforts to end the month-old dispute here, said Mayor David Miller.

"Obviously, if Windsor can reach an agreement, it should be possible to reach one in Toronto," he said Thursday.

"As I have been saying for weeks, there needs to be a sense of urgency at the table to find a way to say yes," to end the strike that began June 22, he said.

In Windsor, 1,800 members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees are to vote Friday on a possible deal to end a 15-week strike. No details have been released about the terms.

As for the talks in Toronto, Ann Dembinski, the president of CUPE Local 79, said a "comprehensive" offer she gave to the city on Wednesday is "something we are hopeful can resolve all outstanding issues."

Asked if her local's offer responds to a city call to replace bankable sick days with a short-term disability plan, she replied "not necessarily."

A spokeswoman for CUPE Local 416 said "the parties continue to exchange proposals through the mediator."

At City Hall, councillors Peter Milczyn and Case Ootes called for a restoration of strike-suspended "fast-track" building permits so homeowners can proceed with renovation projects this summer.

A city spokesman said no staff are available to resume the service during the strike.

Meanwhile, the city expects to process \$2-million in refunds by the end of the month for cancelled recreation programs.