

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/toronto/mayor-millers-press-conference/article1232693/>

Earlier discussion

Mayor Miller's press conference

Live coverage from press conferences being held at the same time with David Miller and the union representing the city's striking workers

Globe and Mail: From Brodie Fenlon:

Toronto's municipal workers' strike is over but for a ratification vote after two union locals representing indoor and outdoor workers reached tentative agreements on the 36th day of their walkout.

CUPE Local 79 president Ann Dembinski confirmed this afternoon that a deal has been struck, following a similar announcement earlier this afternoon by her counterpart with Local 416.

3:38 **Globe and Mail:** David Miller is at the microphone

3:38 **Globe and Mail:** "It is very good news for Torontonians" - Miller

3:40 **Globe and Mail:** "It was a difficult period for everyone" - Miller

3:40 **Globe and Mail:** "I want to thank Torontonians ... for being incredibly patient" - Miller

3:42 **Globe and Mail:** "This strike was a difficult period for Toronto." - Miller

3:46



TO_CANADA: small diatribe-Now that #[TOstrike](#) is almost over,do we really have a winner?TO citizens workers

3:47 [Comment From David Clarke]

This took much too long for the Miller's people to solve.

3:47 [Comment From Todd Dukelow]

There is nothing nice about a strike.

3:47 **Globe and Mail: From Jennifer Lewington:**

At his press conference announcing a tentative settlement, Toronto Mayor David Miller said "This has been a difficult for Toronto. Now we must focus on moving forward."

3:48



brodiefenlon: #[TOstrike](#) over but for a ratification vote. Back to work as early as Thursday if members
<http://tinyurl.com/mknmom>

3:52 [Comment From ASymmonds]

Were any concessions made or could this have been dealt with on Day One??

3:52 [Comment From MP]

So did he cave on the sick days ? How much is this going to cost me ?

3:52 [Comment From Guest]

What are the details of the deal that was reached? Torontonians have a right to know, if we put up

with a month long strike, whether the city got the affordable deal they had been bargaining for?

3:52 [Comment From Guest]

This was the most disappointing thing I have ever seen. Mayor Miller has given too much power to the unions. The unions are a joke. The I want>>> I deserve mentality has no place in the public sector. They should all be fired and the process privatized. North York outsourced this garbage process years ago.

3:53 **Globe and Mail:** Miller has been asked directly about the terms of the deal, and he refused to divulge them ahead of the ratification vote.

3:55 [Comment From Jasmine]

Is the strike over for local 79 as well ?

3:55 **Globe and Mail:** Yes, Local 79 is holding a press conference right now announcing their deal.

3:56 [Comment From Chris]

I think it took the Union way too long to come to their senses. They needed a reality check over this assinine sick pay and it better be gone!

3:56 [Comment From Simon]

How can union members vote on the deal if the details aren't made public?

3:56 **Globe and Mail:** The details are read to them prior to the vote. The rationale here is to let the members make up their minds, without the rest of the city weighing in on the debate.

3:56 [Comment From Guest]

So really he has nothing to say then, except platitudes? It isn't helpful, this void around the heart of the issue, the vacation days.

3:57 [Comment From Guest]

So the people of this city after putting up with a strike lasting over a month can't even hear the details of the deal?

3:57 **Globe and Mail:** Miller said that the details will be made public and there will be an opportunity to discuss the terms once the unions have voted on them.

3:57 [Comment From yasmine33]

what are you talking about, guest at 3:52? people have a right to bargain for their labour. what do you want slaves as public sector workers?

3:58 [Comment From Jeromy]

"People of the city" don't vote on it, so our need to know is less pressing.

3:58 [Comment From Athaene]

The rest of the city should be allowed to weigh in on the debate, it's our money, our services.

3:58 **Globe and Mail:** Yes, but you can't quite tell the workers what deal to accept. You are missing the whole point behind organized labour and collective bargaining.

3:59 [Comment From Simon]

I still don't get how the mechanics of "reading the details" to 30,000 people, but not the rest of the City, will work.

4:00 [Comment From Guest]

No we can't tell them what to vote for but we can sure as hell tell our Mayor what we think of this deal!

4:00 [Comment From yasmine33]

you people kill me. The 'people of this city' are the workers of this city. And oh great Athaene, the tyranny of the many over the few then. we should not all weigh in. They had a contract. would you like all your contracts weighed in on?

4:01 [Comment From Chris]

The union members go to meetings where they get copies of the deal, they ask questions of their

negotiating team, then they vote.

4:01 [Comment From Advocate]

The details of the deal will come out in the wash. There must have been some level of compromise and the question will simply be was the negotiated deal better for the city than would have been expected by forced arbitration. If not, David Miller will be pilloried.

4:01 [Comment From Guest]

"Globe and Mail: Yes, but you can't quite tell the workers what deal to accept. You are missing the whole point behind organized labour and collective bargaining." Joe Fiorito, get back to The Star.

4:01 [Comment From Mackenzie]

Exactly right G&M 3:58. These are sensitive negotiations. Letting 3 million people wade in is far from helpful or sensible. Let's just get the deal done.

4:01 [Comment From Darrell]

Good point from the Globe about organized labour, except Miller ignored the protocol by releasing the City offer last week....I suspect that he knows he's in for a backlash and is too much of a coward to publicize the offer himself.

4:03 [Comment From Guest]

Just remember ABM, Anybody But Miller in November 2010

4:04 [Comment From Nadine]

In any case, whatever concessions the city may have made, they have saved a significant amount by not paying salaries for 35 days.

4:04 [Comment From Guest]

You'll all find out the details in due course. Then you can elect a new mayor at election time. that's how you weigh in.

4:04 [Comment From A tax payer]

Let all wait and see just what the deal is if Miller has caved, then he's out at the next election and a lot of Cupe members will be looking for jobs, If he hasn't, then Ferguson is probably out at his next election

4:05 **Globe and Mail:** From Brodie Fenlon at the CUPE 79 press conference

"This strike should have never happened, but our members were forced to go on strike by the city of Toronto."

"Labour relations have been set back decades. It will not be the same for years to come."

-- CUPE Local 79 president Ann Dembinski

4:05 [Comment From Guest]

Amen, 4:04. We need a new mayor and a significantly new council.

4:08 [Comment From Athaene]

The reputation of the city has also been set back decades. Tourists are staying away thinking it's a stinking mess (in some areas, it is). How long until tourism rebounds? The strike may have a winner (either the union or the city), but many losers including residents, businesses and the reputation of us all.

4:09 [Comment From yasmine33]

I'd say we definitely need a new council. They are not in the least representative of this great diverse city. They look for the most part like a nineteenth century portrait of old York. And all they seem to do is nip at Miller's heels.

4:11 **Globe and Mail:** Here is the updated strike story.

Toronto's municipal workers strike is over but for a ratification vote after two union locals representing indoor and outdoor workers reached tentative agreements on the 36th day of their walkout.

CUPE Local 79 president Ann Dembinski confirmed this afternoon that a deal has been struck, following a similar announcement earlier today by her counterpart with Local 416.

Workers could be back on the job as early as this week.

[Read the full article](#)

4:11 [Comment From don]

Workers were forced to go on strike, not by the city of Toronto, but by terrible leaders who forced their rank and file to the bricks because of their own antiquated notions of what a good public sector deal should be.

4:14 [Comment From Rightone]

I would like to see a reconciliation between what our initial position was as a city vs the final deal.....it would be a nice way to understand the true cost of the strike

4:14 [Comment From Guest]

That's a ridiculously broad and inaccurate statement yasmine33. And if you don't know it, go read the list of names on city council. By gender and ethnicity it most certainly is not an image of old York in the 19th century.

4:14 [Comment From yasmine33]

I thought all in all people handled the strike well. We stayed cleaner than many American cities. Oh oh there goes my Canadian penchant for measuring against the US.

4:15 [Comment From Graham]

The public has some indirect say. As I understand, City Council must also approve the deal. Although the details are unknown, citizens can express their concerns about concessions to their councillor and the councillors have the option of voting to reject the deals if they believe public sentiment is strong enough (most likely a long-shot).

4:15 [Comment From Guest]

A pox on Miller's, Dembinski's, and Ferguson's houses - they collectively have made a complete bungle of this

4:15 [Comment From TerribleNews]

Does anyone know how the union leadership is compensated? Were Dembinski and Ferguson making overtime this weekend while the rank-and-file were getting basically nothing?

4:16 **Globe and Mail:** Stay tuned for more updates at globeandmail.com

We are closing this for now, Feel free to continue the discussion with the comment feature attached to this page