

For Immediate release:

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Another Day of Strike coming at Vancouver Community College ~ Another Failure of the Government's Bargaining Strategy

Second Shutdown Set for Wednesday, November 7th

The union for support staff at VCC, CUPE 4627 (www.cupe4627.com) have announced that they will strike again on Wednesday next week. This follows a complete one day shutdown on Tuesday, October 30th. Members of the VCC Faculty Association, a certified trade union, did not and will not cross picket lines. The action this week resulted in a college closure and a complete shutdown of classes.

"After a complete shutdown this Tuesday, one would think that was enough to get bargaining back on track but we haven't heard of any progress at all," said VCC Faculty Association President Frank Cosco.

"We are worried that there will be another day of learning lost next week, and for what? It's clear that a financial settlement pattern in the public sector up to 2014 has been set. These VCC employees have been bargaining for two years. They like other public sector workers did not strike because of the two zeros for the last two years. But now, they see other settlements in post-secondary going up to 2014. They legitimately ask, 'Why not us?'

"This government seems to have no strategy but to be punitive, pushing people to extremes. It seems to have no concern that student learning time and important services to students are threatened.

"The VCCFA calls on those responsible in the Public Sector Employers Council (PSEC) and the Post-Secondary Employers' Association (PSEA) to get to the bargaining table, to get creative or to get out of the way."

- 30 -

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