
right
to the
point

**DSB reaches
contract agreement
with employees**

Members-employees of the (Canadian Union of Public Employees) CUPE 470 have ratified a new contract agreement with the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (MSDSB).

"The CUPE 470 have ratified the contract agreement," said Fern Dominelli, chief executive director of the MSDSB, last week. "This is certainly good news."

Mr. Dominelli pointed out the MSDSB had earlier ratified the deal, pending ratification by the employees. MSDSB CUPE members include all its employees, except for paramedics, who are members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU).

The present CUPE employee's contract had expired as of December 31. The CUPE members had taken part in a mail-in voting process on ratifying the agreement.

The new contract for three years ends December 31, 2014, with employees to receive a two percent salary increase in each year of the term of the agreement, said Mr. Dominelli. "Basically we (the two parties) agreed to cost containment measures relating to the Ontario Benefits Plan, to ensure long-term viability of the employees benefits," he said.

There were also improvements made in the language and process of the contract, the CEO added.