



NEGOTIATIONS 2012 NÉGOCIATIONS



APRIL 2012

The federal budget is not an obstacle to our negotiating objectives

The UCCO-SACC-CSN national executive met with CSC Commissioner Head and his team April 4 to discuss the impact of budget cuts announced in the federal budget introduced in the House of Commons March 29. The union was supported by CSN advisors Michel Bouchard, Marie-Pier Dupuis-Langis, François Bélanger and Lyle Stewart.

On the employer side, the budget made clear that the government still wants to eliminate severance pay for all federal employees. It is not legislated by the government, but must still be negotiated.

By 2015, Correctional Service Canada will face a 12.58% reduction of its current operating budget, excluding capital expenditures. The reductions will be phased in over three years: the cuts to the operating budget of \$2.5 billion (as of 2011-12) will be \$85.5 million in 2012-13; \$170.2 million in 2013-14; and \$295.4 million in 2014-15.

The commissioner said the department had prepared hypothetical scenarios for cuts of 5% or 10% of CSC's operating budget.

Mr. Head said he was not able to share a great deal of information because the Service needed to make notifications to affected employees, while developing a

communications strategy. More detailed information is expected at a later meeting.

There will be few impacts, if any, on correctional officers in the near term. The commissioner said firmly that deployment standards would not change as a result of these budget decreases. The short-term effects on correctional officer positions should be minimal.

As for the budget's impact on negotiations, at this point it appears as though nothing in the budget will affect the

union's demands. The budget does not freeze wage increases and does not target retroactive increases.

UCCO-SACC-CSN members have demonstrated great patience with their employer during

this round of negotiations. Now, with the latest reason to delay negotiations out of the way, Treasury Board needs to come to the table to conclude an agreement that is fair for correctional officers.

We will also be looking to quickly make progress on the Global Agreement. CSC is still awaiting a mandate from Treasury Board to commence two-tiered negotiations.

In short, we will stay the course. Members should be on a mobilization footing if TB's mandate remains unchanged.

The budget does not freeze wage increases and does not target retroactive increases