



On September 11, 2025, the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU), representing Full-Time Support Staff at all 24 Public Ontario Colleges, went on strike. While they are not our professors, their work is undoubtedly essential to daily operations. Their absence will be felt and disruptions to students' education are to be expected.

The Student Association of George Brown College (SAGBC) is disappointed with the College Employer Council (CEC) for **their failure** to negotiate an appropriate new agreement with OPSEU. We stand in solidarity with the workers who are on strike.

Students should remember not to place blame on these workers. They reserve the right to fight for fair wages and job security in a cost-of-living crisis.

Despite CEC's claims that OPSEU's demands are "unreasonable" and "out of touch with the realities of the situation". CEC has continuously failed to engage in meaningful negotiation with OPSEU. Just by looking at the numbers, what CEC is offering in their agreement is less than 50% of what OPSEU is demanding.

This strike reflects a larger issue: the Ontario Government's **ongoing defunding of education** while redirecting funds into privatized sectors.

Ultimately, CEC's unwillingness to compromise, evident as per their statements, reflects how our system undervalues our workers. By refusing to engage in meaningful negotiations with OPSEU, **CEC are the ones placing students' education at risk**. Not the staff.

SAGBC will stand with our students and continue to support students during the strike. In solidarity, our Student Spaces at Casa Loma and St. James will be open to picketers. We urge students to treat picket lines with respect, and to contact their MPPs to demand action.

We encourage CEC and OPSEU to come to a favourable agreement.

Endorsed by the Board of Directors, SAGBC