

# Government promoting conflict: union

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tracts expire in August 2000. "Teachers and education workers haven't had a raise for seven years and to suggest, when the economy is good and everyone else is getting a raise, that teachers should go without a raise is just promoting conflict," Manners said. "Obviously, the era of consultation is over and the era of confrontation is back — that was the prevailing attitude prior to the election."

The leaked document sent shock waves through school boards, who now find themselves bracing for the fallout.

The part I find most disturbing refers to them not putting any more money into teacher salaries — personally, it scares the hell out of me — it's been a long time since our teachers have had any raises," said public board chairperson Bill Crothers, noting that both private- and public-sector employees have been receiving raises over the past few years. "If that part is accurate, it's a very troubling recommendation."

It will be particularly difficult for the public board to freeze teacher salaries, since the board gave its custodians and secretaries pay hikes this year due to a surplus in their pension plan.

Teachers are already gearing up for what they see as another battle for a raise and to protect classroom funding. "If they're going to hold it at what they're calling stable funding, it's going to be difficult for school boards," said Gerry Harrison, head of the union representing local high school teachers.

Harrison predicts negotiating will be difficult if the board's financial hands have been tied by the province. "I just think everything will hit in September," he said. "The government is out to see how much they can get out of the budget and they keep looking at education and health and they're saying, 'We can still cut there.'"

With such a detailed list of where cuts could come from, officials say the concern is greater. "Any time you see any indication that there are more dollars going to be taken out of the education budget, it causes a lot of concern," Crothers said.

But Oak Ridges MPP Frank Klees dismissed the report, dated Oct. 28, as an early draft of cabinet discussions on finding efficiencies in education. "It was an early document under discussion and I don't think anybody should draw any conclusions from it. People need to be reminded that it was a newspaper article and not a statement by the minister or premier."

Klees suggested the salary freeze may not be part of the final list of potential savings. "I'm not sure on whose authority that statement was made," said Klees, adding the province doesn't control what teachers are paid. "Teacher salaries are negotiated at the local level by the school boards — it's up to them."

Many officials suggested the document is a trial balloon by the government to gauge public support for education cuts. "They're just gauging public reaction with this," Harrison said. "What ends up, actually happening all depends on how big a hot button it becomes."

## POT ROASTS

This is down home cooking at its best. I've told you before that whenever we go to Doreen's for dinner, (and this alone is reason to go), this is what she makes more often than not — at our request.

Doreen and her Mom (who's over 90) have perfected this recipe over the years and as usual, it's available this week. (It must be good because I overheard Doreen on the phone giving this recipe to someone who lives way out of town — good news travels).

What cut of meat do we use? A boneless blade eye roast — which is also available this week at a special price.

Enjoy it!

**2.99**  
lb.

## ORGANIC PORK

We'll have a selection of Pork cuts available this week. It's the second time we've handled this product of outstanding quality. There is a \$2.00 premium for this product over that of the commercial product.

We'll have Sausages as well as Pork Chops this week — and since they take more time to make, Hams next week, from Hanover, Ontario.

## THIS WEEK IT'S BROCCOLI!

Eat up your vegetables folks! We have great Broccoli this week at the easy to digest price of.....

**79¢**  
BUNCH

## POINSETTIA NEWS

Although we sell an extensive selection of small pots, the piece-de-resistance of our assortment are these extra-large (really) 10" pots. They're really full this year and make a great room-warmer.

10" pots **17.95**

## AMERICAN THANKSGIVING

If you celebrate American Thanksgiving, you'll find free-range Turkeys, the ready-made stuffing to go with them, turkey gravy and our wonderful brandied Orange Cranberry sauce at our store. Cooking directions? We've got those too.

## DULL KNIVES?

If you need a tune-up in your knife drawer, come and pay us a visit this week. Our complete line of Swibo (Swiss) Knives are on sale this week at 20% off regular. Prices range from \$13.95 to \$39.95 — See anyone at our meat counter for the knife that best suits your usage.

Are they good Knives? We use them exclusively in our meat department — and they get a good workout!

Do you need a knife sharpened? If you bought it from us, we'll do it free. Any other you have, we charge \$3.00 each. See Mike or Evan.

## EXCITING STUFF FOR YOUR CRACKER!

This week we have a deal cooking on our Veal Florentine Pate. It's made with veal, spinach and a touch of marsala. You'll find it light and it's low fat.

Reg. \$1.89/100g

**25% OFF**  
THIS WEEK

## ~ AS PROMISED ~ GINGERBREAD HOUSES

Last year we were unable to make our houses because we'd simply run out of room — and time. We promised that we'd be back this year — and here we are!

We'll be making them in three sizes:

For Our Smaller Size @ **\$30.00**

For Our Medium Size @ **\$40.00**

For Our Gingerbread @ **\$50.00** ea.

Mansion

We have some display models ready now. Be sure to order early — the cut off date for orders is December 7th.

## HONEY GARLIC SAUSAGES

We all know that garlic is good for you — and a little honey never hurt anyone. Add a little spark to this combo and voila — the perfect sausage.

Reg. 3.99 lb.

**1/3 OFF**  
THIS WEEK

## OUR SCONES

Our complete selection of freshly made Scones are on sale this week.

We make them a number of times daily — so they'll be warm and delicious. Available in Cinnamon Apple, Raspberry, Wild Blueberry, Cheese, Strawberry, Peach, Cranberry and Au Naturel!

**1/3 OFF**  
THIS WEEK

## CUSTARD CAKES

This is a great cake to have with an afternoon coffee (or tea). It's a 6" size so it's not too big — and if there's left over, it seems to improve with age. They're available in Wild Blueberry, Sour Cherry and Peach.

Reg. \$12.95 ea.

**25% OFF**  
THIS WEEK

## BAD NEWS

Our catering department is fully booked at this point. It looks like we need a bigger one — maybe next year?



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