The MUNFA Negotiating Committee is happy to announce that late Friday afternoon, 18 December, MUNFA and the university administration reached a tentative deal on a new Collective Agreement. As part of the new 4 year contract, ASMs will receive the provincial "template" as the salary package, providing an 8% across-the-board increase for all ASMs effective 1 September, 2009, followed by 3 consecutive years of 4% increases each 1 September, with the last year of the contract being the 2012 - 2013 academic year. MUNFA is also pleased to report that, for the first time, included in the new Collective Agreement is language covering important aspects of Distance Education (Article 32). We have also made modest improvements elsewhere in the Collective Agreement, including areas such as stipends for administrative duties, reimbursement for PDTER expenses, occupational health and safety, joint, cross and spousal appointments, and begun the process for improving the provision of childcare both here in St. John's and at SWGC.

Further details on the new, tentative agreement will be forthcoming from the MUNFA Executive in advance of an information meeting and ratification vote, both likely to be held before the end of January, 2010.

Happy holidays!

MUNFA Negotiating Committee:

- Jon Church (Medicine) Chief Negotiator
- Sean Cadigan (History)
- Sonya Corbin Dwyer (SWGC)
- Chris Dennis (Library)
- Kjellrun Hestekin (Music)
- George Jenner (Earth Sciences)
- Basil Kavanagh (Human Kinetics)
- Leroy Murphy (Business, Coop)
- Lili Wang (Pharmacy)
- Paul Wilson (SWGC)
- Marian Atkinson (MUNFA Executive Officer, non-voting member)

All issues of Negotiating News are accessible at http://www.mun.ca/munfa/negnew09.htm