

Question 1: "Is the LRTA award a 'sure thing', or could the government appeal it?"

Response 1: The award was a unanimous decision and is legally binding. Both parties must accept the result of the award. Having said that... read detail in Response 2.

Question 2: Do we have to wait for Bill 2 (now Bill 9) & 28 to be proclaimed indefinitely? Is there a legal deadline or policy that could forfeit Bills 2 & 28 from becoming a law?

Response 2: (Get comfy for this one)

- Bills are proposed laws. They must be passed by the MB Legislative Assembly (through several readings), **and** given Royal Assent and proclaimed to become law.
- Bill 28 (The Public Services Sustainability Act), has been passed by the Assembly, but has not been proclaimed; therefore Bill 28 is not a law.
- The Public Services Sustainability Amendment Act, was called Bill 2 but never read in the previous sitting. It has returned this sitting, now as Bill 9 - see [Bill Status](#)), but is only at first reading. Thus Bill 9 is also not law, and does not amend Bill 28 at this time.
- There is not time limit on when Royal Assent has to be asked for by government. Here is a link defining the process in greater detail. [LINK](#)
- The award is legal, so either party would have to file an injunction with a higher court. If this process took several years, and the decision was overturned, then LRTA members could have to pay back any financial gains made through this award, and compounded. As a result, MTS is advising LRTA members to put the money aside.
- Bill 9 does give power to the Minister to say who gets raises and how much, as is allowable within the act. In other words, this gives the Minister sole power to disregard an arbitration decision at any point, lessen or improve it.

From Bill 9 ([LINK](#)) - **Negotiated additional remuneration may be approved**

13.1 the minister may – in the minister's sole discretion – approve a collective agreement that provides for an increase to existing additional remuneration, or for new additional remuneration, that exceeds the amount permitted under section 13...

Question 3: If they can revoke this at any time, is this a victory?

Response 3: It is a step in the process. MTS will continue to work with lead tables in their current strategy, and will move into the next arbitration. The PTTA dates at Jan 4 – 9, 11&12, 2021. MTS is not working under the parameters that Bill 28 or 9 are laws, because they are not. It is business as usual for MTS bargaining staff, and they continue to communicate with all locals. ITA/ISD are currently in communication re: setting dates. We will work with MTS staff as we continue at our stage of the process.

Question 4: Can our personal days/extra-curricular days be suspended until next year?

Response 4: Our personal and extracurricular days are part of our Collective Agreement with ISD. This is legally binding. We can not alter it between bargaining periods. Please, now more than ever, you need your days. Please take them as needed. Carry over to next year still follows the usual rules. If you are not sure, email president@interlaketeachers.ca.