

## Strike over, GTA framers back to work 'as soon as today'

by News Staff

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A customer at a home and construction supply store, Wednesday, January 28, 2009.  
THE CANADIAN PRESS/Paul Chiasson

A strike by framers across the GTA is over and workers could be back on the job site “as soon as today,” a union representative told CityNews.

GTA framers’ union Liuna Local 183 said about 5,000 framers responsible for roughly 90 per cent of construction projects between Burlington and Bowmanville were on strike.

“The ratification vote was solidly in favour of accepting the contract,” Jason Ottey, director of government relations and communications for Local 183 said Tuesday.

The vote was ratified early Tuesday morning.

There was some “re-jigging” of the existing package, Ottey said, but when it comes to salaries, the exact rates for framers will depend on the complexity of the job.

Earlier this month, GTA residential construction unions voted in favour of a strike following failed bargaining with the Ministry of Labour. Negotiations were ongoing in the lead up to bargaining agreements expiring on April 30.

Unions for tile contractors, drywallers and home framers were all involved in these discussions. There are approximately 20 to 25 trades involved in building a house, according to the Residential Construction Council of Ontario (RESCON).