



## Special bulletin for HEU members employed by Compass at VIHA sites

March 30, 2011

**OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS** there have been rumours at the worksite about the future of Compass's relationship with the Vancouver Island Health Authority.

Last spring, VIHA issued a number of requests for proposals (RFPs) inviting Compass and other companies to bid on the work that is currently carried out by HEU members employed by Compass.

Recently, housekeeping staff at Royal Jubilee learned that Compass had lost its contract to provide housekeeping services at that site to Acciona.

Now, members are hearing that service contracts at other sites may be changing hands. They are concerned about their future in health care.

The union expects that VIHA will make an announcement in the next few days about the RFPs they have issued.

If we learn that Compass loses additional sites to another contractor, the union will be ensuring that HEU members' current collective agreements are enforced in terms of any bumping or layoff rights.

We will also make every effort to ensure that any new contractor provides displaced Compass employees with an opportunity to continue working within health care. It is important for you to know that any possible layoff notices won't take effect for a number of months.

As soon as the union learns of any possible layoffs, we will arrange for an emergency meeting of shop stewards to provide them with the information they need to assist members and answer their questions.

After that, the union will arrange for general membership meetings.

This is a very stressful time for members. The union will provide any updates on this situation as quickly as possible. Please visit [www.heu.org](http://www.heu.org) and check under **Hot Picks** for "Compass VIHA Updates."

**If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with your shop steward or call 250.480.0533 or 1.800.742.8001.**