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## The province of British Columbia has proclaimed October 18 as “Health Care Assistant Day”

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On Tuesday, October 18, HEU locals have a special opportunity to honour the extraordinary contribution care aides and community health workers bring to the health care team.

Health Care Assistant Day was proclaimed in July by Lieutenant Governor Steven L. Point and is the result of a collaborative effort by stakeholders – including unions, educators, employers and government representatives – on the Care Aide & Community Health Worker Registry advisory committee.

At a provincial level, the union will be marking the day with a variety of public awareness activities aimed at increasing the profile of these front-line caregivers who provide such critical personal care to British Columbians in our communities.

At the local level, we encourage you to host activities at your worksites that recognize care aides and community health workers.

For example, you may want to offer cake and cookies or create and display a banner of thanks. You can distribute “Proud to be a Care Aide” buttons to your care aide members. And don’t forget to post the enclosed proclamation on your union bulletin board along with a poster that will be available to download and print from the union website.



In whatever ways you decide to mark the day, your efforts will go a long way toward making October 18 a day of recognition and appreciation for health care assistants at your worksite.

And we’d love to see your photos. Just email them to HEU servicing representative Marnie Mander at [mmander@heu.org](mailto:mmander@heu.org) – or mail them to her at Provincial Office. Marnie is available to answer any questions you may have and to receive your order for “Proud to be a Care Aide” buttons. She can be reached at 604-456-7115.

Thank you for helping make October 18 a special day for the members of your local who work as care aides or community health workers.

In solidarity,

Bonnie Pearson,  
HEU secretary-business manager

Enclosures

cc: Provincial Executive  
Representatives  
Directors



Canada  
**Province of British Columbia**  
**A Proclamation**

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,  
Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the  
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

**To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting**

WHEREAS there are over 37,000 Health Care Assistants providing front-line care and service that assists British Columbians to remain independent as long as possible, and

WHEREAS Health Care Assistants provide 24 hour professional care and supervision in protective and supportive environments for people who have complex care needs, and

WHEREAS Health Care Assistants work in a variety of settings including acute care, residential care, home and community care including independent living and assisted living, and

WHEREAS Health Care Assistants have demonstrated to be an indispensable component in the safety and quality of personal care for patients, clients and residents, and

WHEREAS the demand for Health Care Assistants is ever increasing with the aging of the population and the continual growth of health care services, and

WHEREAS the Government of British Columbia wishes to join with the residents across the Province in recognizing Health Care Assistants, and

WHEREAS Our Lieutenant Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, has been pleased to enact Order in Council 903 on October 11, 2002,

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that October 18, 2011, shall be known as


**“Health Care Assistant Day”**

in the Province of British Columbia.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Steven L. Point, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this fifteenth day of June, two thousand eleven and in the sixtieth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND

  
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Attorney General  
(counter signature for the Great Seal)

  
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Lieutenant Governor