On Thursday May 13, 2021 nearly 100 Contracted Support Service Workers (CSSW) delegates met together to discuss their vision for their future in health care. These delegates represented 11 bargaining units and more than 4,500 sub-contracted health care workers performing critically important work to keep our hospitals and extended care homes clean and safe, and prepare and deliver meals to residents and patients.

Throughout the day they deepened their commitment to reuniting with the health care team by bringing contracted work back in-house. Members also celebrated actions that have been taken through the Make It Public campaign (makeitpublic.ca), calling for an end to 20 years of privatization. These actions included nearly 6,000 letters sent to provincial legislators, meetings with MLAs, and radio, social media and bus shelter ads.

Now, more than ever, is the time to build a strong and resilient health care team where contracted support service workers are all treated with the respect and dignity they deserve.

That respect and dignity includes bargaining renewed

HERE IS A PUBLISHED OP-ED by HEU interim secretary-business manager Mike Old:

https://theprovince.com/opinion/mike-old-all-health-care-workers-deserve-to-be-treated-like-the-heroes-they-are
collective agreements with the multi-national corporations Compass, Sodexo, Acciona and Aramark who have profited from paying HEU members poverty wages for nearly 20 years. These employers must be held accountable and CSSW delegates have endorsed a strong plan and sector priorities to do just that.

The bargaining conference ended with unanimous agreement on the bargaining priorities, demonstrating the sector’s unity and strength.

**Next steps:**

- Sector-wide telephone townhall to review the endorsed bargaining priorities — dates and times will be emailed and texted;
- Bargaining committee to meet one more time to review bargaining unit specific proposals; and then
- Meeting with the employers to begin bargaining!

**WHERE ARE WE IN THE BARGAINING PROCESS?**

1. Nominate and elect our Bargaining Committee
2. Survey our membership
3. Issue call for bargaining demand
4. Develop our contract proposals and priorities
5. Sector telephone town hall
6. Bargain a strong contract
7. Take socially distant & COVID-safe collective action if necessary
8. Continue to bargain a strong contract (mediate if necessary)
9. Achieve a settlement and ratify!

Scan this QR code to watch a short video about CSSW’s bargaining history!

You can also watch it here: https://youtu.be/tN4N-PLyXrI

For more updates and information about CSSW bargaining, please visit: www.heu.org/cssw