



HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

# BARGAINING BULLETIN

PLEASE POST

## HEU applies to labour board for mediation with Compass (VIHA)

*Compass plans to ask LRB to order another vote on "last offer"*

HEU has applied to the Labour Relations Board (LRB) for mediation in an effort to reach a new agreement with Compass for members working in the Vancouver Island Health Authority.

Over the past few weeks, HEU staff and bargaining committee members have met with members employed by Compass in Victoria, Duncan and Nanaimo. These meetings were an opportunity to hear members' concerns with the tentative agreement rejected in May.

HEU has asked the employer to return to the bargaining table to discuss those issues.

But Compass has said they are not prepared to make any changes or improvements to the existing monetary offer. And on June 17, Compass advised HEU that they intend to apply to the LRB for a "last offer vote" under Section 78 of the *Labour Code*.

Once that application is received, the LRB will likely schedule a vote on the employer's last offer.

HEU applied on June 19 to the LRB for the appointment of a mediator to assist in resolving the differences between the parties, and is hoping that this will result in changes to the employer's position.

### Strike vote update

The union's three-month strike mandate was set to expire on June 20. Usually, if the three-month time limit lapses, another strike vote must be taken before any job action could take place.

But Compass has agreed to extend the deadline until an LRB supervised "last offer vote" is concluded.

June 19, 2009

**BIG3**  
Bargaining



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BARGAINING INFO

Toll Free:  
1-800-663-5813  
ext 1515

Lower Mainland:  
604-739-1515

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[www.heu.org](http://www.heu.org)

### Information on other Big 3 agreements

Collective agreement negotiations with Compass, Aramark and Sodexo all resulted in tentative settlements reached in May. While there were some variations between the agreements, all had very similar monetary values.

Each certification voted separately on these agreements, with mixed results. Compass members in the VIHA certification voted 73 per cent against, while Compass members in the PHSA Vancouver certification voted 58 per cent in favor of the same proposal. The Sodexo agreement was accepted in all certifications, while the Aramark proposal was defeated by 51 per cent.

The Aramark bargaining committee recently reached a tentative agreement with the help of mediator Vince Ready. Members will vote on this proposal over the coming weeks.

