



HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

BARGAINING BULLETIN

PLEASE POST

Early contract talks stumble in community social services sector

HEU and the other nine unions in the Community Social Services Bargaining Association (CSSBA) are concerned that an approach from employers for early talks is already stumbling, and the possibility of an early settlement may not materialize.

The bargaining association had responded to an employer offer to explore options that could lead to an early settlement. However, the bargaining committee reports that apart from an initial offer, there has been no significant movement on priority issues.

A major concern is that compensation in the community social services sector has fallen far below wages and benefits paid to comparable workers in health care, education and other public services. As a result, the sector is now dealing with serious recruitment and retention problems.

There are also several outstanding concerns with language in the current collective agreement.

HEU will continue to update members as discussions progress.

If nothing is achieved in this early round, more formal talks will resume sometime in the new year.

December 17, 2009

