

BARGAINING BULLETIN

Tentative agreement reached for HEU members at Ayre Manor Lodge

The union's bargaining committee reached a tentative agreement on July 31 for HEU members employed by Beckley Farm Lodge Society at Ayre Manor Lodge in Sooke, B.C.

Highlights of the proposed first collective agreement – in effect from January 28, 2009 to March 31, 2012 – include:

- Wage increases ranging from 4.5 per cent to 11 per cent retroactive to April 1, 2009 for all classifications, except Resident Care Aides and Recreation Workers. (RCAs and RWs gave up a wage increase in 2009 in order to provide larger increases to the other classifications).
- Across-the-board wage increases of \$0.50 per hour April 1, 2010 and April 1, 2011, an increase of 2.3 per cent to 3.5 per cent in each year.
- An increase to the evening, night and weekend shift premiums.
- Conversion of the 5.26 per cent paid on each paycheque into a Health and Welfare Plan, Sick Leave Plan, Special Leave Plan and RRSP Plan.
- The Health and Welfare Plan includes life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, extended health, dental, vision care, and a drug plan including a drug card.
- Accumulation of sick leave benefits to a maximum of 12 days per year (overall maximum of 30 days).
- Special leave entitlement includes four paid days annually for bereavement leave or serious household emergencies.
- Employees will continue to receive 4.2 per cent in lieu of statutory holidays.

The settlement – which your bargaining committee recommends acceptance – also includes language on "no contracting out" and health and safety, a shop steward system, a grievance procedure, and seniority rights.

** A Comprehensive Report with a draft of the collective agreement will be at the work site later this week. A ratification vote will be held Friday, August 14 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Ayre Manor Lodge.

Any questions, contact your bargaining committee Cheryl Wiebe or Mandy Truman, or HEU's bargaining representative Heather Compton at 1-800-663-5813, extension 7034 (toll-free).

This contract covers resident care aides, recreation workers, cooks, servers, housekeepers, maintenance, and administrative assistants working at Ayre Manor Lodge, providing complex care, independent and assisted living services.

August 4, 2009