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## HEU welcomes more than 400 new members from around B.C.

In recent weeks, hundreds of health care workers in long-term care, assisted living and acute care sites vote to join HEU

The Hospital Employees' Union is 400 members stronger after hundreds of licensed practical nurses, care aides, , hospital security guards, housekeepers, activity aides, clerical, dietary, laundry and maintenance workers voted to join HEU over the past few weeks.

"On behalf of HEU I want to say how proud we are to represent these new members and to advocate with them for decent working conditions and quality health care services," said HEU's secretary-business manager, Judy Darcy.

In late August, HEU welcomed more than 100 care aides, licensed practical nurses, activity coordinators, clerical and maintenance workers employed by Retirement Concepts at Kamloops Seniors Village.

Earlier in the summer, 139 health care workers employed by Osprey Care at The Hamlets in Penticton also joined HEU. Care staff and support workers at the Nicola Valley Residence/The Florentine, an assisted living and complex care site in Merritt, also voted to become HEU members this past spring.

And in a great start to the Labour Day weekend, 150 hospital security guards at 14 acute care sites in the Fraser Health Authority won a year-long battle Friday afternoon for their right to join HEU, confirmed by ballots counted by the Labour Relations Board.

The security guards are employed by Intercon, a private contractor hired by the FHA to work at sites that include the new Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre, Surrey Memorial Hospital, Royal Columbian and many others.

These workers join the more 43,000 HEU members who work around the province across all sectors of health care.

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