

## BARGAINING BULLETIN

## Contract talks slow in Community Social Services sector

Following two days of contract talks in the community social services sector, HEU bargaining committee members say the Community Social Services Employers' Association (CSSEA) has yet to budge from its original position that no monetary gains are achievable within the government's current net "zero" bargaining mandate.

The CSS Bargaining Association (CSSBA) met with the employer on June 7 and 9, and continued to press for "real gains" to the current collective agreement.

CSSBA also held its own one-day strategy session to review the goals and priorities established by members prior to this round of bargaining.

The HEU bargaining committee says it's time for the employer to recognize the value CSS workers bring to the sector, and the need to put real improvements on the table, instead of asking CSSBA to remove all monetary items from its initial proposal.

Seven bargaining dates have been scheduled for the month of June. Talks will resume on June 21.

HEU is one of 10 unions represented by CSSBA, which bargains on behalf of 15,000 community social services workers across B.C.

In the midst of another round of cutbacks in the sector, members are encouraged to connect with individuals and families, and to speak out about the negative impact these cutbacks are having on caring and working conditions throughout the sector.

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