



HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

BARGAINING BULLETIN

PLEASE POST

Update on community social services bargaining

Representatives from the community social services sector's multi-union negotiating team met by conference call on February 22, at the request of the B.C. Government and Services Employees' Union.

BCGEU, the lead union in the Community Social Services Bargaining Association (CSSBA), convened the call with a request to consider an employer proposal made to the BCGEU on January 17, along with three minor additions proposed to CSSBA on February 1.

Early contract talks with the Community Social Services Employers Association (CSSEA) collapsed in late-December when the unions' negotiating team unanimously rejected CSSEA's final offer.

At issue was CSSEA's failure to address members' key priorities for this round of bargaining, which included improved wages, sick time and job security provisions.

HEU's bargaining committee says agreement has not yet been reached within the CSSBA as to whether this latest proposal from the employer will form the basis for a tentative agreement.

A series of information meetings for members has now been scheduled to discuss bargaining issues and encourage enrolment in the new municipal pension plan.

In the meantime, HEU has filed an unfair labour practice complaint against CSSEA for its attempt to sidestep its obligation to negotiate directly with the multi-union CSSBA – the legal bargaining agent for community social services workers – and instead bargaining directly with individual unions.

February 23, 2010

