



HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

NEWSLETTER

PLEASE POST

Tentative deal mediated for HEU members at Kamloops Seniors Village

Union's bargaining committee recommends acceptance when workers vote on three-year tentative settlement on August 25

HEU's bargaining committee reached a tentative contract yesterday with Retirement Concepts' subsidiary Well-Being Seniors' Services Ltd. – operators of Kamloops Seniors Village – with the help of Labour Relations Board mediator Mark Atkinson.

The August 10 session was to move negotiations forward in achieving a first contract, or establish essential services levels. Members had delivered a strong strike mandate in July – with 94.6 per cent voting in favour of job action.

HEU represents about 100 health care workers at the residential care facility in Kamloops, including care aides, licensed practical nurses, recreation aides, and reception and maintenance workers. They had been seeking improvements to wages and benefits, as well as job security language.

Details of the three-year tentative agreement will not be made public until members have a chance to review and vote on the contract.

Workers at Kamloops Seniors Village joined the HEU in August 2009 and served notice to bargain shortly after. Negotiations have been difficult from the start with an LRB-appointed mediator brought in to assist in March 2010. Mediation broke down on June 14, followed by the strike vote and the union's request to the LRB for further assistance.

Retirement Concepts is one of the largest private, for-profit residential care operators in B.C., with 16 assisted living and long-term care facilities located across the province.

August 11, 2010

