



HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

# NEWSLETTER

PLEASE POST

## On International Day of Older Persons support seniors

Today is the United Nations' International Day of Older Persons, a time to honour our seniors and their ongoing contributions to our society.

In B.C., it is also an opportunity to support seniors and their right to accessible, affordable health care at home and in the community.

The Hospital Employees' Union actively endorses the B.C. Ombudsperson's recommendations in her December 2009 report, "The Best of Care: Getting It Right for Seniors in British Columbia (Part 1)," including a comprehensive, user-friendly website that would publicly report current, detailed information about residential care facilities and an expanded role for resident and family councils backed by legislation and regulations.

This week, HEU met once more with the Ombudsperson to discuss the impact of provincial government underfunding of seniors' care that's resulted in significant fee increases for those living in long-term care, the contracting out of care and support staff in residential facilities, and cuts to services and programs for seniors in communities around B.C.

You can read more on the union's website about protecting and improving health care for seniors under Stand Up for Seniors' Care and on the BC Health Coalition's website under Home and Community Care campaign.

October 1, 2010 marks the 20th anniversary of the International Day of Older Persons <<http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/olderpersons/>>. It was designated by the UN General Assembly on December 14, 1990.

*October 1, 2010*

