



Humanitarian Emergency Response To Arrival of Migrant Ship



(BCNU, HSA, HEU)



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Part of a series of joint bulletins describing the efforts of VIHA and its health care unions to respond to the current humanitarian emergency.

August 15, 2010

Bulletin #3

To: All South Island Staff

From: Lynn Stevenson, Executive Vice President and Chief Nurse, VIHA
Melanie Leckovic, Vice President, BCNU
Steve Morrall, Regional Director, HEU
Benson Ho, Senior Labour Relations Office, HSA

Re: Humanitarian Emergency Response to Arrival of Migrant Ship (MV Sun Sea)

We would like to extend our most sincere thanks to everyone for their tremendous support and cooperation in response to the arrival of the individuals aboard the MV Sun Sea. We each had a role to play in ensuring the successful implementation of VIHA's Emergency Response Centre and the delivery of humanitarian emergency care to the people on this vessel.

The last of the patients have now been discharged from hospital, the Emergency Response Centre is closed and we are all pleased to return to normal operations. We take from this experience the knowledge that we are well equipped to deal with large-scale emergency situations while maintaining our commitment to our communities. We have also gained important learning opportunities for the future.

Overall, it has been an extraordinarily satisfying and positive experience, with our staff, unions and management all working closely and collaboratively together. We recognize – and deeply appreciate – the personal sacrifices that you may have made in responding to this international humanitarian emergency.

For those of you who were scheduled to work, any additional hours, differentials, or other premiums should be on your paycheque for Friday August 27th. Please contact your union representative if there are any inaccuracies as VIHA wishes to ensure that all are paid accurately.

Once again – thank you so much.