

2006 UPDATE on **Bargaining** #15

For the latest updates call our hotline at : (604) 473-5444 (Lower Mainland) or 1-800-335-5665 (toll-free)

March 31, 2006

UBA calls for finance minister to take immediate action to ensure a deal can be done by deadline tonight

The Union Bargaining Association (UBA) is calling on B.C. finance minister Carole Taylor to take immediate steps to address the “negotiating ineptitude” of the employers, and to assure community social services workers that any final agreement they are offered is comparable to what other public sector workers have received to date.

B.C. Government and Services Employees’ Union (BCGEU) president George Heyman has been directly involved in negotiations this week to address what he identifies as “the continual dropping of the ball on the part of the employers’ bargaining agent.”

Heyman explains that, “We told members yesterday we were hopeful that we could reach a tentative agreement by the March 31 deadline. But it became clear late last night that the the Community Social Services Employers’ Association (CSSEA) had not costed the financial package correctly, and was unable to give us accurate compensation figures for individual members, even though they are required to do so by the Labour Code!”

“The UBA has worked diligently and done its part to this point. We have a signing memorandum prepared for the tentative agreement. But we cannot recommend anything until this key issue is settled.”

“The finance minister needs to make concluding this deal her priority today. This government needs to show respect for community social services workers and the important work they do. They need to assure us that this sector will not be sold short.”

Please continue to monitor the UBA website at www.respectbc.ca for updates.

B.C. Government
and Services
Employees’ Union

Canadian Union
of Public Employees

Hospital
Employees’ Union

Health Sciences
Association of
British Columbia

United Food and
Commercial Workers
International Union

International Union
of Operating
Engineers

Construction and
Specialized Workers’
Union

United Steelworkers
of America

National Automobile,
Aerospace,
Transportation
and General Workers
Union of Canada
(CAW-Canada)

British Columbia
Nurses’ Union

Canadian
Translators and
Interpreters Guild

Professional
Employees’
Association

Christian Labour
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of Canada

Community
Social
Services

Union
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