



HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

# NEWSLETTER

PLEASE POST

## HEU will salute our sisters

*International Women's Day – March 8*

As women's organizations, labour councils and trade unions around the globe gear up for International Women's Day celebrations on March 8, the Hospital Employees' Union will commemorate our sisters with two events in Kamloops and Nanaimo.

Over the past several months, Canadian women – from coast to coast – have been speaking out against government cuts to women's and children's services through letter-writing and postcard campaigns, lobbying politicians, and holding rallies and demonstrations with a clear demand: "put equality back on track".

"Women's equality has suffered dramatically in the last year with the Harper government's severe cuts to women's programs, including the Status of Women Canada, the closure of 12 regional offices, legislation prohibiting advocacy in order for women's groups to receive federal funding, and the refusal to introduce a national childcare program," says HEU secretary-business manager Judy Darcy.

Leading up to International Women's Day, HEU distributed posters and stickers – including CUPE's National Women's Task Force "women strengthen our union" poster – throughout our locals.

"IWD gives us all an opportunity to demand the economic and systemic changes that are needed to bring about women's equality and to celebrate the many achievements made by women every day at home, in the workplace and in their communities," says Darcy.

Under our 2007 banner – "all women deserve a living wage" – HEU has produced four posters featuring our members and what it means to earn a living wage. These posters have also been posted on our website's home page.

This campaign builds on the theme of women's economic security.

Members are encouraged to make IWD visible in the workplace by wearing stickers and displaying this year's posters. These are simple, yet effective, ways to demonstrate solidarity with women in Canada and around the world as we continue to tackle issues of equality, justice and human rights.

For information on events in your community, please check [www.womensequality.ca](http://www.womensequality.ca).

March 7, 2007

