



Community Social Services strike actions successful

Job action to continue, details to be announced

Summary

- High profile targeted strike actions by community social service workers took place in Vancouver, Kamloops and Prince George last week, with considerable public support and excellent media coverage;
- A rally also took place October 23 at Social Development Minister Moira Stillwell's office in Vancouver;
- Further targeted job action will take place later this week, with details to be announced.

Last week

More than 100 striking community social services workers from various unions rallied outside Premier Christy Clark's office in Kitsilano on Tuesday, October 16. They called on the B.C. government to make vulnerable families a higher priority by improving funding for community-based social services.

Our strike message is focused on the government and the critical services you provide to vulnerable families. For more details, please refer to our [strike leaflet](#) available online.

Interior Community Services in Kamloops was the target of a full day of job action on Wednesday, October 17. Striking workers took their message to Liberal MLA Terry Lake's office in North Kamloops calling on the government to fund community social services.

Over 40 workers from AimHi (Prince George Association for Community Living) headquarters were on strike on Thursday, October 18 on a cold day in Prince George. Striking workers brought our strike message to MLA Shirley Bond's office at midday.

Job action in Kamloops and Prince George received front-page regional [media coverage](#). Last week also saw multi-union radio and print ads being rolled out across the province in support of our bargaining objectives. We have also updated your bargaining committee's website at www.cssfairdeal.ca

Your bargaining committee wants to thank all the workers who participated in last week's job action. This has "crystallized" your strike vote, which means that the multi-union bargaining committee is now in a position to issue job action notice to any Community Living Services or General Services employer with 72 hours advance warning.

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Your bargaining committee plans to continue using strategically targeted job action in the weeks ahead.

This week

Union activists took political action by rallying at Social Development Minister Moira Stillwell's office October 23rd. There was no job action associated with the rally.

In addition, a well-spoken community social service worker with 25 years experience has been invited to speak to the employer's annual general meeting, which is also taking place this week. The worker will speak to employer and government representatives directly about the very real challenges workers face in this sector.

Further job action is likely later in the week, with details to be announced.

Please note that workers will be contacted directly if your agency or workplace is a target for job action. We will target specific worksites in each community foreach day of action. DO NOT TAKE JOB ACTION unless directed to do so by your union.

What you can do to show your support (check website version for links)

- Take action! Thirty seconds is all it takes to send [tell the Premier](#) that the government must stop putting the squeeze con community social services!
- Download, print, and share your [strike leaflet](#)! It explains why you are on strike;
- Keep informed!
- Make sure your contact details are up to date with your union;
- "Like" us on Facebook [<https://www.facebook.com/groups/css.bc/>]
- Follow us on Twitter. [<https://twitter.com/cssfairdeal>]

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