

HEU's Aramark bargaining committee back at table

Representing nearly 1,150 HEU housekeepers working for Aramark in the Fraser and Vancouver Coastal Health Authorities, your bargaining committee engaged in nine days of meetings with the employer over September and October.

Unlike negotiations in the past, when contracts between Aramark and HEU were bargained separately for each health authority, your union has formed a single committee representing all Aramark workers to bargain for your next contract.

The unified bargaining committee attends all meetings with the employer, sharing information and strategies to secure gains for the entire HEU membership working for Aramark.

So far, there have been lengthy discussions on each of the non-monetary proposals. Issues resolved include reducing the probationary period and clarifying the grievance procedure.

The parties are close to agreement on a number of other matters such as applying for a vacancy when the member is away from the worksite on an approved leave.

However there are still some very important non-monetary issues we continue to press for, such as workload protections along with respect and harassment language improvements.

The next round of meetings with Aramark is scheduled for Dec. 3, 4 and 5.

In addition to bargaining committee work, more Contract Action Team (CAT) training took place on Oct. 30, adding another 90 CAT members to the teams to help keep members informed and involved throughout negotiations.



NEW BARGAINING STRATEGY BRINGS MEMBERS TOGETHER

"Getting a master agreement for all Aramark employees that ensures everyone is treated consistently and has the same improvements regarding dignity, respect and fair compensation continues to be our goal."

- *Naty*
Vancouver General Hospital

"Bargaining with the backing of a strong union like HEU gives us the power to achieve our goals. If we remaining united, we will not be defeated."

- *Teresita*
Burnaby Hospital

"Honesty, integrity and accountability are all pivotal to successful negotiations no matter which side of the table you are on."

- *Dawn*
Royal Columbian Hospital