

Compass-Marquise deal offers wage and vacation improvements

After nearly a year of bargaining and a successful strike vote, the HEU Compass-Marquise bargaining committee reached a tentative agreement with the employer early Monday for a four-year contract.

Members will receive a signing bonus of 20 cents per hour – approximately equal to \$390 for a full-time employee. Additional raises of 35 cents per hour on Oct. 1, 2013, 25 cents on Oct. 1, 2014, 30 cents on Oct. 1, 2015 and 10 cents on April 1, 2016 will follow. A probationary wage of \$1.25 less per hour for all new hires will come into effect July 1, 2014.

Vacation benefits will also be improved effective July 1, 2015, with two additional days of time off starting in the fifth and ninth years. Family Day in February will also be added as a tenth statutory holiday for all members.

In addition, rather than losing unused sick leave, members will now be paid out each February for a portion of the remaining time from the year before. Compensation will be based on 50 per cent of unused time, up to a maximum of three days. The employer also agreed to discuss ways to enhance health benefit coverage. Improvements would come from all savings identified from moving members to the BC PharmaCare prescription drug plan.

As previously reported in July, new language on a process for future extended hour rotations, the right to refuse unsafe work, overtime on rescheduled breaks, and respectful conduct in the workplace are also part of the tentative deal.

Members will get a chance to vote on the package when ratification votes begin in late November.

Compass/Marquise is the third group of health authority contractors to settle an agreement with HEU. The union reached agreements with Sodexo and Aramark earlier this fall. Members working for the remaining contractor Acciona will know the final terms of their contract once Aramark, Compass-Marquise and Sodexo have settled all their agreements. The agreement will be an average of the other contracts.

MEMBERS TO VOTE ON TENTATIVE DEAL

Members will now decide whether or not to accept the proposed contract. Your bargaining committee recommends acceptance.

A comprehensive report with full details of the agreement is being prepared for members to review, and ratification votes will be scheduled in the near future. Meeting notices and the voting schedule will be posted on union bulletin boards and online at www.heu.org/contractvote on the HEU website.

STAY INFORMED



Call the bargaining hotline:
604-456-7195, or toll-free 1-888-696-2044

Sign up for email bulletins:
www.heu.org/signup

Read the latest news online:
www.heu.org/CSSW