

Overwhelming 98 per cent strike mandate delivered by Sodexo ARHCC members

Sodexo members at the Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre have sent a clear signal to their employer that they are united behind their bargaining committee.

In balloting that took place May 1, members voted 98 per cent in favour of possible strike action, underlining their determination to achieve a fair and equitable deal.

Members have rejected Sodexo's demands for two-tier wages, a different expiry date, and a lower general wage increase for Starbucks' baristas and AST employees.

Sodexo has also refused to take action to improve benefits for casual and part-time employees.

In addition, Sodexo is demanding that their ARHCC employees take less money than their other Fraser Health employees – just 80 cents over four years.

HEU bargaining coordinator Sue Fisher says the strong strike mandate should make it crystal clear to Sodexo that members are united for a fair deal for all workers at the site, and that they cannot divide one group of workers against another.

“We'll be filing this vote with the Labour Relations Board today and will be contacting the employer to advise them of the strike vote results and invite them back to the bargaining table,” says Fisher.



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WHO'S AT THE BARGAINING TABLE?

HEU members at ARHCC are represented at the bargaining table by Taso Kourtessis (Cook), Janet Grinham (Porter), and Sandra Neuls (Housekeeper).

Karen Rohs (Cook) is an alternate member of the committee, Susan Fisher, HEU's bargaining coordinator, is HEU's spokesperson.